



## Thomas Vines

August 18, 2008

Thomas Dale Vines 66 passed away August 18, 2008 at St. Vincent Mercy Medical Center. He was born to Clifton S. Vines and Elizabeth L. Washington Vines, the second of ten children on January 24, 1942. True to his industrious nature, as a boy Thomas was employed at numerous jobs, beginning as a Blade paper boy and later running his own lawn care business. After graduating from Libbey High School, Thomas worked for Jeep and Toledo Edison. He joined the Armed Forces where he served honorably in the U.S. Army. After his discharge he returned to his hometown where he would receive a B.S. in social work from the University of Toledo in 1976.

An avid gardener, Thomas established the David Washington Botanical Garden in honor of his late brother, Marvin. Thomas displayed a passion and gift for photography, capturing and creating images and chronicling the history of African-American's in the Toledo area. Tommy's art was widely exhibited at places such as the Toledo Museum of Art, Kent and Mott branch libraries, the Collingwood Arts Center, and beyond. A motivating and encouraging mentor to many people, Thomas took a special interest in children, working for Big Brother's Big Sisters for a time and as a family service worker for EOPA Toledo Head Start at the time of his death.

Thomas was preceded in death by his father Clifton and Brother Marvin. He is survived by his wife Katherine and sons, Thomas Jr., Elwood, and Garland;

his mother, Elizabeth, sisters Alice and Rebecca, and brothers, David (Jeanne), Clifford (Lauren), Gregory, Cornelius, Stephen (Cheryl) and Anthony: 35 nieces and nephews, 25 great nieces and nephews, and a lifetimes worth of heartfelt poetry and moving photographs.

Visitation will be Sunday 3-5:00 pm at The Dale-Riggs Funeral Home. Funeral Service Monday at 10:00 A.M. Grace Presbyterian Church, Rev. Dr. Langston C. Bannister Officiate Interment Private