



Ernestine Merritt

September 6, 1946 - January 7, 2026

Ernestine Merritt, a beloved educator and cherished community member, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, January 7th, 2026, at her residence in Ellenwood, Georgia. She was 79 years old.

Born on Friday, September 6th, 1946, in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, Ernestine went on to touch countless lives through her dedication and service as a school teacher with the Dekalb County Board of Education. Her passion for nurturing young minds and her commitment to education left an indelible mark on both her colleagues and her students.

Ernestine's life was a testament to her enduring spirit, kindness, and dedication. Beyond her professional pursuits, she was known for her warmth, compassion, and unwavering support to both her family and friends.

The community is invited to celebrate her life at a Memorial Service, which will be held on Saturday, January 24th, 2026, at 1:00 pm at the Greenforest Community Baptist Church in Decatur, Georgia. It will be a time to honor Ernestine's legacy, share cherished memories, and find solace in the company of all who loved her.

Arrangements for Ernestine have been entrusted to the compassionate care of Gregory B. Levett & Sons Funeral Homes & Crematory, South Dekalb

location. Her family wishes to express their heartfelt gratitude for the outpouring of love and support during this difficult time.

Ernestine Merritt will be remembered not just for her contributions to education but for the way she lived her life, full of grace and love. Her memory will forever remain in the hearts of those who knew and loved her.

In lieu of flowers please Donate to the United Negro College Fund.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JAN **24**. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Greenforest Community Baptist Church
3250 Rainbow Drive
Decatur, Ga 30034

Tribute Wall

TH

“ *Sis. Meritt was a classy Christian woman. Even over the years when I ran into her around town she was always dressed well, hair looked good and a beautiful shade of lipstick to frame her smile. She is missed*



Tracey Harris - January 20 at 01:31 PM

JR

“ *Joyce Robinson lit a candle in memory of Ernestine Merritt*



Joyce Robinson - January 18 at 02:46 AM

DI

“ *I didn't know Erni very well, but the times I was in her company, was always a welcomed joy & delight!!! Sincere heartfelt condolences on her passing & I will never forget her. With warm regards, Fredrick Simpson*



Dink - January 17 at 06:53 AM

DI

“ *Rest in Peace, Semi, our beloved Warrior that has gone to receive her hard earned, well deserved medal of honor!! With deepest condolences & love, Dink*



Dink - January 17 at 06:49 AM

DI

“ I only knew Ernie for a medium amount of time, but that time will always be memorable! She was so amazingly sweet, kind, intelligent & her friendliness will never be matched to any other human being. She will be greatly missed, but not nearly as much as she was loved!! Take care, Ernie!!! With heartfelt sadness & condolence, From Dink



Dink - January 16 at 08:28 PM

BA

“ Barbara Winters - OC/Elizabeth Andrews planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ernestine Merritt.

Barbara Winters - OC/Elizabeth Andrews - January 14 at 10:57 PM

RD

“ Erni "inherited" my classroom, after I retired. She teased that she did NOT have to buy sanitizer for an entire year,

Rev. Dr. Pat Dugas - January 14 at 09:38 PM