



## Mr. Eric Hall

January 16, 1949 - May 14, 2021

Eric Charles Hardy Hall was born to Charles and Arie Lee Hardy on January 16, 1949. He grew up in a loving, Christ-centered home, where he was nurtured and trained in Christlikeness. Eric accepted Jesus as his Lord and Savior at an early age. He loved the Lord with all of his heart, and he dedicated his life to bringing glory to God. He attended public schools in Houston, and he was a proud January 1967 graduate of Evan Edward Worthing Senior High School, where he was a good student and a bright light. He was a skilled musician and a talented trombone player with the sensational, renowned, and award-winning “Marching 100” Band, under the brilliant leadership of its legendary Band Director, Mr. Sammy Davis. Mr. Davis appointed Eric as one of his Assistant Band Directors. Worthing’s “Marching 100” Band was a close-knit group of quality people and exceptional musicians. Eric was a very popular and well-liked student and he excelled in everything he did. He flourished as the lead entertainer of Eric and the Vandykes. He was famous for his impressive impersonations of James Brown, and he had the signature footwork to match James Brown’s persona. Eric was always a big hit in the talent shows in junior and senior high school. It takes a special, dynamic and outgoing personality as well as a bold confidence to be a “stand-out” performer, and Eric had that star quality, and he performed with love.

After high school, Eric joined the United States Air Force, where he was one

of the youngest men to enlist. He received an honorable discharge after serving his 4-year tour of duty as Military Police in the U.S. and Europe. He chose professional driving as a second career after he completed his military tour of duty. He loved being a driver, and he excelled in his new adventure. He found his “niche”, and was always in demand because of his great professionalism, strong communication skills, and his larger-than-life personality. He continued to thrive in his driving gig, but he discontinued driving when the pandemic hit. He remained resourceful and still found ways to use his gifts and talents to help people.

Eric was an active member of Mary Olive Missionary Baptist Church, Rev. Gerald V. Shanks, Pastor, where he faithfully and joyfully served as percussionist until April, 2020 when his health began to decline. He played professionally with many well-known recording artists, and he was always in demand and sought after because of his “off-the-chain” work ethic, his phenomenal musical skills, and his magnetic personality. He was known for having great integrity and always being reliable. He had a fierce respect for time. He was always punctual, and would be highly upset if others were not punctual. He was the consummate professional and the consummate gentleman. He personified excellence in service. Even when he was struggling with his health, and his daughter Erica and others would encourage him to rest, he would many times still “press his way,” impressing upon them that he HAD to do it for GOD! Eric had a very high regard for His God and for giving Him the very best service he could possibly offer, no matter how badly he was feeling. He relied on the Holy Spirit to give him the strength to persevere, and the Lord God held him up and gave him the grace to overcome and thrive.

One of Eric’s greatest joys was music; he loved all-things Music! He delighted in being a Music Man to the very core of his being. He loved all types of music, and he played many different instruments, including the trombone,

trumpet, saxophone, drums, bongos, and congas. He was most skilled on the drums, other percussion instruments, and the trombone. Eric dedicated his talent to the Glory of God, and to uplifting His people. People were always enriched and helped by his unconditional love and his godly wisdom. He was a mentor to many, and a great example to follow. He personified love and grace.

Eric loved life and he loved people. He never met a stranger. Once you became his friend, you were his friend for life. He was full of love, life, light, and laughs. His enthusiasm for life and his effervescent joy, (even in his times of suffering), were awe-inspiring. Eric had an awesome sense for fashion and style, and he was always meticulously dressed and well-groomed. The best part of his colorful attire was wearing his million-dollar smile on his face. He had a flair and knack for putting interesting color combinations together. He was unique and always sharp.

One of the greatest things for which Eric will be remembered was the valiant and heroic fight he fought in his 2-year battle with prostate cancer, (which he beat by the grace and power of God like the champ God made him to be), and his 1 ½-year battle with multiple myeloma. He was a fierce warrior. He never gave in to it and he never gave up in his fight. He remained focused, fearless, and positive, and he had a strong and determined mindset to overcome, no matter how agonizing were his symptoms. Through it all, Eric never complained. In fact, he chose joy over sorrow, and he chose faith over fear. He had such a great sense of humor, and he never lost it throughout his inspiring journey of victory. Laughter was medicine for Eric, and he regularly got hefty doses of it for himself and he gave out hefty doses to others. His influence on others and his great impact in life were powerful, lasting, and far-reaching. He will be greatly missed. Eric is gone, physically, but he will never be forgotten.

Eric's most celebrated aspect of his greatness was his amazing love and devotion as a father, grandfather, and friend. He was the epitome of a good man, and he received his greatest satisfaction seeing his family thrive. He committed himself to invest large amounts of time with his children and grandchildren. He took great pride in pouring into them and watching them develop into incredible human beings. Eric was a loving and committed son, grandson, father, grandfather, and friend.

Preceding Eric in death were his parents, Charles and Arie Hardy, and his Beloved Brother, Howard Douglas "Puff" Hardy, who went home to be with the Lord in May of 2020. Eric devoted himself to taking care of his Dear Brother for 24 years, after "Puff" suffered a stroke. Eric cared for his brother with selfless sacrifice. He was "a real man"; he didn't make excuses; he made a difference.

Eric leaves to cherish his precious memory and carry on his great legacy of faith, family, and love, two children, Devoted Daughter: Erica Swain (Harold) of Houston, TX, and Devoted Son: Eric Swain of Houston, TX; Devoted Daughter-in-Love: Katrina Kirkendoll of Houston, TX; Four Grandchildren: Bishop, Jade, Ambrosia (Eric's children), and Tayler (Erica's daughter); Four Great-Grandchildren: King Mason, Cameron, McKenzie, and 1 "in the oven" (Erica's grandchildren); and Nevaeh (Eric's Granddaughter); and a host of loving relatives, extended family members, cherished friends, and friendly associates, and countless adoring fans. Praise God for a life well-lived and well-invested!

Service will be streamed live via the Christian Faith Baptist Church Facebook page.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

JUN 1. 11:00 AM (CT)

Christian Faith Baptist Church  
4306 Brinkley Street  
Houston , TX 77051

## Graveside Service

JUN 2. 10:30 AM (CT)

Houston National Cemetery  
10410 Veterans Memorial Drive  
Houston, TX

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. Eric Hall*

October 05, 2023 at 01:51 AM



“ *My sincere condolences to the family of Eric Hall. My name is Errol Davis. Myself , Harvey Mayo and Alfred Dowden were station with Eric in Germany at Hahn Air Base. He was the drummer and singer in our group called The Variations. We had so much fun with him. Traveled all over Europe singing and dancing. Lost touch when we all got out of the service. Tried to find him but couldn't. So sorry to hear of his passing. He was truly a wonderful and awesome young man. I still have a photo of all of us as a group. If you would like a copy please hitme up on my page and I'll send it to you.*

**Errol Davis** - February 23, 2022 at 11:50 AM



“ *Dortha Ann Standley lit a candle in memory of Mr. Eric Hall*



**Dortha Ann Standley** - October 17, 2021 at 05:43 AM