



## Ernest E. Demby

February 18, 1940 - November 11, 2011

Ernest Edgar Demby, Sr. was born February 18, 1940 to Mae Novella and Wilmore Demby. He was one of nine siblings who lived in Anne Arundel County, Maryland. Ernest departed this life on November 11, 2011 after fighting a long and hard battle with cancer.

At a young age, Ernest accepted Jesus Christ as his personal Lord and Savior.

Ernest graduated from Bates High School in 1957. He was a very fast runner and the quarter-mile became his signature race in track and field competitions. Because of his speed and agility, he was nicknamed "Racehorse" for how he took the early lead when he ran the mile relay race. Ernest went to Morgan State University, where he studied history. As a result of being drafted in the US Army, Ernest was not able to complete his college career. In May of 1965, he honorably served in Vietnam where he won awards for "Soldier of the Month" and sharp shooting.

Ernest loved singing with his brothers and sisters. Through their passion for singing, they formed the Open Heart Singers. Ernest was lead guitarist and was known for his rendition of "Hammer." He always brought the congregations to their feet singing, clapping, and stomping their feet in praises to God.

Ernest valued family more than anything else, and often was the catalyst for the annual Demby Family Reunion in honor of his mother, who kindly asked him to 'keep the family together.' Ernest was never without his camera, and if he caught you in on photo, he would always get you to take another. Through the years of taking photos, Ernest would often have "Family Night" where he would show slides of family members so they could watch themselves grow up right on the screen.

In the late 1950's, Ernest met Patricia A. Green and during a brief loving relationship, his first child was born, Denise. Ernest married Veronica Vuanita Green in 1965. During their union, 3 children were born, Pamela, Paisley and Phillip. In July 1966, Ernest finished his tour of duty in Vietnam, and was honorably discharged from the Army. He began a career with the Montebello Water Purification Plant in Baltimore City. Due to his commitment to serving God, he pursued a career in 1969 at General Motors that would allow him to honor the Sabbath. Ernest retired from GM in 2001, after 32 years of service.

In 1971, Ernest became a disciple of Zion Baptist Church. He became "Deacon Demby" in 1980, until his illness no longer allowed him to perform the duties. He sang on the Senior Choir and often visited with the sick and shut in. He maintained discipleship until his passing.

In 1978, Ernest joined in holy matrimony with Lillian McWilliams. From their union, two children Ernest Jr. and Crystal were born. They were married until Lillian preceded him in death on February 17, 2011.

Ernest was passionate about family, singing, running, photography, and vacations. He shared a story, a song, or a mixture of both with everyone he came in contact with. Ernest leaves to cherish his memory his children: Denise Tilghman (Dajuan), Pamela Hatcher (Roderick), Paisley Demby (Nicole), Phillip Taylor (Lori), Ernest Demby, Jr. and Crystal Demby; His

grandchildren: Lamar Clark, Taylor Tilghman, Deirdre Duncan, Nathan Mathis, Blake and Brylen Hatcher, Dillon and Mia Taylor. His brothers: Samuel and James Demby, and his sister E. Lavern Gaither. Brother-in-law Everett McWilliams, Sisters-in-Law Uwana and Cora Demby. Ernest also leaves a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives, family and friends.

The children of Ernest E. Demby would like to extend special gratitude to the family members for their love, caregiving and dedication that was given to our Dad.

Family- when tomorrow starts without Dad, please try to understand...that an angel came, called his name, and took Dad by the hand and said "his place was ready in heaven far above and that he'd have to leave behind all those he dearly loves."

May God bless each family member and friend! Good-bye Dad- we will always love you!

# Cemetery Details

## Garrison Forest Veterans

11501 Garrison Forest Road  
Owings Mills, MD

# Previous Events

## Public Viewing

NOV **21**. 8:30 AM - 8:00 PM (ET)

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

## Wake

NOV **22**. 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM (ET)

Ausbery Town Neck United Methodist Church  
429 Asbery Drive  
Serverna Park, MD 21146

## Service

NOV **22**. 10:30 AM (ET)

Ausbery Town Neck United Methodist Church  
429 Asbery Drive  
Serverna Park, MD 21146



# Tribute Wall



“ Ernest E. Demby

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ Praying for the family and we cherish all the memories we have of Deacon Demby at Zion Baptist. He will be missed. Love always, Rev. Maurice & La'Cheryl White.

lacheryl white - November 21, 2011 at 04:56 PM



“ When I heard the news that Ernest had passed, I was very sad. I know how much he loved GOD so I know where he is. When I lost my Dad many years ago, Ernest helped my family many times. We were very young and Ernest became our Angel here on Earth. He protected us from snowstorms and sadness. He became a father figure for my baby brothers. When I think back to that time, I see his smiling face always reassuring us that "Everything's gonna be alright". He said that so much that I started to believe it. While I am sad that he has left us, I know that he is in heaven - and he is still MY ANGEL. Thank you Ernest for being there for me. What would I have done without you. With Love - Kirkley.

Kirkley Macmillan Connor - November 21, 2011 at 11:50 AM



“ Jennifer Tyler lit a candle in memory of Ernest E. Demby



Jennifer tyler - November 21, 2011 at 04:56 AM

 Paisley Demby

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Paisley Demby - November 20, 2011 at 11:31 PM

 Paisley Demby

*Daddy (as my father liked to be called) I love you and am going to miss you. Thank you for being a man of God and for leaving your legacy of love. I often think of you singing "If I Had a Hammer." I can hear your voice even now. You always said take one day at a time and that everything would be alright. You always looked to the positive side of all situations and even now you would have an encouraging word to simply say trust in the Lord. Thank you again for being the best father a son could ever have. This is not goodbye as one day I know I will see you again in Heaven.*

Paisley Demby - November 20, 2011 at 11:54 PM

FD

*He was proud to have such a successful son as you!*

faith demby-ajadi - November 21, 2011 at 06:50 PM

PL

“ *I am so sorry for your loss. The death of a loved one is such a painful time. Only God truly understands the depth of your pain, and he offers comfort and hope to each of you at this most difficult time. Please read Isaiah 26:19, Psalm 37:29 and John Chapter 11. I will always remember your smile and the great photographer you were.*

Peggy Land - November 19, 2011 at 04:57 PM

AC

“ *Annette Cary lit a candle in memory of Ernest E. Demby*



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**Annette Cary** - November 19, 2011 at 04:46 PM

HP

“ *Hilda Philips lit a candle in memory of Ernest E. Demby*



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**Hilda Philips** - November 19, 2011 at 12:35 PM

HP

“ *Deacon Demby*  
*I am so happy to have witnessed your ability to sing God's praises in your infirmity*  
*The song was "If I had a song I would sing it all over God's Land "*  
*Will miss you singing down here.*  
*Thomas and Hilda Phillips, Zion Baptist Church*

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**Hilda Philips** - November 19, 2011 at 12:26 PM

FD

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



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**Faith Demby-Ajadi** - November 18, 2011 at 03:10 PM

FD

*I thank God that he allowed me to grow up with such a loving family!*

faith demby - November 21, 2011 at 07:12 PM

FD

*“ Uncle Ernest you never failed to show and sing about love every moment I love you so much. You were one of my best uncles and a great role model growing up. I will never forget you and I'm glad to have known a person such as you, Yeah, I'm gonna miss you singing and taking pictures and your great hugs rest easy! love your neice Faith Demby-Ajadi. You always said "Everything is gonna be alright!"*



Faith Demby-Ajadi - November 18, 2011 at 03:03 PM

DA

*“ I am so sorry to hear about the loss of your dear loved one. When a loved one dies the pain, the grief, and the feelings of helplessness can seem unbearable. At such a time we can find comfort in Jesus promise made to all who have loss loved one in death at John 5:28,29 which reads: Do not marvel at this, because the hour is coming in which all those in the memorial tombs will hear his voice and come out.”*

Delores Allen - November 15, 2011 at 06:38 AM



“ 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** - November 14, 2011 at 12:19 PM