

Bishop Earnest Epps

January 28, 1948 - May 3, 2020

On Wednesday January 28th, 1948, Bishop Earnest Epps was born to the late Willie Mae Epps-Bradley, in Kingstree, South Carolina. Around 9 O' clock pm on Sunday May 3, 2020 at St. Vincent's Hospital, Bishop gained his wings and transitioned from his earthly home to his heavenly home.

Bishop Epps was educated by the Williamsburg County school system in South Carolina. After his schooling he relocated to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania before moving to New York City. He later relocated to New Haven, Connecticut where he found his long time home. Bishop was a faithful employee of Pratt & Whitney, Yale and Winchester factory all located in New Haven, Connecticut for many years. Upon marrying his wife, Lady Rosa, in April of 1996, Bishop relocated to Bridgeport, CT and called it home for the last 24 years.

Bishop Epps was called to ministry under the leadership of Bishop Dozier Shields approximately 44 years ago. He attended and graduated from Carver Bible School, the FreeWill Baptist School of Biblical Studies and attended many other classes, courses, and workshops throughout his ministerial career. Furthermore, Bishop was the Pastor of St. James in New Haven, CT and the founding Pastor of Unity Temple Church in New Haven, CT, where he Pastored for over 20 years. In 2005 he became the Pastor of English Chapel Cathedral of Miracles and was consecrated Bishop under the leadership of

Bishop Elijah Davis and the UFWB Churches, Inc. on October 29, 2005, where he became the Bishop of the Southern Connecticut Annual Conference. Bishop served faithfully as Pastor and Bishop for over 15 years. Bishop Epps was also a dedicated member of the Interdenominational Ministers Alliance, FaithActs for Education, and a dedicated attendant of both the Hampton Ministers Conference and the National FreeWill Baptist Convention, where he served on the National Finance Committee.

Bishop Epps was a celebrated teacher, elder, spirit-led preacher, dedicated leader and visionary. Under his leadership came the E.C. Food Pantry, Hot Lunch program, Breakfast at the Cathedral, Annual Thanksgiving Initiatives, Annual Christmas Gift Giveaways, Annual Easter Basket Giveaways, and many more community oriented events. Bishop believed in GIVING back to the community, as he would give you the shirt off of his back. Bishop stood on the foundation of Psalms 133:1, which reads, "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in Unity". Bishop strongly believed that "where there is Unity, there is strength!" Also, Bishop Epps loved his youth. He fostered many initiatives geared towards the youth, such as field trips, outings, clothing and coat drives and more. Bishop always made sure his youth was well taken care of and well taught, as he strongly believed in the virtue and power of education. Bishop Epps loved music, especially quartet; you could find Bishop listening to music every single day. Also, Bishop Epps thoroughly enjoyed his church family.

Bishop Earnest Epps leaves to cherish his wife of 24 years, Lady Rosa L. Williams-Epps. 6 children; Andre (Lawanda) Epps, Roslyn Epps-Hill, Tina Jay, Dominique Pierce, Shaquille Epps, and James Epps, all of Ct. Siblings; Ruth Washington, Johnnie Pearl Pompey and Randy McFadden of South Carolina and Esther "Bobbie" (Tom) Coates and Clebreta McFadden of Connecticut. Brother and sister-in laws; John (Isabelle) McKnight of CT, John (Cherokee) Williams of PA, Wilbert (Barbara) Williams, Floyd Williams, Annie Hayes, Mary

(Willie) Andrews, Pauline Williams, Nancy (Robert) Sanders, and Magdalene Williams all of NC. Grandchildren; TyRhonda, Shanteal, Samantha, LouAllison, Samuel, Chelsea, Robert, Andre, Anthony. Great-grandchildren; Jaheim, Deontay, Nishyah, Iyanna, Gerard, Jaleel, Giselle, Allison, Kayden, Destiny, Amiyah, Melody, Hailey, Samir, Andre Jr, Avree, Robert Jr, and Emoni. Adopted grandchildren; Jonnell & Jonathan Hartley and the Dimbo children. As well as a host of extended family, cousins, nieces, nephews, god-children, friends, colleagues and associates.

Bishop Epps was predeceased by his mother; Willie Mae Epps-Bradley, brothers; Frederick John Bradley, Cleophus, Rushen and Billy McFadden, sister; Minnie Alma and daughters; Ernestine Epps and Cynthia Sherrod and granddaughter Deborah Smith.

Cemetery Details

Mountain Grove Cemetery

215 Dewey St.
Bridgeport , CT 06605

Previous Events

Viewing

MAY 11. 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

English Chapel Cathedral of Miracles
285 Wilmont Ave.
Bridgeport , CT 06607

Tribute Wall



“ *Bishop Earnest Epps*

October 09, 2023 at 06:14 AM



“ *To the Epps, we would like to let you know that we are praying for you all. May God continue to bless you at this time and may the memories of Bishop keep you and bring you peace in the days and years ahead. With much love, The Reed Family!*

Sonya - May 25, 2020 at 07:38 PM

BS

“*Lady Epps - You and Bishop Epps were the epitome of a strong bond, Love in Action. The type of love that extends far and near without respect of person.*

The Rawlses have deep respect for the Epps Family. With God at the helm working through Bishop Earnest Epps, the head of your home, you have and you will always exemplify Oneness from the youngest to the oldest.

Bishop Epps was a Brother-Beloved and will be greatly missed.

He has left a wonderful legacy.

Our prayers are ever with you and yours.

Sincerely,

Bishop Hilton Rawls, Sr. & Lady Amanda



Bishop Hilton Rawls, Sr. - May 13, 2020 at 12:05 AM

BR

“ 1st Lady Epps, with our greatest Sympathy, we give our Condolences in the passing of Bishop Earnest Epps. It seems like it was just last week , when we road on the Pitts Chapel bus to New Jersey to honor Overseer Harris, and we had such a great time talking about the good ole days, how the different sandwiches and snacks that my husband Bro. Richardson talked about eating growing up, or so many things discussed in our childhood that were all in common., And just a few months ago, we saw you, 1st Lady Epps and Bishop Epps at Deacon Lou Dobbs Musical Anniversary Program.

We had such a great time, and always, always enjoyed to be in Bishop Epps company.

Bishop Epps will truly be missed, but never forgotten. Please know that we are Praying for you and your family.

Bro Roy & Sister Barbara Richardson
Pitts Chapel UFWB Church.

Barbara Richardson - May 11, 2020 at 11:19 AM

SM

“ We light this candle with love. Bishop is gone out our site but not our hearts.
Sis Mitchell, Daughters, and Granddaughters



Sis. Mattie Mitchell - May 10, 2020 at 09:23 PM

DG

“ Sending healing prayers and comforting hugs...

With our Deepest sympathy

June Gamble and Family



Delores Gamble - May 09, 2020 at 09:34 AM

ER

“ Elder Howard & Barbara Rock lit a candle in memory of Bishop Earnest Epps

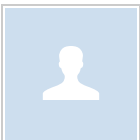


Elder Howard & Barbara Rock - May 09, 2020 at 01:32 AM

PB

“ To English Chapel and Lady Rosa; Our deepest sympathy. Pastor Brooks and First Gentleman Dea BrooksRainbow Temple Church

Pastor Brooks - May 08, 2020 at 10:35 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Bishop Earnest Epps.



May 08, 2020 at 08:42 PM

GH

“ *Sis Epps & Family,
I am praying for your comfort and strength during this time. The
jokes and conversations will be sorely missed. I pray your memories
will bring a smile and laughter to you during the roughest periods.
Continue to lean on God and know He is still in control.
Gina Hamilton & Janay Stackhouse*

Gina Hamilton - May 08, 2020 at 02:37 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of
Bishop Earnest Epps.*



May 08, 2020 at 12:25 PM

NC

“ *Bishop I'll always remember the smile and
excitement when you would see me walk
through the doors but most of all the love and
friendship you had with my parents! You will
be missed and take your rest, well done!!
Love you always Nakia Campbell*



Nakia Campbell - May 08, 2020 at 11:40 AM

CS

“ *Carolyn Stocks lit a candle in memory of
Bishop Earnest Epps*



carolyn stocks - May 08, 2020 at 09:39 AM

GS

“ George R Stocks lit a candle in memory of Bishop Earnest Epps



george r stocks - May 08, 2020 at 09:38 AM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Bishop Earnest Epps.



May 08, 2020 at 09:15 AM

AK

“ In February Bishop & I were in his office, just before service, and he'd told me that he had died sometime before. He'd told me of the freedom, joy & peace he'd felt that had been indescribable. Still he'd pleaded with the LORD to send him back to His family. The children were young & he'd wanted to make sure they'd had a chance to grow up with both he & his wife in their lives. Bishop smiled as he spoke about his beautiful wife. He loved her some Rosa. GOD granted his request. The children are now grown & he could now rest. I believe, while in his coma, Bishop said to JESUS, "Well LORD, the kids are grown & my Rosa has them by her side. I'm tired now. Let me come on home." Once again I believe that GOD granted his request. Enjoy Heaven Bishop! From Apostle Carolyn Kinsey King.

Apostle Carolyn Kinsey King - May 07, 2020 at 06:52 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Bishop Earnest Epps.*



May 07, 2020 at 06:06 PM



“ *Please accept our deepest sympathy on the passing of our dear beloved Bishop. We will truly miss him. He was a good pastor. We will miss that jolly spirit and him singing his favorite song "pray for me."*

*In Sympathy,
Deacon & Sis John Void(members of English Chapel)
Milford, CT*

John Void - May 07, 2020 at 06:04 PM



“ *Brother And Sister Williams sent a virtual gift in memory of Bishop Earnest Epps*



Brother and Sister Williams - May 07, 2020 at 05:07 PM

CW

“ *Chaunte Williams lit a candle in memory of Bishop Earnest Epps*



Chaunte Williams - May 07, 2020 at 05:05 PM

LC

“ *Loretta Chambers lit a candle in memory of Bishop Earnest Epps*



Loretta Chambers - May 07, 2020 at 04:02 PM