

## Active Pallbearers

Martin Dailey     Da'Vante Stevenson  
Carey White, II     Ashton Stevenson  
March Brown     Keandrae Vollbaum

## Honorary Pallbearers

Fudail H. Ballard     Reuben Johnson  
Akil D. Ballard     Elisha Sigust  
Paul Goins     Charlie Hawkins  
Floyd Edison     Calvin Green  
Charles Lewis     Terry Gordon  
Franky Coleman     Deacons of New  
                                 Jerusalem Baptist Church

# CELEBRATION OF LIFE

FOR

*Dail Ervin Ballard*

April 7, 1942 -- October 19, 2021

## Acknowledgements

Husband, Father, Brother, Uncle, Deacon are some of the many roles that he played in our lives. All of them, he performed out of profound love. Although he is absent in body, we will forever hold the memories of his warm smile and of his neverending generosity and love. His unexpected passing has left a void in our hearts, but your displays of love and concern for our family have made this period of transition much more bearable.

Thank you for your prayers, visits, hugs, words of encouragement, food, and flowers. Most of all, thank you for the continuous outpourings of love.

Special thanks to Pastor Johnson, Deacon Charles Johnson and the New Jerusalem Church family, Frankie and Brenda Coleman, Lisa and Paul Goins, as well as the program participants.

Please continue to pray for our family as God gives us the strength to accept and endure His will. We pray for God's continuing blessings on you.

*"The steps of a good man are  
ordered by the Lord and he delights  
in his ways."*     Psalm 37:23



## Interment

Houston National Cemetery  
Houston, Texas



**SATURDAY ~~ OCTOBER 23, 2021**  
**11:00A.M.**



Programs By Rose Mary Bonner 713-254-4289

**NEW JERUSALEM BAPTIST CHURCH**

**1615 SKINNER STREET  
FREEPORT, TEXAS 77541**

**PASTOR & EULOGIST ~ REV. DONNELL A. JOHNSON, SR.**





*Memories Are Timeless Treasures Of The Heart*





*The Best Thing About Memories Is Making Them*



*Order of Service*

Pastor Sandy K. White, Officiating Minister  
Pleasant Green Baptist Church ~ Houston, Texas

Prelude-----Musician  
Processional-----“We Worship You”-----Ministers & Family  
Scripture Readings  
Old Testament-----Minister Tyrone Ward  
New Testament-----Pastor Maceo Smedley  
The Promise Church, Fresno, TX  
Prayer of Comfort-----Pastor Andrew Floyd  
New Fellowship Tabernacle Church, Bay City, TX  
Song of Praise-----NJBC Choir  
Resolutions-----NJBC  
Others Announced & Given To Family  
Acknowledgements  
Expressions----- (Two Minutes Please)  
Obituary Read Silently  
Solo-----Tekoah Stevenson  
Message of Comfort & Strength-----Pastor Donnell A. Johnson, Sr.  
Commitment  
Recessional-----Ministers, Family & Friends



# To My Husband... The Love of My Life

## Letting Go

Author: Johnson & Morse

The angels gathered near your bed,  
So very close to you,  
For they knew the pain and suffering  
That you were going through,

I thought about so many things,  
So I held tightly to your hand,  
Oh, how I wished that you were strong  
And happy once again.

But your eyes were looking homeward,  
To that place beyond the sky,  
Where Jesus held his outstretched arms,  
It was time to say good-bye.

I struggled with my selfish thoughts,  
For I wanted you to stay,  
So we could walk and talk again,  
Like we did just yesterday.

But Jesus knew the answer  
And I knew He loved you so,  
So I gave to you life's greatest gift,  
The gift of letting go.

*Your Loving Wife,  
Wilesta*



## A Limb Has Fallen From The Family Tree

I hear a voice that whispers, 'Grieve not for me'  
Remember the best times, the laughter, the songs  
The good I lived while I was strong.  
Continue my heritage, I'm counting on you  
Keep on smiling, the sun will shine through.

My mind is at ease, my soul is at rest  
Remembering all...how I was truly blessed  
Continue traditions, no matter how small  
Go on with your lives, don't stare at the wall.  
I miss you all dearly so keep up your chin  
Until that fine day we're together again.

Author Unknown

*Dail*



## Tribute To Our Brother

To think of thy eternity  
Of sleep

To know thine eyes are tearless  
Though mine weep

And when this cup's last  
Bitterness I drain

One sweet thought I shall  
Forever keep

Thou at last have peace  
And no longer pain

*Love, Orris & Shirley*





## *Tribute To Our Daddy*

He never looked for praises  
He was never one to boast  
He just went on quietly working  
For the ones he loved the most.

His dreams were seldom spoken  
His wants were very few  
And most of the time his worries  
Went unspoken too.

He was there, a firm foundation  
Through all our storms of life  
A sturdy hand to hold on to  
In times of stress and strife.

A true friend we could turn to  
When times were good or bad  
One of our greatest blessings  
The man that we called Dad.



## *God's Garden*

God looked around his garden  
And he found an empty place,  
He then looked down upon the earth  
And saw your tired face.

He put his arms around you  
And lifted you to rest.  
God's garden must be beautiful  
He always takes the best.

He knew that you were suffering  
He knew you were in pain.  
He knew that you would never  
Get well on earth again.

He saw the road was getting rough  
And the hills were hard to climb.  
So he closed your weary eyelids  
And whispered, 'Peace be thine'.

It broke our hearts to lose you  
But you didn't go alone,  
For part of us went with you  
The day God called you home.  
—Anonymous

*From Paul & Lisa*



## *Remember Me*

Remember me with smiles not tears,  
For all the joy through all the years.  
Recall the closeness that was ours,  
A love as "sweet" as fragrant flowers.

Don't dwell on thoughts that cause you pain,  
We'll see each other once again.  
I am at peace . . . try to believe,  
It was my time . . . I had to leave.

But "what a view" I have from here,  
I see your face, I feel you near,  
I follow you throughout the day,  
You're not alone along the way.

And when God calls you . . . You will be,  
Right by my side . . . Right here with me.  
Till then, I'll wait by Heaven's door,  
We'll be united . . . evermore!

*Love, Dail*





# Dail Ervin Ballard's Journey

*I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:  
Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord,  
The righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only,  
But unto all them also that love his appearing.*

II Timothy 4:7-8

Dail Ervin Ballard was born on April 7, 1942 in Long Branch, TX to Edmund and Lula Ballard. The youngest of 9 children, he spent the early years of his life in Carthage and Timpson, and moved to Houston and then to Longview. He graduated from Womack High School in Longview, TX.

After graduation, Dail enlisted in the United States Army and was eventually stationed in Berlin, Germany. He served until his Honorable Discharge in 1963. After the military he enrolled in Texas College in Tyler, TX and graduated with his Bachelor's degree in Business Education. He then moved to Freeport, TX in 1968 to take employment with Dow Chemical Company, where he would work until his retirement in 1998. He later went on to work for the City of Freeport for 7 years.

After moving to Freeport, Dail met and married the love of his life Wilesta Edison on August 22, 1970 in a double wedding ceremony. In this union, they were blessed with two children, Weenica and Fudail; adopted another son, Akil; and were chosen as the legal guardians of their youngest daughter Faith. Dail was a loving presence in the lives of his eldest daughter Twanna and grandson DeJuan. Many of his children's friends, church members, and community members looked upon him as a father figure and would refer to him as Dad.

Dail was an active member of New Jerusalem Baptist Church and was ordained and eventually served as chairman of the deacon board. He was also a dedicated member of the Martin Luther King Celebration Committee (MLKCC) where he served as Treasurer for many years. In 2017 he was awarded the Drum Major Award in recognition of his dedication and hard work in the community. He also served on the boards for many organizations including The Family Service Center and CAER.

Deacon Ballard, as he was known to many, enjoyed singing in the choir, working in his yard, solving crossword puzzles, watching Westerns, and would take an occasional trip to the casino. He will be best remembered for his warm smile, generous nature, and hearty laugh. Having started off from meager circumstances, Dail often relied on the generosity of strangers which is one of the reasons he was always eager to give to others and help out in any way that he could. Loved by many, he would entertain those around him with his endless stories and bits of wisdom. Dail had a hearing impairment which led to many humorous moments, and he often would be the one laughing at himself the most.

Dail was called home on Tuesday October 19, 2021 and is preceded in death by: His mother and father Lula Ballard Smith and Edmund Ballard; daughter Weenica Ballard, brothers Harvey Ballard, George W. Ballard, Edmond Ballard Jr.; sister Doris Freeman.

Dail leaves fond memories with his wife, Wilesta Ballard of Freeport; sons, Fudail "Sonny" Ballard (Frank) of Taylor, Akil Ballard of Waco; special son, Paul Goins (Lisa) of Lake Jackson; God grandson, Q'Kiuenta Deverger of Houston; daughters, Twanna Bowen (Roger) of Manor, Faith Deverger (Danuel) of Freeport; Goddaughters, Zeva Perkins and Veronica Deverger, both of Houston; special daughter, Uvon Jackson; sisters, Orris Portley of Longview, Shirley Wilson of Indio, CA; brother, John Ballard (Nina) of Saginaw, MI; sisters in law, Thelma Lewis (Charles) of Las Vegas, LaTangia Burnett of Houston, LoQuita Watson (Roderick) of Pearland, TX, and Pearl Burnett of West Columbia; brother in law, Floyd Edison (Debra) of Houston; Best friend (like a brother), Franky Coleman (Brenda); friends Elisha Sigust and of Houston; Min. Tyrone Ward and Rueben Johnson both of Lake Jackson, Charlie Hawkins of Freeport, Calvin Green of Missouri City; 2 grandchildren; 2 great grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews, relatives, and friends.

