

Celebration of

LIFE



ERIC
DUANE
LOVE



SUNRISE
APRIL 18, 1959

SUNSET
MAY 27, 2021

HOME GOING SERVICE

SATURDAY, JUNE 5, 2021, ELEVEN O'CLOCK
THE VIEWING AND VISITATION 10:00 – 11:00 A.M.

THOMAS FUNERAL HOME
4520 SALEM AVE., TROTWOOD, OH 45416
REV. RONALD REID, EULOGIST

ORDER OF CELEBRATION

<i>Musical Prelude</i>	<i>"You Are My Peace", Juanita Bynum</i>
<i>Invocation</i>	<i>Rev. Ronald K. Reid, Pastor First New Hope Baptist Church, Suitland, MD</i>
<i>Musical Selection</i>	<i>"I Never Lost My Praise", Tramaine Hawkins</i>
<i>Scripture Reading</i>	<i>Psalm 27:1-4, 14, II Timothy 4:6-8 Demetri Love</i>
<i>Prayer of Comfort</i>	<i>Aaron Watts</i>
<i>Acknowledgements/Resolutions</i>	<i>Bianca Hand</i>
<i>Reflections</i>	<i>Family and Friends (Please limit to 2 minutes)</i>
<i>The Reading of the Obituary</i>	<i>Jennifer Jackson</i>
<i>Musical Selection</i>	<i>"Order My Steps"</i>
<i>The Eulogy</i>	<i>Rev. Ronald K. Reid, Pastor First New Hope Baptist Church Suitland, MD</i>
<i>The Recessional</i>	<i>"Take Me to the King" Clergy, Family and Friends (Please remain seated until the family exits)</i>

THE OBITUARY

"I have fought a good fight; I have finished my course; I have kept the faith. Henceforth, there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge shall give me that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love His appearing." II Timothy 4:7-8

Eric Duane Love entered into this world on Saturday, April 18, 1959 in Dayton, Ohio. He was the youngest child of the late Hardie A. and Gwendolyn L. Love. On Thursday, May 27, 2021, Eric peacefully finished his course and transition to life eternal in Bowie, MD at the age of 62.

Eric received his formal education from Dayton public schools. He graduated from Colonel White High School in 1978. He was an extraordinary all-around athlete. In high school, he pursued football, basketball, and track. Eric's love and excellence in basketball enabled him to receive an athletic scholarship to Central State University (CSU), Xenia, Ohio. Eric graduated in 1983 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration.

As a freshman, Eric averaged 15 points and 6.5 rebounds per contest. His sophomore year, Eric again averaging 15 points while upping his rebound totals to 7.5 per game. As a junior, Eric was selected to the 1980 NCAA Division II All American Team as well as his senior year, where he had the best year of his college career. Eric excelled on the court, amidst his athletics peer playing basketball. He was one of the top scorers and rebounders in CSU's basketball record books. He leaves the legacy of playing 111 career games, 820 field goals while shooting over 51% from the field. He shot 72% from the free throw line and finished his career at Central State with 2,052 points and 840 rebounds. In 2016, Eric was inducted into Central State University's Basketball Hall of Fame.

Around 1984, Eric joined the Maryland All-Stars Basketball Team and was an immediate impact player. The Maryland All-Stars was a collection of topflight, elite former college players, all of them talented and fierce competitors. They traveled all over the country and the world, year-round, playing the best the college teams during pre-season and other Pro-Am teams that wanted to taste defeat. Eric excelled in this rich culture, almost winning but remaining humble...always. Eric Love let his game do his talking, so he never had to brag, talk "smack" or antagonize opponents.

Eric also played in local recreational leagues for more than 30 years making appearances in Bowie, Annapolis, and Prince George County, MD, and in Washington, DC. His physical toughness and ability to score, rebound and defend, made him one of the most feared players on the court, in any league he played in his humility off the court, made him one of the most respected. Eric also played with the Baltimore Old Timers Team his back-court teammate from Maryland All-Stars, Derwin Lilly. Both were selected to be honored and inducted into the Old Timers Hall of Fame later in the Summer of 2021.

The most poignant comments said regarding Eric Love's passing are: **"As a PLAYER, he was GREAT, BUT, he was a MUCH BETTER PERSON than he was a PLAYER!"** **"Eric Love was the BEST...Simply the BEST!!!"**

Eric relocated to Washington, D.C. in 1983. Upon the confession of his faith, he was baptized under the pastorate of Rev. Calvin Cage, Sr. at Meridian Hill Baptist Church, Washington, D.C. He was a dedicated and loyal trustee and usher. In later years, Eric united with First New Hope Baptist Church, Suitland, MD, under the pastorate of Rev. Ronald Reid, where he continued serving in the usher ministry.

Eric retired with 20 years of service from Giant Foods. He was never one to be idle. He attained a position as a TSA agent with American Airlines at the Ronald Reagan National Airport, Washington, D.C. for many years.

Eric inherited his father's entrepreneurial spirit. With a gifted business acumen, Eric was the owner of Clean Start, LLC, a cleaning service geared to businesses and organizations. He also owned and managed several properties in the Washington, D.C. and Dayton, Ohio areas. He relied on his son, Lamont to inspect properties and offer advice on decisions to the purchases of potential properties. Both worked together to rehab and restore properties as they sharpened their skills and knowledge of property management and ownership. Eric wanted to

bestow the entrepreneurial spirit to his grandchildren. He started teaching them at an early age how to handle the managing of money; Eric always told them, *"To Give Some, Save Some, and finally, Spend Some"*.

Eric loved traveling, whether it was to Ocean City, MD, the Bahamas, cruising to tropical islands, and many other places of interest. Eric's most memorable vacation was spending a week in Punta Cana in the Dominican Republic with his precious Ronnie. Eric loved and enjoyed spending holiday gatherings with family and friends. Eric's unconditional love extended far beyond family and close friends. He had a passion for caring for the elderly and baking lemon cakes. The residents of the Colonial Park Care Nursing Home in Harrisburg, PA will sure miss Eric and his cakes.

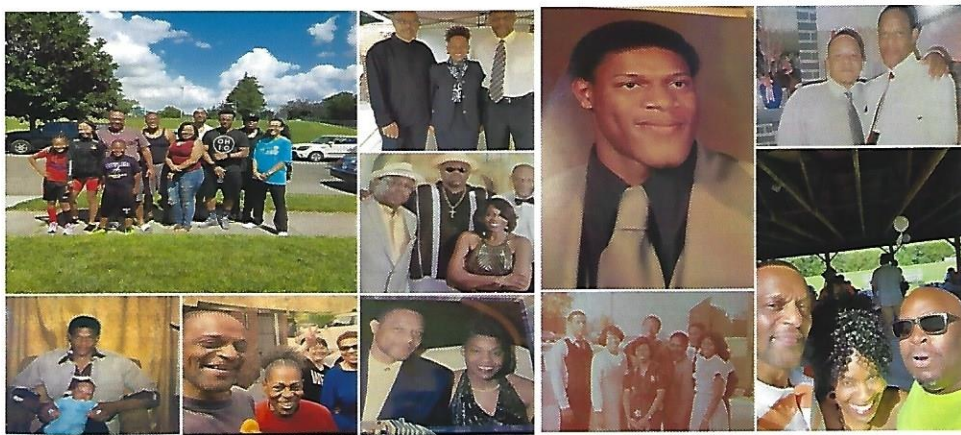
During Eric's recent stay at Medstar Georgetown University Hospital, one of Eric's doctors on his oncology team stated that Eric had such a sweet and gentle spirit. In spite of all the pain he endured, Eric managed to touch the heart of his oncology team by saying, "I hope you are able to use my case to help someone else". Upon Eric's release from the hospital, his desire was to spend his final days in the home of his beloved sweetheart, Veronica L. Monroe in Bowie, MD, whom he affectionately called Ronnie.

In addition to his parents, Eric was preceded in death by his brothers, Willie Perry and Frederick Love, as well as his sisters, Arletta Love and Diane Austin.

Eric leaves to cherish his life: His beloved son, Lamont Hoard of Dayton, OH; his three grandchildren, LaShauna Hoard, Cayden Hoard, and Caitlin Hoard of Dayton, OH; a sister, Brenda K. Brown; a brother, Charles (Eva) Love, both of Dayton, OH; the love of his life, Veronica L. Monroe, Bowie, MD; Godchildren, Calvin, Kehli, Kailyn, and Kasi Cage of Bowie, MD; a host of aunts, nephews, nieces, cousins and many friends.

~ In Eric's famous words, "Keep Hope Alive" ~

PRECIOUS MEMORIES



~ PRECIOUS MEMORIES ~





MISS ME, BUT LET ME GO"

WHEN I COME TO THE END OF THE ROAD, THE SUN HAS SET FOR ME; I WANT NO RITES IN A GLOOM FILLED ROOM, WHY CRY FOR A SOUL SET FREE? MISS ME A LITTLE, BUT NOT TOO LONG AND NOT WITH YOUR HEAD HELD DOWN. REMEMBER THE LOVE WE ONCE SHARED ~ MISS ME BUT LET ME GO. FOR THIS IS A JOURNEY WE ALL MUST TAKE AND EACH MUST GO ALONE. IT'S ALL A PART OF THE MASTER'S PLAN, A STEP ON THE ROAD TO HOME. WHEN YOU ARE LONELY AND SICK AT HEART, GO TO THE FRIENDS WE KNOW AND BURY YOUR SORROWS IN DOING GOOD DEEDS.

~ MISS ME, BUT LET ME GO~

PALLBEARERS

JOHN AUSTIN, JR. SAMUEL BROWN RALPH FAVORS
JAMEL HOARD ASHANTA WATTS DASUN WOODS

FLOWER BEARERS

FAMILY AND FRIENDS

FAMILY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

THE FAMILY OF ERIC LOVE, EXPRESSES SINCERE APPRECIATION FOR ALL ACTS OF LOVE AND SUPPORT SHOWN TO US DURING THIS DIFFICULT TIME OF BEREAVEMENT. WE WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER YOUR EVERY KINDNESS.
LOVING SUBMITTED BY THE FAMILY

ARRANGEMENTS ENTRUSTED TO

LATNEY'S FUNERAL HOME
7600 GEORGIA AVENUE, SUITE 203
WASHINGTON, DC
202-882-2455

THOMAS FUNERAL HOME
4520 SALEM AVENUE,
TROTWOOD, OH 45416
937-274-8777

Eric Duane Love



April 18, 1959 ~ May 27, 2021

*The Service of Celebration
Saturday, June 5, 2021
Eleven O'Clock A.M.
Thomas Funeral Home*

*"I have fought a good fight; I have finished my course; I
have kept the faith."*

*Eric Duane Love entered into this world on Saturday,
April 18, 1959 in Dayton, Ohio. He was the youngest child
of Hardie A. and Gwendolyn L. Love. On Thursday, May
7, 2021, Eric peacefully finished his race in Bowie, MD
at the home of his beloved Veronica, to transition to life
eternal at the age of 62.*

*Eric leaves to cherish his memory: His beloved son,
Lamont Hoard; his grandchildren, LaShauna, Cayden,
and Caitlin Hoard of Dayton, OH; a sister, Brenda K.
Brown; a brother, Charles (Eva) Love, both of Dayton, OH;
the love of his life, Veronica L. Monroe, Bowie, MD;
grandchildren, Calvin, Kehlî, Kaitlyn, and Kast Cagle of
Bowie, MD; a host of aunts, nieces, nephews, other family
and friends.*

Arrangements Entrusted to

*Latney's Funeral Home
7600 Georgia Ave., Ste. 203
Washington, DC*

*Thomas Funeral Home
4520 Salem Ave
Trotwood, OH*

"Miss Me, But Let Me Go"

When I come to the end of the road, the sun had set for me; I want no rites in a gloom filled room, why cry for a soul set free? Miss me a little, but not too long and not with your head held down.

Remember the love once shared ~ "Miss Me, But Let Me Go". For this is a journey we all must take and each must go alone. It's all a part of the Master's plan, a step on the road to home. When you are lonely and sick at heart, go to the friends we know and bury your sorrows in doing good deeds.

"Miss Me, But Let Me Go"



Family Acknowledgement

Words cannot express our gratitude for the many kindnesses that continue to sustain us; your outpouring of love that showers us; and the joy of knowing that true and caring family and friends are always within reach. Please know from our hearts to yours how much your support has truly blessed us and pray that our faith sustains us. May God's grace and richest blessings be with you.

Lovingly Submitted by the Family