



## H. Wallace Parker Esquire

December 8, 1941 - December 9, 2022

Attorney H. Wallace Parker was born on December 8, 1941, in Hamilton, North Carolina. The second youngest of five children born to Rudolph and Annie M. Williams Parker, Mr. Parker joined his home church at an early age and began his education in Martin County Public Schools. Honor, integrity and service were amongst his life's core values, serving for two tours of duty as a proud Marine, stateside, and during the Vietnam War. He completed his undergraduate education at Winston Salem State University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in History and Minor in Art, and a Juris Doctorate from North Carolina Central University School of Law. Following a legal fellowship in Pontiac, Michigan, his legal career amplified quickly. He soon was appointed Deputy City Attorney of Pontiac – the first minority to serve in this pivotal position. At this time, he became a member and Trustee of St. John United Methodist Church, Pontiac, Michigan, where he managed the church's legal affairs. He then established his own Law Firm in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, with a reputation as a formidable defense and civil rights attorney. Attorney Parker served as Chief Counsel for the North Oakland County Branch NAACP for decades, leading the fight for justice and racial equality. A committed public servant, he represented countless community members pro bono, addressed inflammatory incidents of racism and drafted a bill that became law changing the method of jury selection in the state of Michigan. This new law greatly increased the number of minority jurors serving on cases. Mr. Parker secured a judgement from the U.S. Federal Court requiring implementation of proper

testing and promotions for minority police officers. He was one of twelve attorneys who defended Affirmative Action at the University of Michigan. On behalf of the NAACP, he developed an action plan to address racial profiling for law enforcement agencies in Oakland County. Mr. Parker taught courses to new lawyers for the Oakland County Bar as he guided school districts and police departments to resolve ethnic intimidation issues, promoting diversity within the community. Mr. Parker served as the City Attorney for Royal Oak Township, for more than a decade. Mr. Parker's work toward creating a society of justice, placed his own life in peril on multiple occasions, yet, he was steadfast to his mission. His stellar legal career spanned 45 years in Michigan, until retiring to his home state of North Carolina.

Attorney Parker held membership in the Michigan State Bar Association, a Lifetime Member of the NAACP, and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Among the honors he received were the U.S. Department of Justice/FBI Lifetime Achievement Award, The Michigan Bar Association's Citizens Lawyer Award, the NAACP Lifetime Achievement Award, NAACP Presidential Award, and The National NAACP Foot Soldier's Award, and many others. In addition, an award in his name, The H. Wallace Parker Preservation of Justice Award, was presented annually by the NAACP.

Attorney Parker's life's priorities were his family, business and legal service to his community.

Attorney Parker was preceded in death by his parents, Annie and Rudolph Parker, Sr; siblings, Rudolph (Ora) Parker, Jr., Betty Parker (Peter) Burnette, James Eugene Parker, MD and Ann Parker, Esq.

Atty. Parker leaves to cherish his memory, his wife of 54 years, Patricia Walker Parker; daughter, Meriel Parker, MS; and grand-daughter, Rachel Alexandria

Parker; sister-in-laws Delores Pruitt, Annette Cheek and Mildred Parker; brother-in-law Dr. King Cheek; nieces Shayla Pruitt, M.A, Antoinette Cheek, nephews Paul (Sherine) Parker, MD, Victor Parker, JD., King Cheek, Antoine Cheek and Kahlil (Bianca) Cheek; great niece and nephews, Amira Parker, David Parker and Mateo Parker; as well as a host of other relatives and community friends.

Memorial contributions may be made to the following:

The Myositis Association <https://www.myositis.org/donate/> (check box to indicate gift - "In Memory of H. Wallace Parker") or Roanoke River Partners ([contact@roanokeriverpartners.org](mailto:contact@roanokeriverpartners.org)) (indicate gift in memory of H. Wallace Parker/Rosenwald School).

## Cemetery Details

### **Parker Family Cemetery**

7691 Hwy 903  
Avenue  
Oak City, NC 27857

## Previous Events

### **Celebration of Life Service**

DEC 17. 2:00 PM (ET)

Congleton Funeral Home and Cremations  
3205 E. 10th Street  
Greenville, NC 27858  
(252) 355-9995  
congletonfuneral1@gmail.com  
<http://congletonmortuary.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ *View and Download the Funeral Program*

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**Congleton Memorial Mortuary** - December 16, 2022 at 07:38 PM

LE

*To the late Honorable, H. Wallace Parker family. The Cherry/Ellis family of hometown, Oak City, N.C. extend their heartfelt condolences and sympathy to a sincere & devoted cheerful classmate & leader during our learning years at West Martin High School. May Wallace rest in peace. Many blessings to the family.*

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**LaVeda Cherry Ellis** - December 17, 2022 at 01:22 PM

LL

*I am at a loss. I did not know about his passing until now. Wallace was a great lawyer, a great man, and a great friend. I will miss him dearly. My prayers go out to his entire family. Please accept my condolences.*

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**Lurton Lipscomb** - February 06, 2023 at 11:47 PM

DB

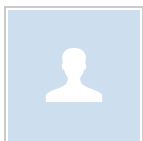
“ *Always a gentlemen.*

*Attorney*

*Horses*

*The farm*

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**Darrel Banks** - June 11, 2024 at 03:43 PM



“ *H. Wallace Parker Esquire*

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October 06, 2023 at 05:52 AM

KE

“ I first met Mr. & Mrs Parker in 1993, I was a Delta Darling and I was only 14 years of age. My mom and my god mother worked for him and him and his wife introduced me to a very monumental place. I'll never forget the memories from the pageant. I'm sending love, light, and positive energy. Mr. Parker is in heaven with my mom and my god mother. May the family be blessed and know that he has touched many hearts and changed many lives. Love you all ☐

Kreshayla Ealy-Botkin - January 29, 2023 at 12:59 AM

AW

“ I was Mr. Parker's Secretary for over thirty years. He was the best boss to work for and he will be greatly missed. He was more than a great boss, he was a great friend. I remember his favorite quote from the program. He had really nice Christmas cards made one year which included the quote and had me mail them out to all of his colleagues. In fact, one District Court Judge was so touched by it and commented on it to him in front of the whole courtroom. Mr. Parker definitely touched many lives. He helped all of my family with their legal needs over the years. We were all very blessed to have known him.



Amanda Wahl - December 21, 2022 at 10:16 PM

DG

“ DeCarla Garner lit a candle in memory of H. Parker



DeCarla Garner - December 19, 2022 at 01:41 PM

FW

“ *My sincerest condolences are being sent to the Parker family. May God grant you peace and His eternal blessings.*



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**frances Lonnette williams** - December 17, 2022 at 12:44 PM

CJ

“ *To My Dearest Sorors, Pat and Meriel,  
So sorry to hear of the passing of Wallace. Extending my heartfelt condolences!!  
Wallace shared his talents and himself with the Pontiac and surrounding communities for many years. Wallace worked tirelessly for the benefit of mankind. Truly, all of his efforts will always be remembered.  
Pat & Meriel, love and hugs as you go thru this difficult period.  
❤️🙏❤️ Sisterly love, Carolyn Jennings*

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**Carolyn Jennings** - December 16, 2022 at 07:13 PM

NN

“ *Northern Oakland County Branch NAACP purchased the Basket Full of Wishes for the family of H. Wallace Parker Esquire.*



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**Northern Oakland County Branch NAACP** - December 16, 2022 at 07:12 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of H. Wallace Parker Esquire.



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December 16, 2022 at 06:05 PM



“ Pat, Meriel, Rachel and Family. We are praying for comfort and peace for you and the family in the lost of our friend. If there is any way that we can be assistance to you do not hesitate to contact us. Wallace, was not only a Dependable Excellent Attorney but most of all a Friend and Brother.  
Drs. Eugene and Jeanette Campbell-Rogers

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**Eugene and Jeanette Rogers** - December 16, 2022 at 11:35 AM



“ Drs. Eugene and Jeanette Campbell-Rogers purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of H. Wallace Parker Esquire.



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**Drs. Eugene and Jeanette Campbell-Rogers** - December 16, 2022 at 10:57 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of H. Wallace Parker Esquire.



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December 15, 2022 at 10:14 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of H. Wallace Parker Esquire.*



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December 15, 2022 at 08:54 PM



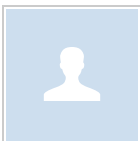
“ *Before I knew anything about you and your family's background, I knew 4 amazing ordinary people; you, your wife, daughter, and precious granddaughter. What divine intervention ordained by our Heavenly Father! I am so blessed to have known you if only for a short while. Way too short, sadly... Thank you for just being you, and sharing your family with me. My love, and prayers for my two sisters in Delta, my little honorary niece, and the entire family. I light a candle representing the light you were in the darkest of times!*



*Your Beach Buddy-Dr. Robin D. Lang-Moore*

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**Robin D. Lang-Moore** - December 15, 2022 at 07:15 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of H. Wallace Parker Esquire.*



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December 15, 2022 at 05:20 PM

JC

“ *Jacob and Dr. Deborah Crandall of Raleigh. It was a pleasure working with Attorney H. Wallace Parker on his farms in Martine county. He was very interested in managing and his land properly, especially his forest land. As an Agriculture Program Specialist with the North Carolina Department he would alway call me for technical advice on to manage his farm.*

Jacob Crandall - December 15, 2022 at 05:14 PM



“ *Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of H. Wallace Parker Esquire.*



December 15, 2022 at 08:52 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of H. Wallace Parker Esquire.*



December 15, 2022 at 08:38 AM

BC

“ As we light a candle for you; there are special people in our lives who never leave us, even after they are gone. We are truly grateful for your strong participation in our fundraisers and charity donations in giving back to the community in which you lived and began your early education. We thank God for you and your family.

*Barbara Council-West Martin Community Center, Oak City, NC.*



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**Barbara Council** - December 14, 2022 at 09:31 PM

YP

“ Your Other Brother Brother Joe Pruitt purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of H. Wallace Parker Esquire.



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**Your Other Brother Brother Joe Pruitt** - December 14, 2022 at 03:17 PM

JT

“ Wallace: I will miss you, My Friend... We appreciate the support and the respect your Family showed toward our Family both professionally and personally. You are now on the Stairway to Heaven. May you “Rest In Peace.”  
*Drs Lucy M. & J. R. Taylor. Bloom*

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**J. R. TAYLOR** - December 14, 2022 at 09:06 AM

JL

*Rest in peace my friend . As business led to personal ties I always enjoyed our occasional sit downs and calls.  
A special toast along with a few of your favorite, Kathy's chocolate covered cashews in your honor Wallace  
Ride with God  
John and Kathy Liston*

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**John Liston** - December 15, 2022 at 08:51 AM

JT

*Riding high in your good box of wood; my Omega Brother. "Peace be still " Dr. J. R. Taylor*

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**J. R. Taylor** - December 16, 2022 at 02:10 PM

SS

*Pat, Meriel, Rachel and Family, my thoughts and prayers are with you.  
May God bless each of you.  
Stephanie Spears Boothe*

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**Stephanie Spears-Boothe** - December 16, 2022 at 07:51 PM

DF

*To the family of Wallace Parker. God saw fit to take a loved one home to glory. Know that he will always be with you and in your hearts. Keep his memory alive by remembering the good times and the many years that you spent together. My prayers are with you.*

*Dianne France*

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**Dianne France** - December 17, 2022 at 09:14 AM

MR

*To Pat and Meriel! So sorry to hear about your lost! My condolences to you and you family!! Peace and Love!*

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**Mary Russell** - December 18, 2022 at 05:26 PM

DT

“ Drs. J.R. & Lucy Taylor purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of H. Wallace Parker Esquire.



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**Drs. J.R. & Lucy Taylor** - December 13, 2022 at 09:15 PM

JT

“ Wallace; I will miss you; My Friend... We appreciate your past support and the respect your family showed toward our Family. May you RIP. Dr.s Lucy M. & J. R. Taylor.

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**J. TAYLOR** - December 13, 2022 at 08:35 PM

EH

“ May Jesus Christ Continues To Comfort And Strengthen The Family



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**Evangelist Gwen Hudson** - December 13, 2022 at 01:19 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of H. Wallace Parker Esquire.



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December 13, 2022 at 11:35 AM

CS

“ Congleton Funeral Home and Staff wishes to express our sincere condolence on the passing of your love one. We light this candle in their memory.



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**Congleton Funeral Home and Staff** - December 12, 2022 at 05:48 PM