



## Gary Ethelbert Ballard

October 3, 1956 - November 19, 2017

### Obituary

Gary Ethelbert Ballard, a lifelong resident of Pocomoke City, Maryland, was born on October 3, 1956 to Hilda Ballard Conner and Randall Poole, Sr. in Salisbury, Maryland. He entered into eternal rest on Sunday, November 19, 2017 in Baltimore, Maryland.

In his early years, Gary was educated in the Somerset County Public School System. He later attended Pocomoke High School, graduating with the Class of 1975.

Gary met and married his wife, Faith Walston Ballard, in July of 1977.

Gary worked as a farmer for over 40 years and enjoyed every aspect of the business. He loved the outdoors and could often be found out in the field or on a tractor.

Gary had a special bond with his three grandsons, Darius, Geremiah and Jaden. He enjoyed spending quality time with them, teaching them how to drive, giving them advice and often reminding them of the importance of a good education.

Gary lived his life to the fullest, and according to his own standards. The simple things in life were more important to him than extravagance and wealth. In the final days of his life, Gary made peace with his loved ones and because of God's unfailing grace and mercy, he forgave and was forgiven. On Friday, November 10, 2017, Gary asked his Lord and Savior for forgiveness of his sins and rededicated his life to Christ. His loved ones were by his bedside singing "I Won't Complain" as Gary occasionally joined in to reaffirm his love of God and family.

Gary leaves to cherish fond memories with: his mother, Hilda Conner; stepfather, Alton Conner, Sr.; father, Randall Poole, Sr. and stepmother Shirley Poole; wife, Faith Ballard; son, Gary Paul Ballard; daughter, Kelli Cropper; three grandsons, Darius Ballard, Geremiah Ballard and Jaden Cropper; three sisters, Tracy Hall, Tammy Clark (Kenneth) and Rhonda Thornton (Terry); one brother, Randall Poole, Jr.; one stepbrother, Alton Conner, Sr.; six nephews, Dialo, Chris, Elias, Christian, Marc and Cameron; three nieces, Amy, Latannia and Kimberley and a host of cousins, other relatives and friends.

Gary was preceded in death by his brothers, Jeffrey Ballard and Bruce Ballard.

To send flowers to the family or plant a tree in memory of Gary Ethelbert Ballard, please visit our Heartfelt Sympathies Store.

# Tribute Wall

AW

“ *Extending deepest sympathy to family and friends in this time of sorrow. Please find comfort in knowing that soon all those in God's memory will hear Jesus' voice and live again. (John 5:28,29) Until that blessed day, may Jehovah, the God of all comfort, grant you peace while many fond memories warm your hearts.*

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**Annie Wingfield** - November 30, 2017 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ *I am so sorry to hear of the loss of your loved one. Death is an enemy to us all, but Almighty God is going to remove death, tears, mourning and pain in the near future. (Revelation 21:4) Please take comfort in the bible during your time of grief, and may the God of all comfort grant your entire family peace.*

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**Doretha Sampson** - November 27, 2017 at 12:00 AM

HF

“ *My deepest condolences for the loss of your dear loved one. While nothing will completely take away your grief by meditating on Gods promises found in the Bible you can find real hope and the strength to keep going. My family and I have found the scripture at Isaiah 25:8 to be especially comforting. Here it promises that God "will swallow up death forever and the Sovereign Lord Jehovah will wipe away the tears from all faces."*

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**H. Fields** - November 23, 2017 at 12:00 AM

MJ

“ I would like to offer my condolences for your loss. I hope you will find comfort in knowing that Jehovah, the God of all comfort, will soon eliminate all grief and provide permanent consolation when “all those in the memorial tombs will hear [Christ’s] voice and come out”! (John 5:28, 29) God promises that “he will do away with death forever, and the Sovereign Lord Jehovah will wipe away the tears from all faces.” (Isa. 25:8) Then, instead of having to “weep with those who weep,” all earth’s inhabitants will “rejoice with those who rejoice.”—Rom. 12:15.

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**M Jones** - November 22, 2017 at 12:00 AM

HC

“ I'm sorry to hear this. My thoughts and prayer are with you all. My daughter Emily and I will truly miss him. If there is any thing I can do please just let me know.

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**Helen Carey** - November 22, 2017 at 12:00 AM

JO

“ I would like to offer my sincere condolences for your loss. In such difficult time, many families appreciate the comfort offered by the Bible of the time when no one will lose a loved one in death and we will be able to enjoy life again with our loved one. (Isaiah 41:10; Revelation 21:3,4) I hope these thoughts will comfort you also.

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**JoyceA** - November 22, 2017 at 12:00 AM