



## Pastor Barry K. Hargrove

January 20, 1966 - October 6, 2017

With the passing of the Reverend Barry Kennard Hargrove, on Oct.6 at 5 p.m. at the Johns Hopkins Hospital, the world has lost a social justice champion, and Maryland will say goodbye to one of its most progressive, community-based spiritual leaders. As the Pastor and Senior Minister at the Prince of Peace Baptist Church in the McElderry Park community in Baltimore since 2006, Rev. Hargrove championed initiatives to address such needs as environmental justice and healthy food habits in East Baltimore. And as a Chaplain with the Baltimore Police Department, Rev. Hargrove worked in coalition with other faith leaders to restore a spirit of safety and security to the City of Baltimore. Rev. Hargrove described his work through his church's motto, "We are a mountain-moving people determined to pursue and realize our fullest potential through Christ."

A native of East Orange, New Jersey, Barry Hargrove was the eldest of two children, born to Trumilla and Bernard Hargrove on Jan. 20, 1966 in Bellville, New Jersey. Blessed with a rich spiritual upbringing, Rev. Hargrove was baptized at Union Baptist Church in Orange, N.J. at the age of 13 by Dr. J. Vance McGyver, and under the leadership of Rev. William Freeman, he remained an active member of his hometown church community until he went to college.

With the exception of a brief stint as an exchange student in France his junior

year of high school (where he marveled at the French eating "chitlins" and calling it tripe) Barry spent his early school years in the East Orange public school system. After graduating, he moved to Washington, D.C., to study at Georgetown University. During his Hoya years, Barry earned the unofficial title of "Mayor of Black Georgetown," and from his daily perch on the bench off Healy Circle, he held court. With leadership positions in the University's NAACP and Black Student Association and membership in the gospel choir, Barry is best remembered for pioneering and curating the University's highly successful Star Search and fashion shows. When asked to reflect on Barry, his friends and former classmates note his "unapologetic love of black folks"; great passion for and knowledge of music; and efforts to mentor young African American men. A proud member of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, which he crossed at the Iota Zeta Chapter at the University of Maryland, Barry loved to sport his black and old gold and promote the fraternity's spirit of brotherhood, scholarship, and dedication to "social purpose and social action."

Rev. Hargrove received his calling to ministry in his early 20's and was ordained by the Reverend Dr. Charles Wallace Smith at the Shiloh Baptist Church in Washington, D.C., where he served as the Director of the nationally and internationally recognized Black Male Youth Enhancement Project. He pursued graduate studies at the University of the District of Columbia and Wesley Theological Seminary of Washington, D.C., before embarking upon a professional career that included government/legislative affairs and public outreach positions with the NAACP, ACLU, and National Black Child Development Institute. Political affairs were a passion, and Rev. Hargrove campaigned for Sharon Pratt Dixon's inaugural mayoral run and subsequently served in her administration in the Office of Intergovernmental Relations.

Pastor Hargrove is a two-time kidney recipient and was active in the transplant community throughout the Maryland and Washington, D.C. region, even raising funds through active participation in the Rappel for Kidney

Health. He served as a spokesperson and religious affairs advisor for the National Kidney Foundation of Maryland and was appointed by Gov. Larry Hogan to the Maryland State Kidney Disease Commission His work in the transplant community has been featured in local and national media.

A tireless advocate for social justice, Pastor Hargrove served as President of the Progressive Baptist Convention of Maryland; executive committee member of the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance of Maryland; and represented the State of Maryland on the national steering committee of the African American Ministers Leadership Council. The recipient of a number of awards and honors, the District recognized him in 1996 with a proclamation naming Jan. 20 of that year "Rev. Barry K. Hargrove Day" in the District of Columbia. And, in 2004, he was honored by the ACLU of Mississippi as a Civil Rights and Civil Liberties Trailblazer. At the time of his death, Rev. Hargrove was writing his first book to share his experience of living with chronic illness, navigating the healthcare system, and keeping a strong faith in the midst of it all. A flag will fly over the U.S. Capitol in honor of Rev. Hargrove's service to his country and will be presented to his parents.

Barry leaves to mourn his parents; sister, Bernika Simmons, and brother-in-law, Ronald Simmons; niece, Taylor Simmons; nephew, Zachary Simmons; godmother, Idella Tyson; godson, Ethan Tyree; and a host of aunts, uncles, and loved ones.

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests that memorial gifts be made to:

National Kidney Foundation Serving Maryland and Delaware

Heaver Plaza

1301 York Road, Suite 209

Lutherville, MD 21093-6007

Or online:

<http://www.kidneymd.org/donate-now/ways-to-give/#parentVerticalTab1>

# Cemetery Details

## Fairmount Cemetery

620 Central Avenue  
East Orange, NJ 07107

# Previous Events

## Public Viewing

OCT **13**. 8:30 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Homes - West Baltimore  
4300 Wabash Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21215  
(410) 542-2400  
info@marchfh.com

## Public Viewing

OCT **13**. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Prince of Peace Baptist Church  
600 N. Linwood Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21205

## Wake

OCT **14**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Mt. Lebanon Baptist Church  
2812 Reistertown Rd  
Baltimore, MD 21215

## Service

OCT **14**. 12:00 PM (ET)

Mt Lebanon Baptist Church  
2812 Reisterstown Rd  
Baltimore, MD 21215

# Tribute Wall



“ *Pastor Barry K. Hargrove*

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ *Brian Johnson sent a virtual gift in memory of Pastor Barry K. Hargrove*



**Brian Johnson** - February 06, 2018 at 01:21 PM



“ *Brian Johnson lit a candle in memory of Pastor Barry K. Hargrove*



**Brian Johnson** - February 06, 2018 at 01:20 PM



“ *I remember when I first met him. He expected me to call him "Cousin Barry," but, I called him uncle. The funny part is that he said, "Sure. Uncle works." Bye Uncle Barry. You will always be missed.*

**Brian Johnson** - February 06, 2018 at 01:19 PM

 Andrea  
Linthicum

“ I will always remember Barry's kindness to me a the new kid on the block at Geoegetown University. He was the big brother that I never had. I know that God is pleased with the work that he did on earth. Rest in Paradise my brother. To his family may you be comforted in knowing all that you poured into Barry's life was a gift to us all.  
Andrea Linthicum, SFS 90/97

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**Andrea Linthicum** - October 15, 2017 at 10:24 AM

JY

“ Rest in Peace cousin

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**Jason Young** - October 13, 2017 at 09:11 PM

MW

“ We go all the way back to Kindergarten. So proud to call you friend even prouder to call you family.

*Peaceful rest in the arms of the Lord.*

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**Monica Williams Ward** - October 13, 2017 at 09:46 AM

GC

“ My deepest deepest condolences on the passing of my friend and high school classmate Pastor Hargrove. I'm so saddened to hear about his passing. He fought a valiant fight and won in glory. Will miss you Barry..George A Curtis

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**George Curtis** - October 13, 2017 at 08:34 AM

RJ

“ *Ruth Jackson lit a candle in memory of Pastor Barry K. Hargrove*



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**Ruth Jackson** - October 13, 2017 at 08:11 AM

FF

“ *From your cousin Eric and family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Pastor Barry K. Hargrove.*



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**From your cousin Eric and family** - October 12, 2017 at 05:00 PM

DP

“ *I have to admit that I can't believe that Barry has transitioned. He was very helpful to me in bridging networks between the Black Christian Community and the LGBTQ Community. We had many discussions and he introduced me to other Pastors that would be supportive or want to discuss sexuality & gender identity. I will miss the fun moment talking to Barry. He could always make a tense moment turn comfortable! I will miss his huge white light of knowledge. Rest In Peace Barry. Job well done. ❤️*

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**Donna Payne-Hardy** - October 12, 2017 at 01:40 PM

AC

“ African American Ministers Leadership Council purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Pastor Barry K. Hargrove.



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**African American Ministers Leadership Council** - October 12, 2017 at 12:53 PM

MB

“ I'm still in disbelief that Barry has transitioned. He was always in good spirits and the life of the party since I first met him in college. While we lost touch for a number of years, he welcomed me to Baltimore, and introduced me to some of his friends. Despite having some health issues, he seemed so resilient and always bounced back even stronger and more determined. I will miss him, and I pray for his family and friends.

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**Mary J. Broadwater** - October 12, 2017 at 10:36 AM

JB

“ James Brown lit a candle in memory of Pastor Barry K. Hargrove



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**James Brown** - October 12, 2017 at 04:21 AM

BG

“ *Brother Lalo and Theresa Griffiths purchased the Basket Full of Wishes for the family of Pastor Barry K. Hargrove.*



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**Brother Lalo and Theresa Griffiths** - October 11, 2017 at 10:27 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Pastor Barry K. Hargrove.*



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October 11, 2017 at 06:09 PM

WR

“ *William Robinson lit a candle in memory of Pastor Barry K. Hargrove*



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**William Robinson** - October 10, 2017 at 03:12 PM

DP

“ *I am so sorry to hear of the passing of Barry. Growing up with him in East Orange was a blessing. Even when he visited he would come by to see me. Love his former baby sitter and friend. God Bless. Donna Johnson Peace.*

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**Donna Johnson Peace** - October 10, 2017 at 11:21 AM

SS

“ Barry was my brother, neighbor and dear friend. As kids, we played kickball, walked all over East Orange and rang the neighbors doorbells and ran for fun almost everyday from morning to evening until the street lights came on. The fun we had! He is a part of me and I love him with dearly. His loving family became my family as soon as they moved to the block. I feel very honored to have known them all of my life. I miss you and will never forget you Barry. Rest now. -Sarge

Sarge Smith - October 09, 2017 at 10:12 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Pastor Barry K. Hargrove.



October 09, 2017 at 03:16 PM

VH

“ God be with his family & friends”.

vanessa hill - October 08, 2017 at 09:54 PM

MC

“ Our sympathy and prayers are with you.  
Milton & Pearline Cooper

Milton Cooper - October 07, 2017 at 07:31 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.

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**March Funeral Homes** - October 07, 2017 at 02:59 PM