



Ernest Payne Wentz

January 10, 1953 - October 13, 2024

On October 13, 2024, Ernest Payne Wentz, of Charlotte, NC, peacefully transitioned from this earthly life to eternal rest, surrounded by loved ones at his home at Randolph Gardens Health & Rehabilitation. Ernest, the eldest child of the late Mary Dean Wentz and Rufus Shamberger, Sr. was born on January 10, 1953 in Mint Hill, NC. Ernest graduated from South Mecklenburg High School in 1972 where he was a member of the track team, participated in the theater program, and served in student affairs. Ernest continued his undergraduate studies at Appalachian State University where he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1976 and dedicated his professional life to his career in managerial operations. Ernest held several significant positions, including Operations Manager at Pilot Travel Center and later retired as a Parking Attendant for Atrium Health. Ernest was best known by his humble demeanor, his BIG appetite, especially for sweets, as a beloved family member, a faithful servant of the Lord, and a die-hard University of North Carolina Tar Heel and Las Vegas Raiders fan. He was a devoted member of the United House of Prayer for All People - Biddleville for more than 30 years, where he actively participated as a Deacon, a member of the finance committee, and a member of the Board of Trustee. His unwavering faith and commitment to God inspired all who knew him. He often said "Trust God," which reflected his deep love for the Lord. Ernest was previously in union with Phyllis Watson Wentz. During this union Ernest gained a daughter, Chontay, and two grandchildren, Christopher and Summer, who were his world. Ernest

was preceded by his sister Deborah Shamberger Digsby. He is survived by daughter Askeisha "Chontay" Watson; grandchildren Christopher and Summer Goode; sisters Carol Shamberger White, Rozella Shamberger, and Annette McDaniel; brother Rufus Shamberger, Jr. (Mary); nieces Yolanda Mallory, Shanna Luckey, Erica White, Mia McDaniel, and Ebony Shamberger; nephews Michael Roddy and Rufus James "RJ" Shamberger; aunts Dorothy Gilliam (Leroy), Brite Jackson, Shirley Pratt, Beulah Shamberger, Peggy Shamberger and Marie Shamberger; uncles Brice Wentz (Richardean) and Ernest Eason; great nieces and nephews Kendall Alford, Carter Mallory, Ephraim Evans, Julianna Luckey, and Kairo Evans; and a host of relatives and friends. Rest in peace, Ernest. Your faith and love will continue to inspire all who know you.

Cemetery Details

Gethsemane Memorial Gardens

1504 W. Sugar Creek Road
Charlotte, NC

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **21**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

The United House of Prayer for all People- Biddleville
537 Beatties Ford Road
Charlotte , NC 28216

Celebration of Life Service

OCT **21**. 12:00 PM (ET)

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537 Beatties Ford Road
Charlotte , NC 28216