

'Forever in our hearts'



With special thanks from the Houston family

The family of Charles Aruthur Houston would like to express their gratitude for all the love, prayers, and other acts of kindness shown to them. We pray God's continued blessing upon each of your lives

Please join us for a reception after the service.



IN LOVING
MEMORY



CHARLES HOUSTON

NOVEMBER 2, 1944 – JANUARY 24, 2024

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2024
11:00AM

WORD OF FAITH FAMILY WORSHIP CATHEDRAL
212 RIVERSIDE PKWY, AUSTELL, GA 30168

BISHOP DALE C. BRONNER, SENIOR PASTOR
REVEREND BRYAN ALLEN, OFFICIATING

Obituary

Charles Artur Houston - dedicated husband, father, grandfather, sibling, and friend - passed away from natural causes in Douglasville, GA on Wednesday, January 24, 2024.

Charles was born to Leo and Lula in Foreston on November 2, 1944. He attended the historical Wilson Elementary School and thereafter, graduated from Manning Training High School in 1963. Charles left his hometown of Manning, SC for the bright lights of New York City. Upon arrival in Brooklyn, NY, Charles worked for Valiant Metal Corp. as a sheet metal worker in Long Island City, N.Y. He answered the call of duty and enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1965. While serving at Fort Gordon, Georgia, Charles sustained an injury that resulted in an Honorable Discharge in 1966. He returned to Brooklyn and met his wife, Diane. He continued his sheet metal work for Valiant and Tubular Textile until 1974. Thereafter he began his 30+ year career as an employee with the City of New York holding positions at NYC Technical College and NYC Transit Authority.

Charles and Diane married on September 16, 1967, and soon after **welcomed their first child, Charles Jr.** The couple had their hearts and arms open to receive their second **child, Eric but God** gave him his wings before they could. Strong, silent, and stern while **loving, encouraging, and committed**, Charles was the consummate Dad and was a paternal figure **to many, some of whom** are affectionately referred to as his special sons.

Through the years, Charles enjoyed singing, fixing cars, grilling, fishing, and **spending time with** his family. His stellar vocal ability earned him a spot as a member of a **men's quartet. However**, his devotion and love for his family took precedence and he happily traded his mic for a fishing pole. Whether from the shore or the deep sea, Charles **LOVED** to fish.

Charles and Diane called the Red Hook area in Brooklyn home for almost 40 years. They retired and moved to Decatur, GA in 2004 to take advantage of every opportunity to spoil their one and only grandchild, Eva Corinne.

Being a grandpa came naturally to Charles. He would tell everyone he met about his "grand baby" and he tailored his schedule to assist in carpooling duties for her. Rain, sleet, snow, or shine, he picked Ms. Eva up before time!!

After the death of his wife, Diane in 2012, Charles sought companionship and the Lord brought his childhood classmate, Juanita Frazier Scott into his life. Through their 10-year relationship, Charles' relationship with God grew strong and flourished.

Charles is survived by his son Charles Jr. (Monica); grand-daughter, Eva; special sons Shaun (Donna) Huntley and Stanley (Lakeisha) Hankins; special grandson Charles (LaShanta) Banks and great grand Jianna; his brother, Calvin, and sisters Rose Carr, Sarah Spencer, and Lula Mae Barrow; his uncle Bobby (Gloria) Simon; a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends of which two were truly blessings to him Rhonda Houston and Laverne Houston (thanks for the many haircuts, house checks, special meals, and other ways you loved on him).

Tributes



Thank you for who you were, what you did for me, and what you gave me. You were the man in my life that I could always count on to be there and be calm and caring. You always gave me guidance, protection, provision, and love. Thank you for teaching me how to be a man even if the males around me chose not to be. Thank you for working two jobs to make sure I could go to college to get a degree. Thank you for loving your wife, my mom (Diane), so that I would know how to do that years later with "your daughter" (Monica). Also, thank you for teaching me not to worry or put unnecessary pressure on myself when life gets tough. I will miss your laugh, your singing, and feeling your love and pride when you mentioned me, your daughter, or your granddaughter (Eva) to other people. I am grateful that you are now in heaven with mom and that you don't have to defend or protect anyone anymore. Rest well, Dad. I love you!

Charles Jr.



The thing I will miss most about Papa is his laugh. He was the best Papa anyone could ask for. Forever grateful to be his "grand baby".

Eva Corinne



Uncle, I will miss our times together laughing about your adventures as a youth, your advice on different things in life, our disagreements on the food you could eat, and sitting with you while we watched your Western TV Shows (Non negotiable 😊). However, I am happy that God blessed me with those memories. As we always shared before I would leave, "I love you Uncle Charles", and your response I will treasure, "I love you back".

Rhonda



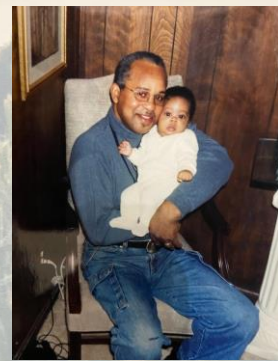
I'm so grateful that God saw fit to assign you as my Dad. You were the father I prayed for. Words cannot express the loss I feel with you gone from my life but you have left a trove of memories from which I will pull to somewhat fill the void. As you so often would say to me, "I love you to the moon and back". I will do all that I can to establish the legacy that you deserve.

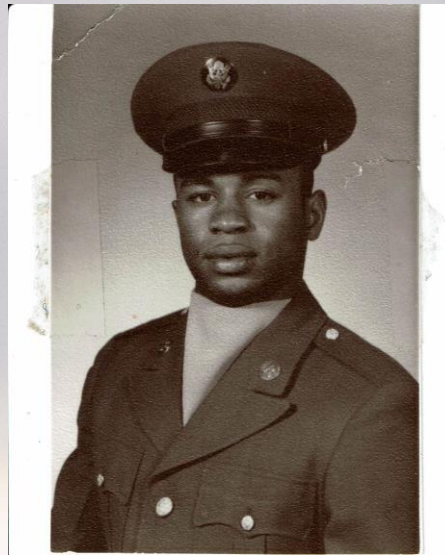
Monica



Charles

‘There are some people in life that make you **LAUGH** a little louder, **SMILE** a little bigger and **LIVE** just a little bit better’





The Fallen Limb

**A limb has fallen from the family tree.
I keep hearing a voice that says, "Grieve not for me."
Remember the best times, the laughter, the song.
The good life I lived while I was strong.
Continue my heritage, I'm counting on you.
Keep smiling and surely the sun will shine through.
My mind is at ease, my soul is at rest.
Remembering all, how I truly was blessed.
Continue traditions, no matter how small.
Go on with your life, don't worry about falls
I miss you all dearly, so keep up your chin.
Until the day comes we're together again.**

—Author Unknown

Charles was indeed a man of honor, and he valued people above all else. Thus, in honor of him the family has decided to establish "Houston House", a shared living facility for retired veterans. In lieu of flowers you may contribute to the support of this effort. Please visit our memorial website at <https://everloved.com/life-of/charles-houston/>

Order of Service

PROCESSIONAL

MUSIC SELECTION
WOF Choir

OLD TESTAMENT READING
Psalm 23 – Deacon Milton Woodward

NEW TESTAMENT READING
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 – Rev. James Bronner

PRAYER
Evangelist Jimmy Spencer

SONG
Sister Reisha Lauren

REFLECTIONS
Eva Houston (granddaughter)
Charles Banks (nephew)
Shaun Huntley (Brooklyn son)
Carol Harris (GA neighbor)
Juanita Brown (family friend)

VIDEO PRESENTATION
(Obituary read silently)

SONG
Rev. Kristie Brawley

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT
Rev. Charles Houston Jr.

MUSIC SELECTION
WOF Choir

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

PROCESSIONAL