



## Charles M. Murrell, Sr.

March 12, 1926 - January 2, 2021

Hello Family and Friends

If you are reading this it means the good LORD has called me up to the plate for my last pitch, and I have hit a grand slam on up into the upper room. I have taken care of all my funeral arrangements before my death to take stress off my daughters Darnella and Jackie. This includes writing my own obituary because I wanted to tell you all about my life my way. If someone does not like the way things are done, all I can say is I am sorry. Things are being done as I asked and trusted them to do.

I am Charles Monroe Murrell Sr. I was born on March 12, 1926, in Praco, Alabama to my late parents Prince Murrell and Frankie Mae Murrell. I have family that has gone on before me: Vera E. Murrell (wife), Alexander Murrell (son), Troy K.P. Cummings III (great grandson), Elvin Marsh (sister), Lawrence Jackson (brother), William E Morton (brother), Gladys Whatley (sister), Dana Whatley (nephew)

I leave family behind not to be sad but to be happy enjoying the memories: 1 brother Prince Lewis Murrell (JoAnn) Peekskill, N.Y. 2 daughters Jackie McMickens (Fairfield, Ala.), Darnella R. Flowers (Waldorf, Md.) 1 son Charles M. Murrell Jr. (Woodbridge, Va.) grandchildren: Charles M. Murrell III (Boston, Ma), Naomi M. Murrell (Dale City, Va.), Alexis Murrell (Baltimore, Md.), Deshalyn E. Burrus (Waldorf, Md.), David L. Burrus (Dale City, Va.), Roderick

McMickens (Birmingham, Ala.), Shelika McMickens (Birmingham, Ala.), Desmond McMickens (Nashville, Tenn.), Tchernavina Reese (Atlanta, GA.), Shannon Murrell Hall (Stone Mountain, GA), Travon I. Jackson (New Britain, CT.), Travis T. Murrell (Woodstock, GA.), and a host of great grandchildren; great great grandchildren; nieces; great nieces; nephews; great nephews; and other relatives and friends.

I was a 17 year old senior at Westfield High School in Westfield, Alabama when I was drafted into the military. My parents had to write a letter to the draft board and beg them to let me finish my last year in school before sending me off to the war and they did. As soon as I graduated, I was shipped off to boot camp. The military was very hard during that time because it was segregated. The black soldiers were treated very different than the white soldiers, we were given their hand me downs. Different barracks, mess halls, transportation, and even medical care. It was so bad that one time me and a fellow soldier rode in the bathroom on the train from up state New York all the way to California in the bathroom because we could not ride in the car with the white soldiers and there was no more room in the 'Negro Car.' We could not wait for the next train because we would have been late reporting for our new duty station. I served my country in World War II, the Korean War and Vietnam. It was very hard, but it got a little easier as time went on and I retired after 27 years, 9 months and 8 days later at Fort Eustis, Virginia with a Honorable discharge.

Several years later Jan. 16, 1999, me and some good friends: Miss Jane Banks and Mr. Dillard formed the Ft. Eustis & Ft. Story Retirees Club. I was the organization's 1st Business Manager and I held that title for many years. I later moved from Va. Beach, Va. to Dale City, Va. and I formed another social club called the Enlighteners where I held the position as Business Manager/Treasurer.

After retiring from the military, I went back to work as a Correctional Officer at

Lorton Reformatory Prison which is now torn down. I met a lot of good friends there and I am still friends with some of them today. After Lorton I went back into the government under Civil Service and worker at Fort Belvoir as the foreman over the Motor pool. I retired a 2nd time and shortly after Vera and I moved to Dover, DE. where we lived for 29 years until her death in August 2017. I started working again for driving the bus for the school system and I had to get up at 5:30am. That job did not last too long because I wanted to stay up late to watch my Dodgers and that caused me to be drowsy in the mornings, so I gave the lady the keys back one morning and told her I was done. After Vera died, I moved to Waldorf, Md. to live with my daughter Darnella and her husband James, where I'm sure she has taken care of me until the end.

Family please do not cry and be sad that I am gone. I have lived a great life and have no regrets. I do not know how old I will be when you read this, but I have already lived to see 93 and in 1 month if I make it, I will be 94! I have been all over the world, was able to buy and go do anything that I wanted to do! I have been to an NBA final, a Super Bowl and a World Series. I have looked death in the face twice where I should have been dead, and I lived this long. I know I am truly Blessed by the LORD!

If you want to do something for me, please keep the family reunions going, if not every year, then please every other year! Its important that we get together to enjoy one another with love. I got a lot of miles on these old legs and it is time to rest them. I LOVE ALL OF YOU!

# Cemetery Details

## Arlington National Cemetery

Arlington, VA

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 11. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

MARSHALL-MARCH FUNERAL HOME OF MD  
4308 SUITLAND ROAD SUITLAND MARYLAND 20746  
SUITLAND, MD 20746

## Service

MAR 12. 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM (ET)

MARSHALL-MARCH FUNERAL HOME OF MD  
4308 SUITLAND ROAD SUITLAND MARYLAND 20746  
SUITLAND, MD 20746

# Tribute Wall



“ *To View the Webcast of the Funeral for Charles M. Murrell, Sr., Please Click the Link below.*



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**Marshall-March Funeral Homes** - March 08, 2021 at 01:04 PM



“ *Charles M. Murrell, Sr.*

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October 23, 2023 at 08:15 AM



“ *We were delighted to have known Bro. and Sis Murrell . We met them some years ago at Church. What a joy they were to all they came in contact with. We will cherish all the memories! We send condolences from Dover Delaware to the entire Murrell Family. We will continually keep you all in our prayers!  
Love Rev.'s Dr.'s Norman and Cynthia Fields and Family*

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**Rev. Dr. Cynthia Fields** - March 12, 2021 at 10:50 AM



“ *On behalf of the Somerville family, we wish to express our deepest condolences. May you find peace and understanding in this difficult time.*

*Kevin and Maxine Somerville & Family*

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**Maxine Griffin Somerville** - March 12, 2021 at 08:42 AM

WR

“ Dear Family,

*Please accept our warmest condolences for your loss. From the first time we met Mr. Murrell, we were welcomed by his warm spirit.*

*We even have wonderful memories of attending Mr. Murrell's Grand 80th Birthday Celebration in Dover, DE. Walter always enjoyed striking up interesting military conversations at family events... Mr. Murrell was a true Buffalo Soldier! Mr. Murrell will be greatly missed. We pray that the family will always cherish Mr. Murrell's memories to comfort you in the days ahead.*

*Sincerely,*

*Loretta and Walter Robertson*



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**Walter & Loretta Robertson** - March 12, 2021 at 12:58 AM

FG

“ From The Hunter Group Architects in Atlanta, GA purchased the Days of Sunshine Bouquet for the family of Charles M. Murrell, Sr..



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**From The Hunter Group Architects in Atlanta, GA** - March 10, 2021 at 07:21 PM



“ A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Charles M. Murrell, Sr..



March 10, 2021 at 09:44 AM



“ To the family of Charles M. Murrell, Sr.: May loving memories ease your loss and bring you comfort.



*Blessings....*

Renee' Brown - March 10, 2021 at 09:14 AM



“ To the family of Charles Murrell, Sr: May loving memories ease your loss and bring you comfort.



*Blessings....*

*Renee' Brown*

Renee' Brown - March 10, 2021 at 09:11 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Charles M. Murrell, Sr..*



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March 01, 2021 at 11:26 AM



“ *My Dear Neice Darnella*

*I am so sorry for the loss of your dad MR. MURRELL and I know you will miss him but smile and know that you were a wonderful daughter to him! Also, I want to thank you for how you looked out for my brother Pernell your biological father. It could not of been easy as you took care of your dad and managed to travel to New York and look out for my brother as well. I hope your family knows what a special gift they have! I pray that GOD comforts your heart and your family during this time of bereavement*

*All my Love  
Aunt Cathy*

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**Aunt Cathy** - February 28, 2021 at 10:30 PM



“ *Michelle A Giles sent a virtual gift in memory of Charles M. Murrell, Sr.*



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**Michelle A Giles** - February 25, 2021 at 02:03 AM

NM

“ *Papa, I miss you so much you were my best friend I loved you so much and treasure every memory with you are very much loved*



Naomi Murrell - February 24, 2021 at 12:04 PM

CJ

*How sweet this is 🙏*

Charles Johnson - February 26, 2021 at 10:06 AM

AU

*PURE LOVE ❤️*

Auntie - February 28, 2021 at 10:15 PM

CR

“ *What a joy it was to watch you and your Dad via Facebook Darnella. Your adventures truly made my heart smile, especially some of his slick remarks you shared. May God guard your heart as you grieve your Dad and Mom even as you rejoice at the thought of their reunion.*

Carmen Ross - February 22, 2021 at 05:58 PM

EC

“ *Darnella I am praying continuously for you during this difficult time. I love you and I am here for you anytime you need me. Rest easy Mr. Charles.*

*Erin Clark*

Erin Clark - February 22, 2021 at 09:29 AM

CT

“ Hi Family and Friends: As we know, with out a doubt, we will sooo miss granddaddy Murrell. He was "An Officer and A Gentlemen" in every aspect. He knew how to conduct business and how to get things done and always a person "on the go", and didn't mind traveling. His love of baseball was unmatched. But most of all, he loved his relatives and all of his relatives loved him. You could sense this by the respect and admiration and attention given to him whenever he was in their presence. He was a lifelong blessing to all of us. Rest in Heaven Granddaddy, we'll see you in the morning!!!  
Carolyn

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**Carolyn Townes** - February 21, 2021 at 10:26 PM



“ He was blessed to live a long life his memory will last forever god  
Bless granddad

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**Travis Murrell** - February 21, 2021 at 07:01 PM

SH

“ I will not stand at your grave and weep granddaddy- because I know you're not there. I choose to smile because you lived your life like a million winds that blow. I will not stand at your grave and weep granddaddy- I choose to smile in remembrance of all that you have left. I know that nothing loved is ever lost. Rest.  
I love you.  
Shannon

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**Shannon Murrell Hall** - February 21, 2021 at 05:29 PM

DA

“ *Dad a piece of my heart will always be empty now that you & mom are together again! I will always cherish the memories and the wisdom that you've shared. Thanks for showing me what real and unconditional love looks and feels like from the day you brought me home from the hospital 58 years ago ! Loving you forever !*  
**YOUR DAUGHTER!**  
**DARNELLA** ❤️

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**Darnella** - February 20, 2021 at 12:52 PM

TE

“ *I have never met you in person but through the words and vibration of your grandson Charles.. He spoke of you often during the short time that our paths crossed . "Vanilla Ice Cream" ... I never forgot. You are a special man and you are loved dearly.. whenever I get a minute to speak with him I always mention you.. I'm sure u had a peaceful transition . #AncestorsLiveThroughUs*

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**Terri** - February 20, 2021 at 02:59 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Charles M. Murrell, Sr..*



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February 19, 2021 at 06:29 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Charles M. Murrell, Sr..*



February 19, 2021 at 06:20 PM



“ *Sorry For Your Loss, Jesus Christ Loves Me, We Love You*



**Thomas Widgeon** - February 19, 2021 at 12:07 PM



*We have loving memories of Mr. Charles and Miss Vera! We spent time together and they kept us laughing—we considered them family! May they both now rest in peace together! Prayers up for the family! Blessings, Pamela Ashanti-Griggs and Raymond Griggs*

**Pamela** - February 21, 2021 at 05:37 PM



“ *ALBERT J DUKES JR. lit a candle in memory of Charles M. Murrell, Sr.*



**ALBERT J DUKES JR.** - February 19, 2021 at 11:14 AM

AD

“ RIP CHARLES (OLD/MAN) A VERY SPECIAL FMLY/FRIEND/FORMER CO.WORKER, FOR OVER 35 YEARS.(LIKE AN UNCLE) YOU/FAMILY, WILL NEVER BE FORGOTTEN OH THOSE, WONDERFUL MEMORIES,IN DALE CITY/LORTON, DELAWARE/MARYLAND, AS WELL.MEETING (CHAS/VERA) I WILL ALWAYS (TREASURE/REMEMBER) GOD BLESS. AL/JEAN DUKES / FAMILY .

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**ALBERT J DUKES** - February 19, 2021 at 10:52 AM

GD

“ I was friend to Charles and Vera over 40 years. We spent many weekends visiting each others' homes in Dale City and Silver Spring. We belonged to the Fort Story-Fort Eustis Club with others who served with Charles and my husband, Vince. Charles and I spoke about a week prior to his passing and I was shocked to learn he had passed. Patrice and I send our love and condolences to Charles Jr. And Danita and the Murrell family.

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**Gwendolyn Davis** - February 18, 2021 at 10:38 PM

PW

“ To Darnella Flowers, Family & Friends:

*May the God of All Comfort, comfort and give you peace in your time of sorrow. I may not have met your father, Mr. Murrell but I know his loving daughter, Darnella. Surely, he was a gift because so is Darnella. Humor, laughter and joy unspeakable was always seen and heard from both. Thank you Mr. Murrell for making us laugh and for making us smile. Rest well in Jesus peace.*

*My heart goes out to Mr. Murrell's family and friends. Continued prayers for your comfort and peace.*

*With Loving Kindness,  
Polly Watkins*

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**Polly Watkins** - February 18, 2021 at 07:42 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Charles M. Murrell, Sr..*



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February 18, 2021 at 07:41 PM



“ *We the March Family and Marshall-March Staff wish to extend our deepest and heartfelt sympathy in the passing of your loved one. Our prayers go out to you and your family in your time of loss. We know and understand that you have received many expressions of love and we will continue to lift you up in prayer. May the memories you cherish of brighter and happier days help to ease your sorrow and comfort you always.*

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**Marshall-March Funeral Homes** - February 18, 2021 at 01:24 PM