



## Mr. Edward "Chucky" Fondren

November 19, 1952 - February 8, 2024

Edward Charles (Chucky) Fondren Jr., 71, departed this life on February 8, 2024, at his residence. Edward was born on November 19, 1952, in Peoria, IL to Edward and Mary (Munson) Fondren.

Chucky grew up in Taft Homes housing and was drawn to making music at an early age. He was part of this community for many years while sharing his love for performance. Here, he started as leader of one of the most celebrated R&B/Funk bands in Peoria history, the "Ace of Spades." The band's excellence was proven as they won three consecutive titles for best band in Central Illinois Battle of the Bands, held yearly at the Heart of Illinois Fair. After graduating from Spaulding Institute in 1971, to expand his musical scope, he decided to travel. While doing so, Chucky had the opportunity to perform with notables such as Frankie Beverly and Maze, Bootsy Collins, and Lakeside among others.

Chucky accepted Christ and was most recently a member of Bethel Baptist Church where he served as Music Minister under the tutelage of his beloved pastor and friend Rev. Barry Robinson.

He leaves to cherish his memory, two sons Gregory Antione Marcus Rucker and Chuc Rahim Fondren, and one daughter: Salee Jlolyn Taborn, all of Peoria, IL, and one brother and a host of nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Preceding him into the afterlife are both parents, his siblings; Lillian Griffin (Havre de Grace, MD), Barbara Ann Tomas (Bloomington, IL), Sally Bernice Bracey, Priscilla Jeanette Coffey, and Eloise Clark, one nephew; Aaron Scott Fondren and great-nephew; Kendric James Parker, all of Peoria, IL.

A Celebration of Life Memorial Service will be held on Friday, February 23, 2024, at TW Parks Colonial Chapel (201 N. MacArthur Hwy, Peoria, IL 61605) from 12:00 to 1:00. Rev. Barry Robinson will officiate.

## Cemetery Details

**Private**

## Previous Events

### **Celebration of Life**

FEB **23**. 12:00 PM.

Tw Parks Colonial Chapel

# Tribute Wall

RS

“ Prayers and condolences to the family! Much love to you Chuck, I will always value the Spirit you have & your passion for music! Rest easy

Ryan Smith - December 02, 2024 at 12:25 AM

VK

“ To the Fondren Family-so sorry I didn't learn of Chucky's passing until now! Please accept my belated expression of sympathy. God bless you.



Vickie Kingcade-King - July 12, 2024 at 01:31 PM

RH

“ Rena Webster Horton lit a candle in memory of Mr. Edward "Chucky" Fondren



Rena Webster Horton - February 25, 2024 at 12:08 AM

ML

“ Michele Lampkin lit a candle in memory of Mr. Edward "Chucky" Fondren



Michele Lampkin - February 23, 2024 at 10:19 PM

PA

“ I lived across the sidewalk from Chuckie in Taft Homes. However, I first met him in 2nd grade at Lincoln School where he and David Barry used to chide me for drawing pictures of sun and flowers when there was a war going on. He was always a pleasant person and I am so thankful for childhood memories of him, as well as his successful music career. Condolences to his family. Rest well, Chuckie 🙏

pamela - February 23, 2024 at 07:51 PM

TF

Thank you for your kind words 💙

Tracy Fondren - February 25, 2024 at 12:53 PM

AR

“ I love you so much grandpa. you were such an amazing and genuine human being! your soul was so pure and sweet! I am going to miss you dearly <3

amanda rucker - February 23, 2024 at 09:36 AM

MP

“ Mancy Pittman lit a candle in memory of Mr. Edward "Chucky" Fondren



Mancy Pittman - February 23, 2024 at 05:43 AM

MA

“ Great man...singer, and musician. Grateful that he crossed my path.



Mark - February 22, 2024 at 10:01 PM

MW

*Keeping You Forever In My Thoughts And Memories, You Will Be Missed*

Mookie Wallace - February 23, 2024 at 03:14 PM

TL

“ Chuck was a true gentleman and one of the kindest souls I've ever encountered. Heaven is a little classier today.

Tony LaHood - February 22, 2024 at 09:26 PM

TF

Thank you for your kind words💙

Tracy Fondren - February 25, 2024 at 12:59 PM



“ The Academy of Our Lady/Spalding Institute Class of 1971 offers our condolences to Chucky's family and friends. RIP to a great musician who will be missed.

Lynn Dempsey - February 22, 2024 at 07:22 PM

JM

*I was very sorry to see that Chuck had pass. In school he was so keen of music and above all was a cool dude. Always courteous to fellow students, it was a shame he couldn't make our 50th class reunion, for I'm sure he would have enjoyed as much as the rest of us did. R.I.P. Brother Fondren 🙏*

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**Jerry Miklavcic** - February 22, 2024 at 07:35 PM

TF

*Thank you for your rememberences.*

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**Tracy Fondren** - February 25, 2024 at 12:56 PM

RO

*I met chuck in 2004. He came to our choir practice and watched until the end. Afterwards he asked if we needed a keyboard player. He played and sung "Shine On Me" and afterwards it was total silence for about 10 seconds because no one knew what to say. He became our leader. He taught so many things to me on guitar. I play every note as if he were listening still today. I lost touch with him and this is how I found him. I'm so sorry my story is long for I have waited years to tell it. I will continue missing Chuck every day as I have for years. I am so sorry for your loss. R.I.P. Brother Chuck*

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**Rob** - April 03, 2024 at 05:26 PM