



## James Edward Bennett

December 14, 1944 - May 29, 2017

JAMES EDWARD BENNETT, son of the late Henry and Marie Bennett, was born on December 4, 1944 in Baltimore, MD. On May 29, 2017, he departed this life after a short illness.

James was the 3rd eldest of eight children raised in Baltimore city, who despite all obstacles was raised with a strong faith in God. At an early age James accepted Christ at First Apostolic Faith Church in Baltimore. Throughout his life he embodied Christian values such as family, faith, leadership, love, and compassion. To those who knew him on the basketball court he was usually called "JB". However working as a caddy on various golf courses in Baltimore, he earned the nickname "Cornbread Shorty". This nickname was derived from his capability for earning a lot of money, and his short stature. To his family and friends he was known as "Jimmy".

James graduated from Paul Lawrence High School where he excelled on the basketball court, as well as scholastically off the court. He was one of the original boys of Dunbar's championship basketball team in the 1960's. After High School, James attended Coppin State College for a brief stint where he accomplished being an All-Time Letterwinner and Captain of the basketball team from 1964 through 1966. He went on to join the United States Air Force where he earned rank as sergeant in the Vietnam War. After being honorably discharged from the Air Force, James returned home and continued his

education at Coppin State College, earning his Bachelor's of Science degree in Elementary Education in 1972. He continued his education at Johns Hopkins University, receiving his Master's degree in Education in 1979.

James was employed with the Maryland Cup Corporation throughout his college years. He continued to caddy at various golf courses in the city, which enabled him to enhance his golf game. After graduating from John Hopkins University, James accepted a position with Baltimore City Public School as a teacher. He excelled from the role of classroom teacher to an academic teacher. Mr. Bennett was known to kids all over Baltimore City. He left an outstanding mark at Bentlow Elementary, Hamilton Elementary, Waverly Elementary; Samuel F.B. Morse Elementary, Mary E. Rodman Elementary, and Hilton Elementary School. He also provided tutoring services to various children throughout the community. After 32 years of service, Mr. Bennett retired from the Baltimore City Public School System in 2011.

In the eighties James along with other members established the Paragon Gold Association located at Clifton Park Gold Course in Baltimore. The Paragon Golf Association held many tournaments that James participated in. Throughout his tenure with the club he would place first and second in those various tournaments. In his later years James joined the Maryland Birdies where he shared his enthusiasm of playing golf and enjoying the atmosphere of other club members.

In the early 1990's, James joined his wife (Gloria) and became a member of Mt. Lebanon Baptist Church. He assisted Gloria on many church committee activities. In 2003, James moved to Aberdeen, Maryland where he and his wife Gloria joined the Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Havre de Grace, Md. They attended and participated in many services, but their heart always and forever remained with the Mt. Lebanon family.

In 1969, James met and married the love of his life, Gloria Bennett, and they worked, worshipped, traveled, and honeymooned for over 45 years until Gloria's death in 2014. From this union came two children LaTonya Bennett and DeWayne Bennett. James greatest joys were sports, traveling, and spending quality time with his wife and children.

James is survived by: two children, LaTanya and DeWayne; four sisters, Henrietta Bennett, Hattie Marie Scrivens, Marlene Bennett, and Darlene Bennett; brother, Thomas Bennett (Eleanor Bennett); very special brother-in-law, Michael Davis; and a host of brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, family and friends.

He was preceded in death by the late Gloria Bennett, (wife); and the late Troy Bennett, (brother).

# Cemetery Details

## Garrison Forest Veterans

11501 Garrison Forest Road  
Owings Mills, MD

# Previous Events

## Public Viewing

JUN 5. 8:30 AM - 8:00 PM (ET)

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

## Family Hour

JUN 5. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

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

## Wake

JUN 6. 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

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

## Service

JUN 6. 11:00 AM (ET)

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

# Tribute Wall

CW

“ I was a student of Mr. Bennett in the 5th grade. Mr. Bennett certainly had a positive impact on my life. He always stressed to me to be confident in myself. He wanted all of his students to be critical thinkers and he always managed to pull the best out of me. I will never, ever forget him as he will always be a part of my life. Thanks for everything Mr. Bennett!!!!

Crystal W. - March 05, 2024 at 03:09 PM



“ James Edward Bennett

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM

MS

“ Mike & Shelly Smith sent a virtual gift in memory of James Edward Bennett



Mike & Shelly Smith - June 07, 2017 at 10:03 PM

MS

So sorry to hear of your loss we live down street from your dad & also know him from Ruggles Golf Course. He was a amazing & a very kind person. We loved to talk to him & tease him what he was gonna do next because he was always doing something. May his memories live in your heart forever.

Mike & Shelly Smith - June 07, 2017 at 10:12 PM



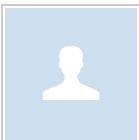
“ *From Shanika Branch*

*Mr. Bennett,  
I wish I had come to see you sooner to thank you for everything! I want you and your family to know that you were truly a inspiration during some of my darkest moments in life. Mr. B was my fourth and fifth grade teacher. He kept his entire fourth grade class for the fifth grade year and I loved that. Mr. Bennett put so much effort into ensuring our success in his class. I always felt that "granddad"vibe from him. I would love staying after class to help staple papers and to get a Nutrigrain bar, lol. He showed so much love for his students that you knew you had to succeed or you would disappoint him. Even though I had things going on at home during this time I always forgot about those issues when in his class. I was a honor roll student and was accepted into the best middle schools thanks to Mr. Bennett. My younger brother Glenn was also a student in his class for his fifth grade year. Mr. Bennett was my FAVORITE teacher and has definitely made a impact in my life. Thank you Mr. Bennett!!*



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**Shanika Branch** - June 06, 2017 at 08:50 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of James Edward Bennett.*



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June 01, 2017 at 06:29 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** - June 01, 2017 at 01:54 PM