



Elroy Christopher, Sr

May 6, 1954 - October 10, 2021

MR. ELROY ROOSEVELT CHRISTOPHER SR. was born on May 6, 1954, in Baltimore, Maryland, to the union of Roosevelt and Eldora Christopher. Elroy Christopher was the second oldest of six children. Elroy was raised in a loving household with his mother, father, sisters and brothers.

Elroy was educated in the Baltimore City Public School System and graduated from Carver Vocational High School, where he majored in the Electronics trade. Elroy excelled in his academics so much so that he became a student teacher helping his fellow classmates as well as his instructors. He repaired radios and TVs for many neighbors. Not only did Elroy excel in academics, but he was also the Carver High School's Basketball star, towering at six feet nine inches tall. He was scouted by athletic directors across the state and was led to attend Bowie State University in Bowie Maryland. Elroy was also recognized by scouts from the NBA (National Basketball Association) and was invited to try-out for the Philadelphia 76'ers. During Elroy's college semester breaks, he returned to Carver High to teach Electronics. Elroy enjoyed helping people. After college, Elroy accepted employment at the Baltimore Gas & Electric Company where he continued working in electronics as an Electrical technician. Elroy was so passionate about electronics that he developed a transformer which was recognized and later patented by the Baltimore Gas & Electric Company— and is widely used today across the country. Later, Elroy started his own computer building and repair business

Elroy's met a stunningly beautiful lady ,her name was Cleo Doughty. Cleo became the love of Elroy's life and they married on November 1, 1980. To this union, they were blessed with four children, They moved to Pitcher Street, where Elroy was instrumental in neighborhood activities.

He hosted famous block parties with his “professional DJ” music. He was featured on WEBB radio doing music sets as “Pumping Big Roy”!

In the early 1990, Elroy and Cleo moved their family from the familiar West Baltimore to East Baltimore. Living in East Baltimore, Elroy began building relationships with his new

neighbors and the larger community, including Johns Hopkins University. Elroy became a devoted member

of the Huber Memorial Church where he was deeply inspired by his pastor, Reverend P.M. Smith, to continue his work in the community. It was his pastor that taught him, “It’s all about relationships or it ain’t about nothing”.

Elroy became the Director of the Covenant Community Association – which taught math, English, and grammar to the youth in an after-school program. In the summer months, Elroy ran a camp for the neighborhood youth.

At any given time, you would find Elroy (known to most as Mr. Chris) tending to the community garden in the 900 block of Glover Street, a project Elroy began in 1996 and named it the “Garden of Eden” – a place where youth were growing more than just plants - they were growing young minds. Twenty years earlier, the garden was a junk yard that required 17 dump trucks to haul away the trash.

In the mid-1990s, Elroy became the Co-Director of the Rose Street Community Center. He setup camp on the corner of Ashland Avenue and Rose Street. Elroy operated from a homemade tent and he and a comrade became the 24-hour neighborhood watchmen for 100 days– in an area that was over-run with drug traffic. As a result, the residents of the neighborhood had a more peaceful and safer life.

In addition, Elroy expressed concerns for his aging neighbors and started a Light Rail Project, which provided all homes with a light and a rail for safety for seniors. Through the Maryland Food Bank, Elroy in his “red van” provided many community residents with laundry detergent, food, and other household needs.

The National Press Club recognized and awarded Elroy for his community service. Elroy also received the Bank of America Neighborhood Excellence Initiative Award for his uncompromising efforts in East Baltimore. However, only God knows the countless lives who Elroy touched!

For 40 years, Elroy and Cleo’s love affair continued, adding children and grandchildren. He is remembered for making sure family dinners were a time of togetherness. At the dinner table was where he would love to tell Bible stories, and he would make them so interesting with his dramatic storytelling.

Elroy made his transition home to be with the Lord on October 10, 2021. He leaves to

cherish his memory: his wife of 40 years Cleo; his Aunt Rose (Peola) and Aunt Mary; two brothers, Earl and Guy; three sisters, Denise (Curtiss), Diane (Ronald), Deborah; four children, Demetra (Bryan), Fred, Danielle (Clarence), Elroy Jr.; seven grandchildren, Damon, Kayla, Johnathan, Diamond, Bryant, Brielle and Amon; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and dear friends

Cemetery

Events

Garden Of Faith

Baltimore, MD,

OCT **Wake** 09:00AM - 10:00AM

20

Huber Community Life Center

5700 Loch Raven Blvd, Baltimore, MD, US

OCT **Funeral Service** 10:00AM

20

Huber Community Life Center

5700 Loch Raven Blvd, Baltimore, MD, US

Comments



“ Big Chris - when I said “we March to different drums”, You responded “ but we re marching in the same parade”. Lesson learned, sir. The only thing bigger than your own presence was your heart, your goodness, your passion for the community and your endless advocacy for what is right and just. Thank you for making a difference.

Tom Bonderenko - October 26, 2021 at 07:30 AM



“ I remember Elroy use to hang out with Denise and I at Drexel University. Sometimes he would be there partying and we wouldn't even know he was there (Drexel). He had an infectious laugh and smile. Just a BIG OLD TEDDY BEAR. Love you Elroy

Francine

Francine - October 20, 2021 at 09:03 AM



“ Dearest Denise, Curtis and Family,
Please accept our deepest sympathy from Fredericksburg, Virginia. We met Elroy at least one time at your 50 th birthday party and were just amazed at his glowing personality when he spoke of you his sister. I remembered standing next to him and realizing he was 19 inches taller than me!
What a great man he was! Your parents love and guidance shined through his community work, his family, and each of you. Greg and I pray that you will keep all of your happy family memories in your hearts. We know he will be missed by his loving wife, children, grand children, sisters and brothers most of all. We pray for God's love and blessings for each of you during this difficult time. We love you and are with you in spirit.

Love,
Greg and Sandi King

Sandra Holland - October 20, 2021 at 07:46 AM



“ I will be always devoted to you for all you done for me and my family I love you and I will Continue the fight thank you big daddy

Bryan White - October 20, 2021 at 07:01 AM



“ Elroy was a great blessing to his family and the city of Baltimore, Sending prayers of comfort to the Christopher family.

-Teresa Waters O'Brien



Teresa O'Brien - October 19, 2021 at 10:31 PM



“ Mr Chris I don't have the exact words to put how I feel but I can say that I thank God for you. You at times was the only father figure that the neighborhood kids had. You and your family took us in and made us really have something to look forward too. I thank god for your love and kindness being as big as your stature.

I remember our last conversation I told you that inspite of life happenings I won't let you down. I'll hold firm to that. Please take your rest now. You have no more worries here.

To Mrs Cleo and family I thank you for sharing your husband, father and grandfather with us. He was the prime example of a Godly man and exuberant role model. You all are in my prayers.

Rashad S - October 19, 2021 at 10:31 PM



“ It was a pleasure and honor to work with Mr. Chris during my work with the John Hopkins Urban Health Institute. We were both committed to improving life for the residents of East Baltimore.

Rest in peace, Mr. Chris.

Tom Morford, aka Mr. Tom

Thomas G Morford - October 19, 2021 at 07:07 PM



“ Daddy you were an awesome father, husband, pop-pop and role model. I've learned so many valuable lesson from you through out the years. Couponing was our thing even when you could no longer do it! I did it for you! You will forever be missed NOT forgotten! Rest Easy Daddy



Demetra Doughty - October 18, 2021 at 07:01 PM



“ I will miss you forever and always Daddy. You were a phenomenal father, husband and role model. I will love, adore, and look up to forever and ever. You taught me so much and I will always be appreciative. It's all about relationships or it ain't about nothing. Love you bunches and #immissingyoulikecrazy.



Danielle Danielle - October 18, 2021 at 06:12 PM



“ He was one of the greatest childhood friend and neighbor to grow up with. I will continue to pray for the family and friends. And will cherish our memories forever. RIP

Eleanor Mccullough - October 18, 2021 at 01:39 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Elroy Christopher.



October 18, 2021 at 12:06 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Novena Noakes - October 16, 2021 at 06:28 PM



“ Novena Noakes sent a virtual gift in memory of Elroy Christopher, Sr



Novena Noakes - October 16, 2021 at 06:27 PM



“ We the March Family and 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.

March Funeral Homes - October 16, 2021 at 12:40 PM