

# In Honor of your Memory



## Colonel Claude Ellis, Jr., (Ret.)

Sunrise: June 21, 1939

Sunset: November 2, 2020

Wednesday, December 9, 2020

10:00 a.m. — Family Visitation

11:00 a.m. — Homegoing

Alfred Street Baptist Church

301 South Alfred Street, Alexandria, VA 22314

The Reverend Dr. Howard John Wesley, *Pastor*





## Celebrating A Life Well Lived

### Colonel Claude Ellis, Jr., (Ret.)

*"Because of the LORD's great love, we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. I say to myself, 'The LORD is my portion; therefore, I will wait for him.' The LORD is good to those whose hope is in him, to the one who seeks him; it is good to wait quietly for the salvation of the LORD. For no one is cast off by the Lord forever. Though he brings grief, he will show compassion, so great is his unfailing love. For he does not willingly bring affliction or grief to anyone."*

—Lamentations 3:22-26, 31-33

Colonel Claude Ellis, Jr. was born in Newark, New Jersey, June 21, 1939, the eldest son of the late Claude Ellis, Sr. and Lillie Gould Ellis. He joined Philemon Baptist Church in Newark and was baptized at age twelve. He attended Central High School and Newark College of Engineering before enrollment in Central State University in Wilberforce Ohio. He joined the Reserve Officers Training Corps where he was instructed in Military Science and Tactics by Major General Leo A. Brooks. Colonel Ellis received a Bachelors of Science Degree in Mathematics in 1962 and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Army in 1963. He also traveled to Indiana and married Carroll Ann King in 1963. Their son Craig Spencer Ellis was born in 1974. Colonel Ellis earned a Master's Degree in Guided Systems Engineering ( from the Royal Military College of science, Oxford England, UK in 1977.


Colonel Ellis' military education included the Air Defense Artillery Officers Basic Course, Field Artillery Officers Advance Course, Guided Missile Systems Course 1181, Command and General Staff College, the Army War College and the Defense Program Management Course.

Among his important career positions; Commander of HHC Saigon Support Command RVN, Commander B Battery 2/51 Air Defense Artillery (HERC), Battalion Commander, Fort Cronkite, CA, Battalion S-3 and Executive Officer, Air Defense Artillery, (DUSTERS) Vietnam, Personnel Officer Action Officer, Air Defense, (MILPERCEN), Battalion Commander, 1/59 Artillery, 8th Infantry, Germany and Commander of the School Brigade where he served for an unprecedented thirty-one months.

Colonel Ellis' awards and decorations included: Legion of Merit (2 Oak Leaf Clusters), Bronze Star Medal (2Oak Leaf Clusters). The Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (1Oak Leaf Cluster), Air Defense Medal (4 Oak Leaf Clusters), Army commendation Medal (3Oak Leaf Clusters), Meritorious Unit Citation, National Defense Service Medal w/Bronze Star, Vietnam Service Medal (3 Oak Leaf Clusters) Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon (2) Vietnam Campaign Medal, Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross Unit Citation and the Joint Chief of Staff Identification Badge.

Colonel Ellis retired from Military Service in 1992. "Claude" became President and Founder of CETECH, Inc., an information technology, security, computer, consulting firm. It was in retirement that his commitment to helping others flourished. He enjoyed challenging projects and found creative and unassuming ways to mentor, lead and support people needing help. He was an "Omega Man" and his fraternity precepts resonated





throughout his life. Claude was gifted with the ability to construct, repair and improve furniture and any type of broken item. He liked sports chiefly basketball which he played whenever he could find a game. Claude derived pleasure from music and he played the alto saxophone. He liked gardening, scientific cooking and traveling the world with his beloved Carroll Ann and Craig. Claude was steadfast in his love and loyalty to family. He was proud of his brothers and sisters and their shared deep Newark roots. Still, he demanded much of himself and others. He was complex, competitive and still gentle. He was strategic and he had an uncanny wit that could both sting and soothe. When confronted with difficult situations he would always say..."I never had it so good." Finally, Claude was cool. He valued authenticity and insisted on simply being himself.

Above all, Claude was grateful to be a child of God and he loved to remind himself and others that ..."God has smiled on me."

He leaves as his legacy a life of service and devotion to the Almighty, a life of purpose filled with joy and love.

Claude leaves to cherish his memory, his devoted wife, Carroll Ann King Ellis, his beloved son, Craig Spencer Ellis; his sister Wakeela Rahman, of Plainfield, New Jersey, his sister Jamilah Allen, of Decatur, Georgia, his brother Ronald Ellis and his wife, Patricia of Oxford, Ohio, his sister Lorraine Wright and her husband Alvin of Suffolk, Virginia, and his brother Paul Ellis and his wife Yvonne of Goodyear, Arizona. Claude's other brothers Howard Curtis King and his wife Kathleen of Crown Point, Indiana and Emery Clarence King and his wife Jacquelyn of Lake Forest, Illinois are Carroll Ann's brothers who considered Claude their third brother.

Claude will also be remembered by a host of loving nieces and nephews and dear friends.

"And they were astonished beyond measure, saying He hath done all things well..." Mark 7:37

"He was our North, Our South, our East and West, Our working week and our Sunday rest..."

—Carroll Ann and Craig

Claude Ellis, J. was a member of the Central State University Class of 1962. In lieu of flowers other gifts, please consider making contributions to the "Claude Ellis, J. Scholarship" at central State University. This is an endowed scholarship that will support students at CSU perusing a Bachelors Degree in Science.



**OMEGA**





# Order of Service

Prelude.....Instrumentalist

Invocation.....Rev. Dr. Timothy T. Boddie

Hymn of Rejoicing .....A Mighty Fortress is our God  
*The Choir of St. Timothy's Church, Gary, Indiana*

## Scripture Reading by Rev. Dr. Timothy Boddie

Old Testament.....Psalm 46:1-10

New Testament.....John 14:1-6

NT the Epistle.....Romans 8:35, 37-39

Prayer of Comfort .....Rev. Dr. Timothy Boddie

Acknowledgements .....Rev. Dr. Timothy Boddie

Musical Selection .....He Touched Me  
*Song by Claude's Father-in-law, Emery Howard King (Posthumously)*

Tributes & Reflection.....Family & Friends 2-3 Minute Limit

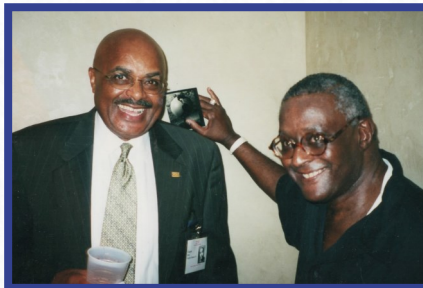
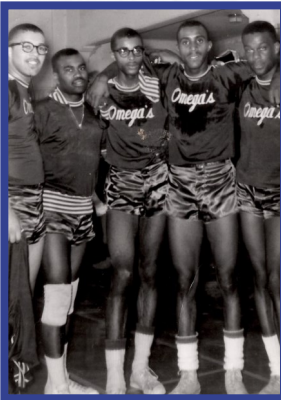
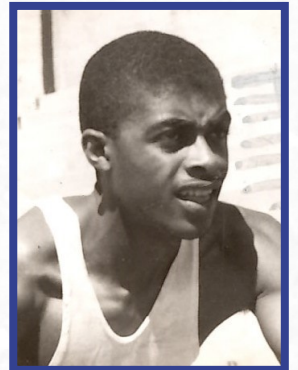
Eulogy .....Rev. Dr. Timothy Boddie

Hymn of Rejoicing .....When We All Get to Heaven  
*John Greene, Soloist*

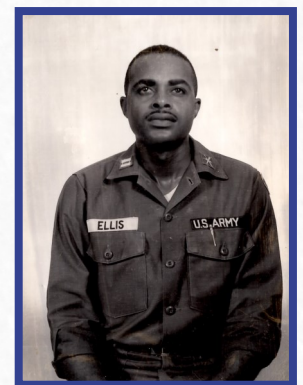
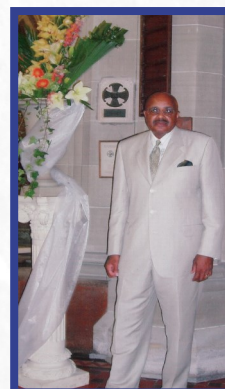
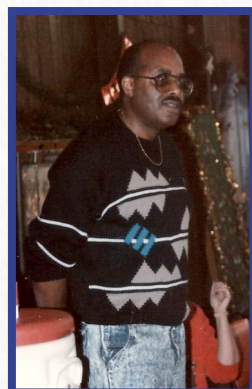
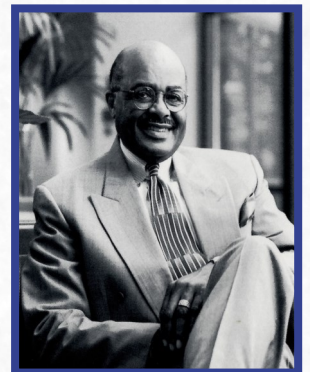
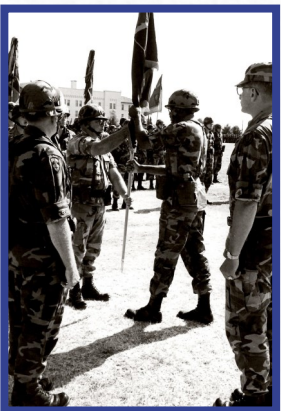
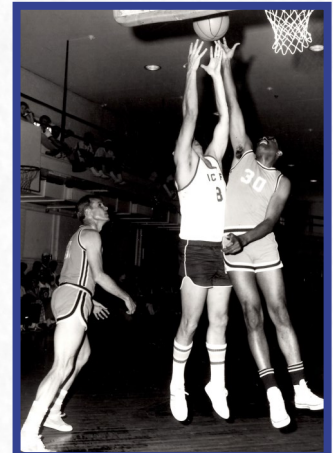
Closing Prayer & Benediction .....Rev. Dr. Timothy Boddie

Recessional.....Let the Church Say Amen





*2 Corinthians 4:17-18* "For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal."





## ***We Remember Claude***

*At the rising of the sun and at its going down,*

**WE REMEMBER CLAUDE**

*At the blowing of the wind and the chill of winter,*

**WE REMEMBER CLAUDE**

*At the opening of the buds and the rebirth of spring,*

**WE REMEMBER CLAUDE**

*At the blueness of the skies and the warmth of summer*

**WE REMEMBER CLAUDE**

*At the rustling of the leaves and in the beauty of the  
autumn,*

**WE REMEMBER CLAUDE**

*At the beginning of the year and when it ends,*

**WE REMEMBER CLAUDE**

*As we live, he too, will live, for he is now a part of us,*

**AS WE REMEMBER CLAUDE**

*When we are weary and in need of strength,*

**WE REMEMBER CLAUDE**

*When we are lost and sick at heart,*

**WE REMEMBER CLAUDE**

*When we have joy we crave to share,*

**WE REMEMBER CLAUDE**

*When we decisions that are difficult to make,*

**WE REMEMBER CLAUDE**

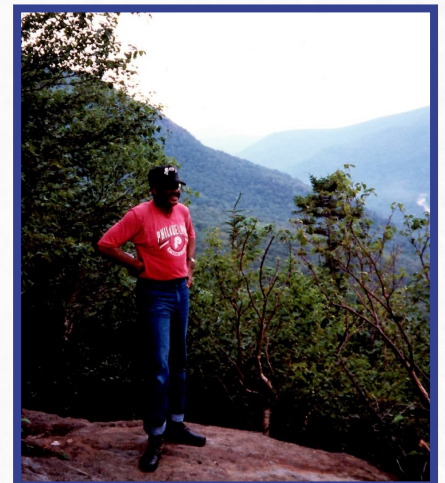
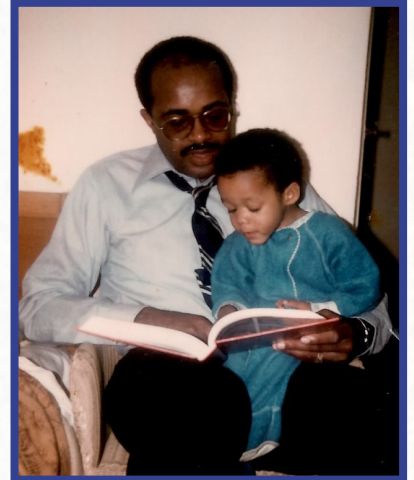
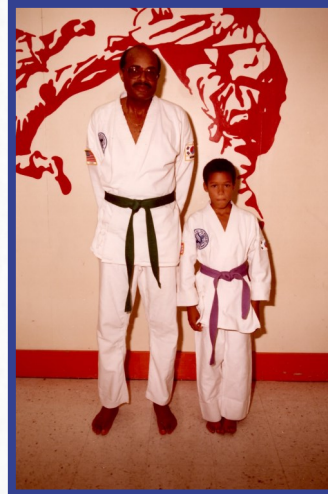
*When we have achievements that are based on his,*

**WE REMEMBER CLAUDE**

*As long as we live, he too will live;*

*for he now a part of us,*

**AS WE MEMBER CLAUDE**





*Job 19:25-27 "I know that my redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand on the earth. And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God; I myself will see him with my own eyes I, and not another. How my heart yearns within me!"*



ΩΨΦ



## *Acknowledgements*

The family acknowledges with deep appreciation and gratitude your prayers, expressions of condolences and love during this time of bereavement. We are grateful for each act of kindness expressed in both word and deed. We have been richly blessed by having Claude Ellis, Jr. in our lives. Please continue to keep us in your prayers as we continue our journey to that eternal city for the Grand Reunion.



In Lieu of Flowers & Donations please donate to  
Central State University, 1400 Brush Row Road, Wilberforce, Ohio 45384

## *Service Entrusted to*

Pope Funeral Homes  
5538 Marlboro Pike, Forestville, MD 20747  
301-568-4100

## *Interment*

Arlington National Cemetery