

## THE GIFT OF MUSIC

As his gentle hands caress the keys,  
To ply his Godly gift,  
Then falling on our ears to please,  
We felt our spirits lift.

Sweet music helps tune up the heart,  
To offer praise in song;  
This way our faith we do impart,  
And thus we sang along.

Such talent given unto Ernest,  
He brought us rich reward.  
God gave him the gift of music  
And he used it for the Lord.

**Ernest Edward Vantrease**

May 20, 1941 - May 20, 2022



SERVICES ENTRUSTED TO:

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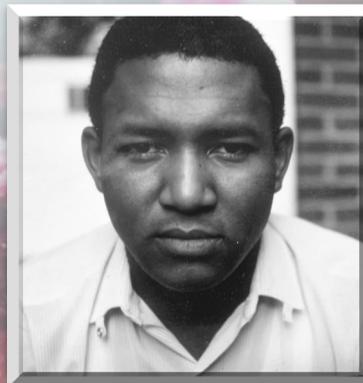
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# CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF

## ERNEST EDWARD VANTREASE

May 20, 1941 - May 20, 2022

Saturday · May 28, 2022 · 12:00 PM

NEUBLE MONUMENT FUNERAL HOME, LLC

1330 Bluebird Road · Lebanon, TN

Minister William Hunter, Eulogist | Brother Keith Alexander, Officiant

# REFLECTING ON THE LIFE OF ERNEST EDWARD VANTREASE

May 20, 1941 - May 20, 2022



**E**rnest Edward Vantrease was born on May 20, 1941 to the late William Thomas and Bessie Lou Bates Vantrease in Watertown, Tennessee. God called him home on Friday morning, May 20, 2022.

Ernest accepted Christ at an early age and united with the Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church in Watertown, TN. He graduated from Wilson County Training School in 1959. He attended Tennessee A & I University with a major in music.

Ernest had a love of music and his training during his early years began with lessons from his first piano teacher, the late Elodia J. Woods in Watertown. He was very gifted and diverse, and his musical talent followed him wherever he went. He played the baritone horn in the high school band,

and he played the drums and trumpet in the TSU band during his college career.

In the mid 1960's, there was a television show that aired called "The Night Train". This show was an all -black rhythm and blues, soul music show produced at WLAC, Channel 5 in Nashville, Tennessee. He played the piano with the trio that performed for the show.

Ernest was also drafted into the Army in 1967 and played the symbols in that band during his two years in Vietnam. Thank you for your service, Dad!

Ernest had a love for music his entire life. He was a man of many passports and traveled the world. His God-given talent gave him the opportunity to perform with so many famous artists and bands throughout his life. Some of the artists include, "The Friends of Distinction", LTD, Buddy Rich, performed 25 plus years with Ray Charles, and lastly, with B.B. King. Although his career included many well-known artists, he shared his talents with local artists and bands as well.

When his touring schedule would allow, he supported his family and local community events back home. The family had a gospel singing group, The Vantrease Family/Singers and he also played piano with The Vantrease Jazz Band during the annual Watertown Jazz Festival every July for over 10 plus years.

Ernest was preceded in death by his sister, Glenda Vantrease Popwell; brothers-in-law, Robert Popwell and Elvis Danny Lyles, Jr.; and a very devoted friend, Earl (Jake) Williams.

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The family of Ernest Edward Vantrease graciously thanks everyone for all of the sincere prayers, thoughts, visits, hospital visits, texts, emails, cards, food, acknowledgements, resolutions and acts of kindness that have been shown towards us during this time of sadness, sorrow and separation. May God richly bless you!

## SPECIAL THANKS

Special thanks to the ICU nursing staff of Vanderbilt of Wilson County in Lebanon, TN; Select Specialty Hospital, Nashville, TN; Skyline Hospital, Nashville, TN; Summit Medical Center, Nashville, TN and The Waters of Springfield in Springfield, TN.

-The Family

## INTERMENT

Vantrease Cemetery · Watertown, TN



## FLOWERGIRLS

Nieces

## PALLBEARERS

Nephews



*7I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: 8Henceforth 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*



A lifetime of memories will be cherished by children: Marion Stafford (Tyrone Sr.) Detroit, Michigan; Tanya Nelson (Burley) Nashville, Tennessee; Joshua Newton (Lauren) Phoenix, Arizona; grandchildren: Robert (Bobby) Robinson Jr., Los Angeles, California; Brice (Alisha) Hunter, Tyrone Haggen Jr., and Tyrese Haggen, Detroit, Michigan; Jeremy (Kristian) Prince, Jermond (Adriana) Prince, Trey Nelson, Bryce Nelson, Cameron Nelson, Nashville, Tennessee; great-grand children: Brice Hunter Jr. and Aiden Hunter, Detroit, Michigan; Roman Prince, Nashville, Tennessee. Siblings: Raymond (Cheryl) Vantrease, Pearl (Bobby) Carter, Theresa Lyles, and Chartise Vantrease; and a vast host of nieces, nephews; devoted right-hand nephew, Toby Hurd; devoted friend, Earl Coe Hasty; devoted friend, Billy Osborne; devoted cousins from the Vantrease, Bates, Hancock, Weeden families and numerous friends stretching from the Atlantic to the Pacific and beyond.

*And ye therefore have sorrow: but I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man taketh from you. -John 16:22*

# CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Brother Keith Alexander, Officiant

## ORDER OF SERVICE

<b>Processional</b>	
<b>Selection</b> .....	Vantrease Family
<b>Scripture</b> .....	Paul Weeden, Jr.
<b>Prayer</b> .....	Paul Weeden, Jr.
<b>Musical Reflection</b> .....	by Ernest Vantrease
<b>Acknowledgement and Resolutions</b> .....	NMFH Staff
<b>Obituary (Soft Music)</b> .....	Read Silently
<b>Audio Tribute</b> .....	"Friends" .....by Billy Osborne
<b>Family Reflections</b> .....	The Family
<b>Musical Reflection</b> .....	by Ernest Vantrease
<b>Selection</b> .....	Trudy Hunter
<b>Eulogy</b> .....	Minister William Hunter
	<i>Gospel @ New Generation, Chattanooga, TN</i>

<b>Memorial</b>	
<b>Recessional</b> .....	Ministers, Flower Ladies, Pallbearers, Neuble Monument Staff, The Family

# LIFE LESSONS

You may have thought we didn't see, or that we hadn't heard,  
 Life lessons that you taught to us, but we got every word.  
 Perhaps you thought we missed it all, and that we'd grown apart,  
 But dad, we picked up everything, it's written in our hearts.

Without you dad, we wouldn't be, who we are today;  
 You built a strong foundation no one can take away.  
 We grew up with your values, and we're very glad we did,  
 So here's to you dear daddy from your forever loving kids.

*P.S. Today, Jesus as you are listening in your home above,  
 would you go and find our dad and give him all our love.*

*Marion, Tanya and Joshua*



## FOR NOW AND EVERMORE

Time to come home dear brother,  
 Your tour of duty is through,  
 You've given as much as anyone,  
 Could be expected to do.  
 Just a few steps further,  
 The smoke will start to clear,

Others here will guide you, you have no need of fear.  
 You have not failed your family, you clearly gave your all;  
 And through your selfless actions, others will hear the call.  
 So take your place of honor, among those who have gone before,  
 And know you will be remembered, *for now and evermore.*



SPC/4 EARNEST VANTREASE  
 U.S. ARMY



## PRECIOUS MEMORIES



ERNEST VANTREASE WILL BE FOREVER LOVED

*"The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want."  
 -Psalm 23:1*