



ELISHA VALENTINE LESTER, Jr.

July 13, 1940 - April 8, 2023

Reverend Elisha Valentine Lester Jr., 82, departed this Earth on April 8, 2023 at 2:25 am. Born July 13, 1940, in Clarkston, GA to the parents Elisha Sr. and Beulah Lester. Since childhood, Elisha was known as “Sonny Boy” to many. He was the eldest among his two brothers Freddie and Eddie (both deceased) and two sisters Doris (deceased) and Vivian. During childhood, Sonny loved to read and memorize poetry. He also loved playing baseball and was known as the best baseball catcher and home run hitter at Hamilton High School. After graduating high school, Sonny attended Morehouse College. A couple of years later, he joined the Army and served as a Paratrooper in the 82nd Airborne Division for three years. In 1962, he married his childhood best friend, Mary, and together they had two children, Patrick and Stephanie. After separating from the army, Sonny became a postal supervisor for almost thirty years. Sonny worked hard to provide for his family and lead them on the path of righteousness. After retirement, Sonny enjoyed going out on his boat, watching baseball games and spending time with his grandchildren. He was the embodiment of what a great father and husband can be when guided by the Lord.

Sonny was a man of God. He was a faithful member of Clarkston First Baptist Church for his entire life. He later became a Deacon and an ordained Reverend. He dedicated his life to the Word and inspired those around him to put their faith in our Lord and Savior.

He is survived by his wife Mary, their two children Patrick (Miriam) and

Stephanie; as well as their five grandchildren Erica (Jarrel), Pilar, Kesi (Brandon), Charisma and Maya; and their seven great-grandchildren Madeline, Anthony, Dahlia, Donovan, Rosalynn, Dillon, and Alaana; sister Vivian and a sister-in-law Faye. A host of nieces, nephews, countless cousins, family friends, and special neighbors.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

APR **15**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Clarkston First Baptist Church
3999 Church St
Clarkston, GA 30021

Tribute Wall

EB

“ My heart goes out to the family of Rev Lester. My daughter and I was young members of Clarkston First Baptist when we got to know He and his Mother Mary Lester. We were so encouraged by them both. I recall him telling my daughter when she said she could not afford her school books. He question what she was doing to make it happen and she said nothing. He said "You have not because you ask not" He was always encouraging. God bless!

Ella Bowman - April 21, 2023 at 08:44 AM



“ Sending virtual hugs and condolences to Mrs. Lester (aka. Sister Lester during my youth), Stephanie, Patrick and family. I knew Deacon Lester when I was an impressionable, observant child. He gained my respect. I'm thankful and honored to have shared space with him. I can only imagine the wisdom he shared with those who knew him as a pastor.

Sonya Griffin-Harris - April 17, 2023 at 09:42 AM

BM

“ My heart goes out to you Mother Lester and family. I just found out that this angel was gone. Heaven has gained a great humble, sweet spirited, man of God. He has always been just a inspirational man and always had a kind word to say to me and my family. My last memory of him was when me and Loren and the kids spent the day with you and him and he drove us around on the lake. I have always had a fear of big bodys of water, but when we were on the boat with him, I felt a sense of calmness in my spirit, he was a great guide and he drove that boat so steadyily, I had no fear at that time. It was a great memory with you and him. He will be missed and my prayers are with you. Love Brenda L Melton and family

Brenda L Melton - April 15, 2023 at 11:19 AM

CH

“ To Mary Alice, Patrick and Stephanie and family. I'm so sorry for your loss. My heart breaks for the family. I grew up with Sonny Boy. I have so many fond memories of him. He taught me in Sunday school. He always had words of wisdom to impart in me. I remember him standing beside my Mama when I graduated from high school. I'm gone truly miss him. Heaven gained a true man of God and an angel.



Cynthia Durden Houston - April 15, 2023 at 09:35 AM

DB

“ Mother Lester, my heart goes out to you and your family. May the Lord give you strength during this time and May your heart keep all the memories and love you two have had through the years. Thank you Rev. Lester for all your Love, Kindness, Teachings and forever being a man who anyone could talk to for anything.
Love,
Danielle (Bird) Baker & Family.

Danielle Bird Bishop Baker - April 15, 2023 at 07:15 AM

DE

“ Mrs. Mary and Family. Please know our sincere condolences are with your entire family. We knew him dearly as “Deacon Lester” before he accepted his call. He was a mentor, encourager and shining light to the CFBC Family. May He Rest In Abundant Peace!
Love, Pastor Val Tate Everett, Tara and Jamaal.

Dr Val Tate Everett - April 13, 2023 at 06:56 PM

NM

“ *Heaven just earned another Angel. Mr. Lester you may have left this world but you will forever remain in our Hearts. You have fought a very tough battle and now you are in Glory with the Heavenly Father. Rest in Peace we will all be here for Sis Mary and family. Love you.*



Neetha "Peaches" Massey - April 12, 2023 at 09:52 PM

NB

“ *Lester Family, May God give you all perfect peace during this very difficult time. Brother Patrick, your father's love, light, and legacy will forever live in your hearts. Your family is in our prayers. We love you. Sorrowfully, Nicole Barbour and Family*

Nicole Barbour - April 12, 2023 at 08:34 PM

RR

“ *To Mother Lester , Patrick, Miriam and the entire Family. We pray that God will give each of you peace, comfort, strength and lots of love at this time of sorrow. My heart goes out to you all during this difficult season. We are sending caring thoughts your way and much Prayer. Love you all Robin & James Randle*



Robin Randle - April 12, 2023 at 08:17 PM

JT

“ *Mary Lester and Family - we are thinking of you all at this difficult time. Please know you are in our thoughts and prayers for comfort and peace. We love you dearly.*

Jeff & Cynthia Tate - April 12, 2023 at 02:59 PM

CC

“ *Mary Lester and Family, may you feel the overflowing love for you at this time. Rev. Lester was an extraordinary man of God who touched many lives. Sending my heartfelt condolences.*

Cassandra Charlton - April 12, 2023 at 11:02 AM

JF

“ *Mary Alice and family you have our deepest sympathy!*

Jennie and Mary Powell's Family - April 11, 2023 at 05:40 PM