## Celebrating the Life and Legacy of



## William Eugene Davis

Sunrise Sunset January 24, 1929 March 29, 2021 Tuesday, April 6, 2021 - 11:00 a.m.

> Heavenly Temple Church of God 15-21 Martin Luther King Drive Jersey City, New Jersey 07305 (201) 332-8974 Elder Guy J. Miller, Officiating

## <u>Obituary</u>

William Eugene Davis began his life's journey on January 24, 1929 and entered into eternal rest on March 29, 2021.

Although he was a proud native of Eutawville, South Carolina, William "Bill" Davis spent most of his life in Jersey City, NJ, where he was educated in the Jersey City Public Schools. Bill spoke often of his early years in Eutawville, where he was raised by his grandmother and grandfather while his mother made her way north with his younger sister Loretta, whom he loved dearly. He later joined them when he was 5 years old and distinctly remembered adjusting to new cultural norms such as "cold cereal".

As a young man, Bill found himself in the Webb home, where as he stated for decades, "The joint was jumping: I knew I was in the right house with the right family, and I have been with them ever since". He sincerely spoke of his in-laws, who lovingly welcomed him into their home with open arms – and he never failed to mention Mrs. Webb being such a great cook!

Bill was employed by Hartz Mountain Industries where he retired after 25 years of service. Although he retired from Hartz Mountain Industries, Bill was also employed at Siperstein's Paint Store, Palace Drug Store and the Carteret Garage. Prior to beginning his career, Bill honorably served in the United States Army. In service to country, and in life, Bill was always dedicated and committed to the mission ahead. Many of the valuable lessons he learned as a soldier remained with him his entire life. As a result of his military training, Bill was neat and methodical in all aspects of his life. Most recently, as his health began to decline, Bill's soldier mentality helped him endure life's difficulties as he had in his youth.

Bill will be fondly remembered as gallant and sophisticated. His gentle and quiet demeanor spoke volumes about the distinctive gentleman he was. As a husband and father, Bill was loving and devoted; his dedication to his wife and children was unparalleled. He was always diligent and deeply committed to his work. These characteristics helped his sons develop their strong work ethic.

Although easy going, Bill was a stern voice of enforcement and reason in the home when needed. He was confident enough to allow his beloved Thelma to take the lead with the children, but Bill's presence was strong. He admired the pride with which his wife cared for their family. Together, they were a very well-oiled machine. On Saturdays the boys went out to work on the Siperstein Paint truck with dad while Doris stayed home with mom – where shopping and other Sunday dinner preparations were in order. This was the weekly regiment in the Davis home, and it is this consistency that laid a strong foundation for their growing family.

A perpetual scholar, Bill learned as long as he lived. He was an extremely avid reader whose extensive reading helped him advance academically. If you really knew Bill, you knew he was a wealth of knowledge. His passion for photography was another way that Bill enhanced his education. Bill was such a strong independent learner, he earned his certification as a professional photographer from the NY Institute of Photography after successfully completing the institute's mail correspondence program.

For decades, Bill shared his talent through carefully captured snapshots and still images of those he held near and dear. As the family learns to see life through a lens without Bill behind it, they are encouraged by the thought of him resting eternally in God's care.

William "Bill" Davis is predeceased by his devoted wife: Thelma Louise Davis; his parents: Rubin and Suzanne Davis (Sinkler), (Eutawville, South Carolina); Stepfather James Gaskins; Sister; Loretta Hankerson Halley: Brother-in-Law; Leo P. Halley Jr.; Mother and father in-law; Lemar and Mary Webb; sister-in-laws: Sarah Murphy, Margaret Webb-Nixon and Martha Webb-Herring; Brothers-in-law: Robert, Lemar, Charles, Richard and Joseph Webb.

Surviving to cherish his loving memory: his devoted children, Walter Eugene Davis (Janice), Doris Davis; grandson: Isaiah Eugene Davis. When he married the love of his life, she had four children who he loved as his own; Ruthena Kirkland (d., 2016 Walter Sr.); George Williams, Jerome Williams (d., 2018), Michael Williams (Debbie) and their children; Walter, Kendall, Scott, Rodney and Gerard Kirkland; Jerome Sherman, Sabrina Sherman and Shakeema Conyers; Lamont and Michael Williams; and their 15 children; beloved brothers-in-law: Reginald and Walter (Clartha) Webb; loving sisters-in-law: Theresa Ferguson, Mary Webb-Miller and LaVern Webb-Washington; cousins; Diane Sinkler, Frankie Sinkler, Sheila Jones, David Jones, Jeanette "Chi Chi" Burnett, Jerilyn Day-Johnson and Toni Sinkler-Douglas; Doris' fiancé, Gary Redden; a deeply devoted caregiver and personal assistant, Cazzie "Casey" Williams, and a host of nieces, nephews, other loving relatives and friends.

## Order of Service

#### Organ Prelude

| Processional                                       |
|--|
| Invocation (Prayer of Comfort) Mary I. Webb-Miller |
| Scriptures Old Testament                           |
| Selection Sister Barbara Sharpe                    |
| Reflections (2 minutes)                            |
| Walter E. Davis                                    |
| Selection Sister Barbara Sharpe                    |
|  |
| Selection  |

Interment
New York Bay Cemetery
Tuesday, April 6, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.

















# Loving Memories of My Dear Father You held my hand when I was small, You caught me when I fell, The hero of my childhood And of latter years as well. Every time I think of you My heart just fills with pride,

And though I'll always miss you, my dear sweet Father, I know you're by my side.

In laughter and in sorrow
In sunshine and in rain,
I know you will always be watching over me along with my dear Mother.

Until we meet again.

Your loving daughter, Doris







#### PALL BEARERS

Kendall Kirkland Gerard Kirkland Kendall Kirkland, Jr. Kyaire Kirkland Kenneth Williams Charles Herring

### Acknowledgment

The Family of William Eugene Davis thanks you for your expressions of sympathy. During our bereavement, family and friends have reminded us of how lucky we are to have family and friends like you. Your kind words have helped to bring about a sense of peace and comfort.

May God continue to bless you all.



#### Jackson Funeral Residence

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Craig J. Thomas, Owner, Executive Administrator (un-licensed)

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