



## Dennis Turner Banks

November 11, 1954 - January 5, 2024

### Obituary

Deacon Dennis Turner Banks, at the age of sixty-nine (69), passed away January 5, 2024 at Manokin Nursing Rehab in Princess Anne, MD. Dennis, affectionately known as Turner, was born to Dennis and Christine Banks November 11, 1954 in Salisbury, MD.

Dennis was raised in the Bivalve/Jesterville, MD area where he received his early education in the Wicomico County school system, graduating high school in 1973 from James M. Bennett Senior High. Dennis decided to further his education by attending the University of Maryland Eastern Shore in Princess Anne, MD from 1973-1976, majoring in Chemistry and Agriculture. Dennis completed his internship for forestry in 18 months in New Mexico.

Dennis was employed at Eastern Correctional Institution in Westover, MD as a Correctional Dietary Officer until he medically retired in 2000. Prior to his employment at ECI, Dennis was a farmer and a watermen following in his father's footsteps as listed in a 1972 edition of Ebony magazine article entitled "A Black Farmers Fight for Survival."

While working at ECI, Dennis met and married Theresa Gibbs in November of 1995. During this union, he gained two bonus children, Keisha and Marcus

Gibbs, along with Denise Chesnutt and Jonathan Banks. He called the four of them “his bunch.” Extending from “his bunch,” he gained the loves of his life, “the grands”: Whitney Minns, Ja’Qwan Cottman, Shane Chesnutt, Ryan Chesnutt, Krystiana Gibbs, Evan Chesnutt, Ayden Gibbs, Tymar Roberson, Kaylani Gibbs, Liam Chesnutt and Amara Gibbs.

Dennis was a long time member of Elsey United Methodist Church of Jesterville, MD. He later joined United Church of Firstborn in Salisbury, MD, where he served faithfully in various ministries until his health no longer permitted. Dennis’s hobbies and past times included fishing, listening to music, cooking and his most favorite thing was visiting and playing with his grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

Dennis Turner Banks is survived by: his wife of twenty-eight (28) years, Theresa Banks; two biological children Denise Chesnutt (Christopher) and Jonathan Banks; two bonus children Keisha and Marcus Gibbs; eleven grandchildren and one fur baby Noah. He also leaves to mourn: a sister, Michelle Miles (daughters Eugenia and Melodie); brother, Livingston Banks (Christine) and (daughters Danielle and Madison); sisters Elder Sherleena Morris (Pastor Richard) and (daughter Elder Vanessa) and Rev. Dr. Yvonne Penn (daughter Princess); aunt, Mary Turner of Princess Anne, MD; nephews, Brian Barclay, Wallace Dashiell, Tico Barclay, Thoron Barclay, niece Michelle Sims and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Preceding Dennis in death are his parents Dennis Nicholas Banks and Christine Phyllis Banks, along with a brother Theodore Barclay and two nephews Theodore Barclay, Jr. and Thaddeus Barclay.

Lovingly submitted ~ the family

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 13. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Mills Memorial Baptist Temple  
1323 Jersey Road  
Salisbury, MD 21801

*In lieu of flowers, the family would like to gift Mr. Dennis T. Banks a Memorial Marker at Springhill Memory Gardens to honor him for eternity. Monetary gifts can be made to his wife Theresa Banks and/or Springhill Memory Gardens, 27260 Ocean Gateway, Hebron, MD 21830.*

## Funeral Service

JAN 13. 12:00 PM (ET)

Mills Memorial Baptist Temple  
1323 Jersey Road  
Salisbury, MD 21801

*Also, in his honor donations can be made to the Maryland Food Bank, 28500 Owens Branch Road, Salisbury Maryland @ [MD.foodbank.org](http://MD.foodbank.org) and United Church of the First Born, 516 Robinson Street, Salisbury, Maryland.*

# Tribute Wall



“ So very sorry for your loss I worked many many years at ECI as Dennis’s supervisor he was a faithful and kind person and will greatly missed

carol oney - January 12, 2024 at 10:45 PM



Dennis was an awesome person. He Brenda and I shared so many laughs together. We were truly a team. My prayers go out to his family. Rest on my friend.

Kevin Whittington - January 13, 2024 at 03:57 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Dennis Turner Banks.



January 12, 2024 at 08:18 PM



“ To The Family of Mr.Dennis Banks, I am Praying for Strength knowing that The Lord is Our Strength and Helper in The Times of Need. I Love You. To Mrs. Banks,Michelle and Family There is No Sorrow That Heaven Cannot Feel and No Heart Aches That Heaven Cannot Heal for All things Work According to God's Perfect Will. I'm Praying for you all

Sharon L Ballard - January 12, 2024 at 07:23 PM

GD

“ To the Family of such a dear loved one, My sincere condolences to all of you. My nephew, Dennis was a loving, caring person. **MAY HE REST IN PARADISE FOREVER!!!**  
SADDENED, AUNT CANDI AND FAMILY.



**Gloria DeShields** - January 12, 2024 at 10:37 AM

RH

“ My sincerest condolence for you and the family at this time. You have my deepest sympathy and unwavering support. Wishing you peace, comfort courage, and lots of love at this time of sorrow. My heart goes out to you and the family at this difficult time. Love you.

**Rosa Hicks** - January 11, 2024 at 07:40 PM

PH

“ My sincere condolences to the family. May God send his angels to encamp around you during this difficult time. Peace and Blessings.



**Pastor Marsha Hankerson** - January 11, 2024 at 12:40 PM

FH

“ *Fayetta Hull lit a candle in memory of Dennis Turner Banks*



**Fayetta Hull** - January 11, 2024 at 10:55 AM

TH

“ Sorry For Your Loss



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**Thomas** - January 11, 2024 at 05:48 AM

LR

“ My sincere condolences to the family. I hope your happy memories will help you through this difficult time. 🙏



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**Linda Roberts** - January 10, 2024 at 03:48 PM

FT

“ Faith Tull-Church lit a candle in memory of Dennis Turner Banks



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**Faith Tull-Church** - January 10, 2024 at 09:15 AM

PH

“ To the Turner-Banks families, my heart was saddened to hear of your loss. My prayers and condolences to each of you. My earliest memories of Dennis began as children down the road in Jesterville, MD. I know he will be fondly missed by all. Loving submitted Evans & Hardy families.



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**Phyllis Hardy** - January 10, 2024 at 08:43 AM

TE

“ *Thomas Elsey lit a candle in memory of  
Dennis Turner Banks*



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**Thomas Elsey** - January 09, 2024 at 09:33 PM

LW

“ *Lexine Wigfall lit a candle in memory of  
Dennis Turner Banks*



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**Lexine Wigfall** - January 09, 2024 at 03:52 PM