

Celebration of Life Service

For

The Reverend Edward Lamar Ellis, Jr.



Pastor Emeritus, Historic First Bryan Baptist Church
575 West Bryan Street
Savannah, GA 31401

Graveside Services:
Laurel Grove Cemetery South
2101 Kollock Street
Savannah, GA 31415

Thursday, June 11, 2020
One O'Clock PM

The Reverend Christopher J. Pittman, Pastor, Officiating
The Reverend Edward Lamar Ellis III, Eulogist

Obituary

Rev. Edward Lamar Ellis, Jr. was a native of Monroe, Georgia. He received his early education from the public school system of Monroe, Georgia.

Rev. Ellis served his country by joining the United States Army. He served from 1948 to 1952 during the Korean War.

He matriculated at Fort Valley State College (now University) where he received his B.S. degree and graduated with honors in 1956. In addition to being an honor graduate, Rev. Ellis was the first student to receive the highest awards given to a graduating senior, "The H. A. Hunt Award" in honor of the school's founder and the "Best All Around Student Award." Rev. Ellis also served as President of the student body. Before becoming ill with polio in 1954, he was a member of the football, basketball and track teams.

During his matriculation at Fort Valley State College (now University), Rev. Ellis was initiated into the Alpha Pi Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. He also was affiliated with Tau Beta Sigma Chapter in Savannah, GA.

In 1967, Rev. Ellis received his Master's of Education and in 1972, the Specialist in Education degree from The University of Georgia. He has studied additionally at the Interdenominational Theological Center, Atlanta University and Virginia Union University School of Theology. Rev. Ellis has also received specialized training in Management, Conflict Resolution and Counseling.

Prior to moving to Savannah in 1985, Rev. Ellis had a very diverse career. He worked as a teacher, school social worker, administrator, Diversion Center Superintendent, and as a Chief Probation Officer all in the State of Georgia. He received numerous honors and awards throughout his career which included Probation-Parole Officer of the Year and Superintendent of the Year for the State of Georgia.

His Pastoral Ministry included:

First African Baptist Church,	Monroe, GA	1965 - 1968
Thankful Baptist Church,	Athens, GA	1970-1984
Historic First Bryan Baptist Church	Savannah, GA	1985 - 2012

Reverend Ellis was the longest serving Pastor in the history of First Bryan Baptist Church. He served for 27 years.

Rev. Ellis was predeceased by his parents, Dea. Edward L. Ellis, Sr. and Mrs. Phenolia R. Ellis. Siblings: Alvin Ellis, Sr., Robert Ellis, Sr. and Gloria Ellis. Brothers and Sisters in Law: Edward Williams, Isadore Williams, Issac Williams, Laretta W. Jones and Lottie W. Brown. Nieces: Sonya DeBerry and Christa Stephens.

He leaves to mourn his passing: His Beloved and Devoted Wife of 57 years, Lillian Willams Ellis.

Children: Sharon (Eddie) Bussey, Joia (Richard) Dinkins and Rev. Edward (Gena) Ellis, III.

Grandchildren: Lillian Grace Dinkins, Edward Ellis IV, Aniyah Bussey, Samuel Ellis, Alexis Bussey, and William Ellis. **Nephews:** Leonard A. Brown, Rev. Matthew (Dorothy) Brown, Jr., Alvin (Lisa) Ellis, Jr., Dr. Anthony (Susie) Ellis, Byron (Frances) Jones, Rev. Shannon O. Smith, Sr. and Robert (Nicole) Ellis, Jr., **Nieces:** Candis Williams Brown, Wanda Ellis, and Maxine (Lamar) Jones & Lorraine Spruill.

Brother in Law: Rev. Matthew S. Brown, Sr. **Sisters-In-Law:** Mary Ellis Carter and Catherine Jackson.

He also leaves to mourn a host of family and friends

ORDER OF SERVICE

Processional *"I Shall Wear A Crown"*

Presiding

The Rev. Christopher J. Pittman
Pastor, First Bryan Baptist Church
Savannah, GA

Hymn of Victory *"Blessed Assurance"*

Prayer of Comfort

The Rev. Pearl Smalls,
Associate Minister, First Bryan Baptist Church
Savannah, GA

The Old Testament Psalm 27

Bishop Dr. Willie Ferrell
Royal Church of Christ
Savannah, GA

The New Testament I Corinthians 13

The Rev. David Johnson
Assoc. Pastor, New Galilee Christian Church
Holly Hill, SC

Solo *"I Don't Feel Noways Tired"*

The Rev. Shannon O. Smith, Sr.,
Nephew
Pastor, First Mt. Sinai Baptist Church
Savannah, GA

Reflections of His Life

Dea. Earl Drayton, FBBC
Rev. Dr. Carlton Middleton, FBBC
Rev. Beverly Drayton, FBBC

Solo *"My Help"*

The Rev. Matthew S. Brown, Jr, Nephew

Eulogy

The Rev. Edward L Ellis III
Pastor, Mt. Peria Baptist Church
Ringgold, GA

Closing Remarks

The Rev. Christopher J. Pittman

Committal *"Total Praise"*

The Rev. Christopher J. Pittman

Deacon Leroy Benton
Deacon Melvin Cochran

Active Pallbearers

Leonard A. Brown
Alvin Ellis, Jr
Sean Williams

Deacon Eltoria Chisholm
Anthony Pierre Ellis

Matthew S. Brown III
William Ellis
Andre Poythress

Honorary Pallbearers

Edward L. Ellis IV
William Jackson
Shannon Smith, Jr.

Samuel Ellis
Antwan Lang
Calvin Whitley

Deacons of Historic First Bryan Baptist Church

Acknowledgements:

Our hearts are full of love and gratitude to each of you for your every act of kindness that you have shown. Your prayers, cards, calls, visits, flowers, food and words of consolation have helped to sustain us during the illness and transition of our beloved husband, father and grandfather.

We are especially thankful to:

Eunice Feagin, Josephine Coleman, Sylvia Allen, Tony Brown, Tony Cody, Albright Polite, Resheda Johnson, Patsy Johnson, Bishop and Mrs. Otis Shipp, Mr. & Mrs. Carl Burns, Jennifer Mungin, the Medical Team that provided excellent medical care as well as the staff of Hospice of Savannah, Inc. especially Nurse Irene Kalu.

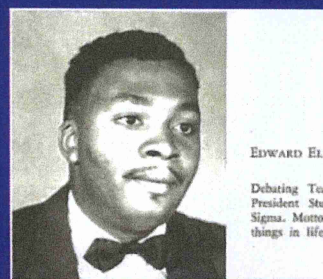
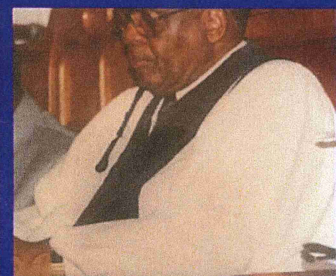
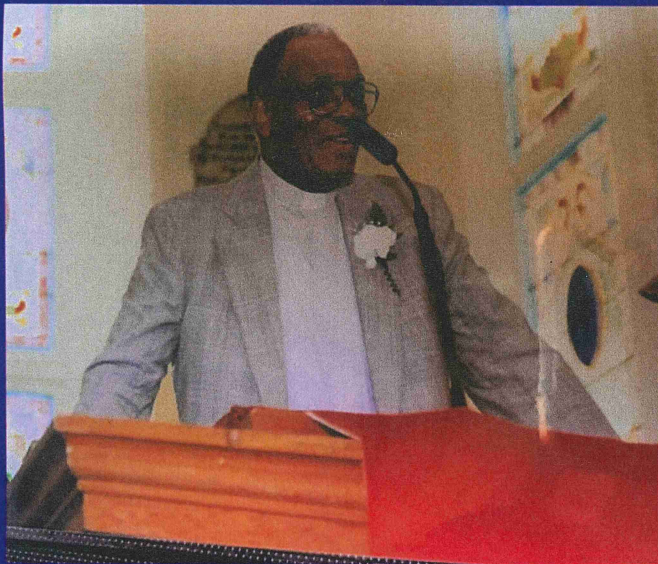
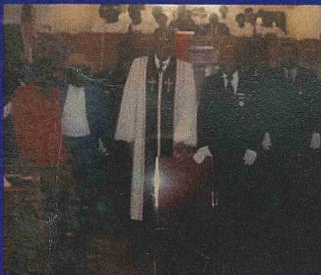
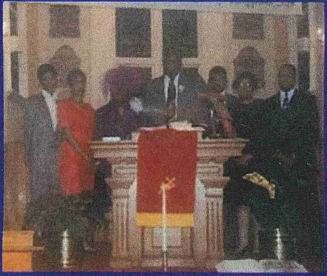
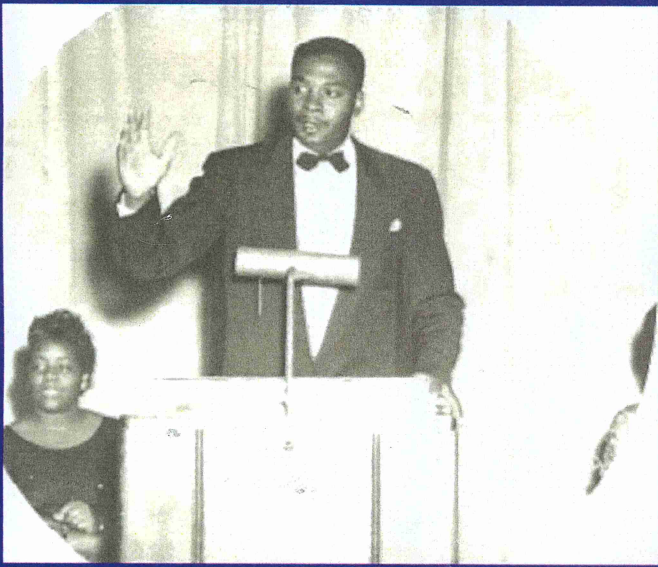
To Pastor Pittman and the members of First Bryan Baptist Church who have been so attentive and kind in prayers, words and deeds.

We thank Mr. Bruce Adams and the Adams Funeral Services for your support and service through the years. We appreciate Bro. Lester Anthony and Lester's Florist for his service and love of our family. Thank you Mr. John Feagin and Mrs. Eunice Feagin for video and photography services.

We love all of you for your faithfulness and love to the Ellis Family. May God continue to bless you for all that you have done. To God Be the Glory!

In Lieu of Flowers,
please make donations to First Bryan Baptist Church
in Memory of our Pastor Emeritus,
The Rev. Edward L. Ellis, Jr.
via
Givelify app or mail to P.O. 1451 Savannah, Ga 31402

Interment: Laurel Grove Cemetery, South
Arrangements Entrusted to
Adams Funeral Services



EDWARD ELLIOTT
Debating Team
President Stude-
Sigma. Motto:
things in life.



