



## Ernest Purnell Coleman

July 10, 1944 - October 8, 2023

Ernest Purnell Coleman (Buck), son of the late Lee Coleman and Ethel Coleman, was born July 10, 1944, in Maryland, and departed this life on October 8, 2023 at his home.

He attended school at Maces Lane High, and that's where he discovered his passion for music. For many years he was a member of the First Commandments Gospel Singers, traveling all over the world.

He was preceded in death by his parents, and three brothers, Sherwood Coleman, Doralee Coleman, and Ruben Coleman.

He leaves to mourn him: his wife, Roberta (Bert) Coleman; special grandchildren, Tawanda Dennie, Shadonne Wongus, Tekita Wongus, Tiara Wongus, Terrell Cephas, Tavon Wongus and Tabrion Cephas; sisters, Dorothy Ann Johnson of Cambridge, MD and Ernestine (Bernie) Dickerson of Seaford, DE; sisters-in-law, Mary Colman, Dorothy McKnight and Floretta Austin; brothers-in-law, Terry Wongus, and Roger (Barbara) Wongus and a host of great-grandchildren, great-great-grandchildren, and other family and friends.

Buck was a devoted member of the Baha'i Faith, an independent World Religion with its central principles being the Oneness of God, the Oneness of Religion, and the Oneness of Humanity. He and his wife, Roberta, hosted

many events at and around their home in Vienna, MD that brought together people from all backgrounds and colors. These gatherings were always a source of joy and fellowship.

As a member of the First Commandment Gospel Singers, Buck helped organize performances at Baha'i gatherings up and down the East Coast including Toronto, Canada, Dover, Delaware, Savannah, Georgia and Orlando, Florida, among others. The group recorded two CD's ("Live in Toronto" and "We Have Come to Sing Praises") that found wide distribution among the worldwide Baha'i community and elsewhere. They were regular performers at Race Unity Day in Dover.

Along with his family and friends, the Baha'i community mourns the loss of this very special soul.

Lovingly Submitted ~ The Family

# Previous Events

## Funeral Service

OCT **28**. 2:00 PM (ET)

Bennie Smith Funeral Home - Hurlock  
516 S. Main St.  
Hurlock, MD 21643  
(410) 943-4488  
[info@benniesmithfuneralhome.com](mailto:info@benniesmithfuneralhome.com)  
<https://www.benniesmithfuneralhome.com/>

# Tribute Wall



“ *View and Download the Funeral Program*

**Bennie Smith Funeral Home** - October 26, 2023 at 12:03 PM



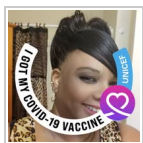
“ *Going to miss you Pop Pop*

**Chelle Pinckens** - October 27, 2023 at 06:31 PM



“ *I going to miss you PopPop! I'll never forget when y'all made me a member of the First Commandment Gospel Singers! Even though I never song, I was there at every concert on stage with you guys! Love you Pop!*

**Terrell Cephas** - October 27, 2023 at 05:21 PM



“ *You have sincere and deepest condolences my family as call Bucky . Your cousin Sylvia.*



**Sylvia Ennels** - October 24, 2023 at 06:24 PM



*To the Family of Ernest Purnell Coleman we the Aldridge and Carter family like to give you our Deepest sympathy to the lost of your love one May God bless you all in the time of need and to his wife Roberta Wongus Burk hold on to God's onchangin hands God makes know mistakes Buck rest in peace we love you but God love you bless from the Carter family.*

**Lillian Carter** - October 25, 2023 at 01:02 PM

LG

“ You have my sincere and deepest condolences in the passing of Ernest P. Coleman ,our family will miss Bucky as we called him ,his smile and him singing the songs of Zion.RIP cousin

---

**Lutisha J. Gibbs** - October 23, 2023 at 09:48 PM

DB

*Bert, you have my condolences. Sorry for your loss. Doretha*

---

**Doretha Blake** - October 27, 2023 at 06:38 PM