

Obituary

*“I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course,
I have kept the faith.” (2 Timothy 4:7)*

JOHN R. McBRIDE, JR. (affectionately known as Johnny) was born on February 3, 1933. On Sunday, June 7, 2020 this devoted and beloved husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and devoted son slipped away into a peaceful rest.

He was born in North Charleston, S.C. where his early education began in the public school system. John also attended Jamestown High School in Jamestown, S.C.

As a teenager, he moved with his mother, Pearl White McBride to Baltimore, Maryland in 1948 where they reunited with family members who had migrated from South Carolina. When they arrived, John found work to help support his mother. Two years later, in 1950, John met Lenora (Bunny) Brown, the love of his life. He would later discover what Proverbs 18:22 (NIV) promised: “He who finds a wife finds what is good and receives favor from the LORD.”

In 1952, John was called to serve in the U.S. Army. When he returned from the military, John and Lenora wed in 1953 and became One. From their union-a remarkable example of true love, commitment and friendship-came five, beautiful and amazing children. They were truly blessed to be happily married for 67 years.

Forever a striver, John sought and found opportunities to learn, use his talents and support his family. In the early years of his career, John held positions at the Baltimore-based Glen L. Martin aircraft and aerospace manufacturing company. John later joined the Baltimore City Public School System, serving as a custodian at Public School 113 (P.S. 113). Maintaining a strong work ethic and a focus on advancement, John successfully completed evening courses in engineering. He was then able to advance to head engineer at the school. John was well-loved and appreciated at P .S. 113, not only by teachers and students, but by the school Principal Alfreda Pinkney. His warm spirit and caring ways touched the lives of students and his colleagues. Each year, alumni from the school would find ways to return the love by celebrating the man who made a difference in their young lives. On many of those occasions, a humbled John would smile and tell his family how much the attention and recognition made him “feel like a big shot.”

John later went to work as a bus operator for the Baltimore Transit Company (now the Mass Transit Administration). It was a demanding job, but one that he enjoyed. Although he plowed daily through traffic along familiar routes, he said his passengers often helped to make most days rewarding. After 30 years behind the wheel, John retired proud and with a stellar driving record.

When not at work, John found solace and joy in nature, whether he was on the water and under the sun with his favorite fishing pole in hand; or hunting in the woods. Home, though, was John’s happy place. It’s where time with family was a treasure and he found comfort in the embrace of his well-worn easy chair. Working his magic in the kitchen, Chef John enjoyed stirring up the ingredients of his rich southern roots. With his hands always in the soil, John also loved working in his garden and backyard. He enjoyed singing and always had a song on his lips. When the music played, any space

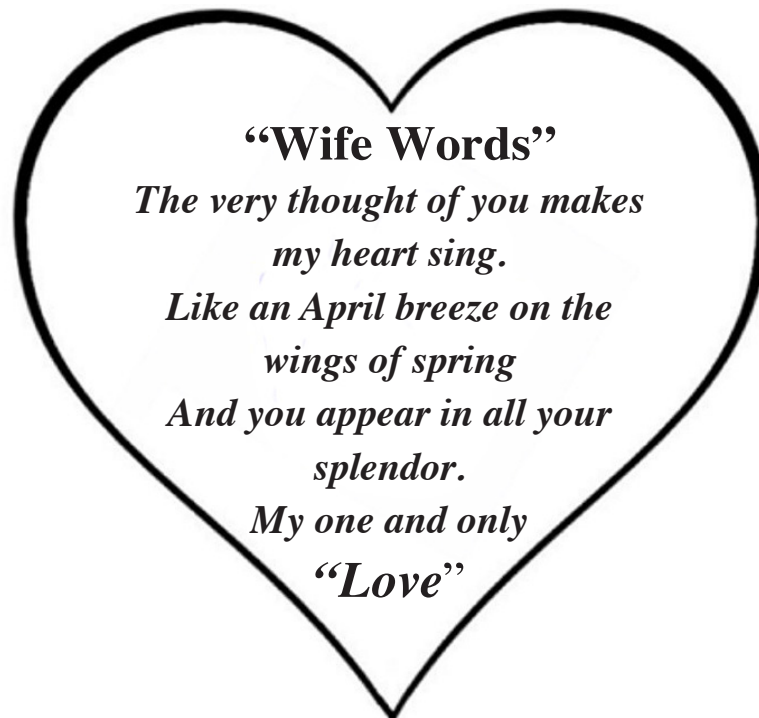
could suddenly turn into a dance floor for this no. 1 Whispers’ Fan who had a smooth move. As a sharp and dapper dresser, John was always in style. He could always tell a good story and had a terrific sense of humor. John was known for his wit, infectious smile and kind and compassionate spirit.

Deacon McBride loved his God deeply and was a true servant leader in his church and community. As he and his beloved wife Bunny grew older and delved more deeply into the Bible, their faith and trust in God grew stronger. And nothing pleased them more than to show by words and example how others could also get to know and love the Lord.

He was a member of the Sharon Baptist Church in Baltimore City for 65 years. John was an active member of the Deacon Board. Deacon McBride also served faithfully as a member of the Male Chorus and the Ashbury Men’s Fellowship. During the church’s annual Good Friday Fish Fry, Deacon McBride enjoyed helping in the kitchen.

John was preceded in death by his mother, Pearl White McBride; four sisters, Bernice, Ruby, Susie and Sarah; and three brothers, Eljay, Vander and O’Neil. John’s son, Anthony preceded him in death in 2004.

He leaves behind to cherish his memory: his dear wife, Lenora; two loving daughters, Miriam and Lita McBride; four faithful sons, Darryl, Johnathan, Alex, and Vander (Kim); two cherished granddaughters, Jamila Wanza (Chris) and Genesis McBride; two wonderful grandsons, Dax and Desmond; three delightful great-granddaughters, Imaya, Chloe and Madison; a dedicated brother, Royal Thurman (Joan); four devoted and thankful nieces, Cynthia, Mardella, Maria and Denise; a devoted daughter-in-law, Helene; and a host of nieces, nephews and friends.



Order of Service

PROCESSIONAL

HYMN

“What A Friend We Have In Jesus“

SCRIPTURE

Old Testament: Psalms 1-6 and 14

New Testament: John 1-7

Deacons: Demitrius Lewis
and Nathaniel Larrimore

PRAYER

Rev William Johnson

SELECTION

Dr. Robert Everett

WORDS OF COMFORT

Rev. William Johnson

PRESENTATION OF CHURCH RESOLUTION

Rev. William Johnson

REMARKS and ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Jamila Wanza and Desmond McBride

OBITUARY

Kim McBride

SELECTION

Dr. Robert Everett

EULOGY

Rev. Dr. Alfred C. Vaughn

BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. Alfred C. Vaughn

RECESSIONAL





Our Poem To Pop Pop

*Because God has taken Pop-Pop up above,
we use this poem instead of mourning his death,
we'll celebrate his life.*

*We will celebrate that his life was long
and that he showed celebrate that he put the
"great" in great-granddad.*

*While celebrating our Pop-Pop, we'll thank him too for
gift leopards and even a Marvin Gaye vinyl record.*

*Even though these times are tough, we know he's
watching know our Pop-Pop lays.*

Love Your Great Granddaughters, Amaya and Madison

*My Pop Pop...You left us precious memories
and you will always be by our side.*

*We will keep you in our hearts forever
your love for us was one of a kind.*

Love, Your Granddaughter, Genesis

Interment

Garrison Forest Veterans Cemetery
11501 Garrison Forest Road
Owings Mills, Maryland 21117
Thursday, June 25, 2020

Pallbearers and Flower Bearers

Family and Friends

Acknowledgements

The family wishes to acknowledge with deep appreciation the many expressions of love, concern and kindness shown to them during this hour of bereavement.

Special thanks to all of the church families; the entire medical team at Northwest Hospital and Seasons Hospice and the Redd Funeral Services.

May God Bless You and Keep You.

Arrangements

Professional Services of Comfort Entrusted to:



Redd Funeral Services

1300-02 Eutaw Place
Baltimore, Maryland 21217
410-523-1600 • www.reddfuralservices.com

Program by Alphonso Gillis-410.599.6287

Celebration of Life for John R. McBride, Jr.

Sunrise: February 3, 1933 - Sunset: June 7, 2020



Saturday, June 20, 2020

Visitation: 9:30 a.m. - Funeral: 11:00 a.m.

In the Charles A. Rice Memorial Chapel

**Estep Brothers Funeral Home
1300-02 Eutaw Place
Baltimore, Maryland 21217**

Dr. A.C.D. Vaughn and Dr. William Johnson, Officiating