



Russell Andrew Fooks Sr.

January 1, 1947 - May 13, 2024

The Life of Russell A. Fooks Sr.

Russell Andrew Fooks, Sr. was born in Salisbury, Maryland on January 1, 1947, to the late Hilman and Mary Fooks. He took his eternal rest on Monday, May 13, 2024, surrounded by his loving family.

After receiving his formal education in the Wicomico County School District, Russell graduated in the Class of 1966 from Salisbury High School. Upon completion of high school, he continued his education at Maryland State College, now known as the University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES).

Drafted into the United States Army National Guard 198 th Signal Co., Russell served honorably for

six years. He later went on to further his education and pursue his career in the Funeral

Business, graduating from Kentucky School of Mortuary Science on March 2, 1969, in Louisville,

Kentucky. After Mortuary School, he became a self-employed Funeral Director in Sharptown,

Maryland. For more than thirty (30) years, he served with excellence as a

member of the Funeral
Directors Association.

Russell was employed with Bennie Smith Funeral Home for many years.

Throughout the years he

trained, mentored, nurtured and took many under his wing. His knowledge,
expertise and

professionalism were unselfishly shared and his attention to detail was
impeccable.

A generous, legendary man, Russell was willing to serve whomever,
acknowledging his obedience

to God. He recognized his calling at a young age. As a faithful member of
Mills Memorial Baptist

Temple, Russell served on the Trustee Board and loved every minute of it. He
had a huge heart and

was gifted with hands that served throughout the "Eastern Shore" and beyond.

The legacy he has

left behind will continue to have an impact with his family, friends and all those
whose lives he

touched.

Russell leaves to cherish everlasting memories: his wife, Betty McCoy-Fooks
of sixteen (16)

years; his children, Orlando Fooks of Atlanta, Georgia, Lynette Drummond
and Gabrielle McCoy,

both of Salisbury, Maryland, Russell Fooks, Jr. (Tasha) of Delmar, Delaware
and Marcus Fooks of

Salisbury, Maryland; seven grandchildren, Bre-Asia, Anton, Thomas, Lakerra,
Ahlayah, Devion,

and Nyla; four great-grandchildren, Cke-Arii, Cka'vah, Cka'Vyn, Ck'Artier; one
brother, Roger

(Australia) Fooks of Atlanta, Georgia; two sisters, Sylvia Hayes and Fannie
Johnson, both of

Salisbury, Maryland; one godson, Jerry Holbrook of Princess Anne, Maryland; one goddaughter, Jessica Hayes-Finger of Washington, DC; two sisters-in-law, Mary Savage of Salisbury, Maryland and Doris Fooks of Mardela Springs, Maryland; his church family at Mills Memorial Baptist Temple of Salisbury, Maryland; all the Bennie Smith Staff (Maryland, Delaware and Virginia); three special friends, Bennie Smith, John Prince and Reverend William Ward; his beloved niece, Phyllis Savage-Morris and two amazing nephews, Howard Savage and Robert Fooks, Jr., all of whom assisted in his care and a host of other nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY **25.** 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Bennie Smith Life Celebration Center
901 West Isabella Street
Salisbury, MD 21801

Visitation

MAY **26.** 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Mills Memorial Baptist Temple
1323 Jersey Road
Salisbury, MD 21801

Funeral

MAY **26.** 2:00 PM (ET)

Mills Memorial Baptist Temple
1323 Jersey Road
Salisbury, MD 21801

Live Stream Broadcast on Facebook

MAY **26.** 2:00 PM.

Bennie Smith Funeral Home MD / VA

Tribute Wall



“ *View and Download the Funeral Program*

Bennie Smith Funeral Home - May 22, 2024 at 04:15 PM



“ *Bennie Smith Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Russell Andrew Fooks Sr.*



Bennie Smith Funeral Home - May 26, 2024 at 02:31 PM



“ *Bennie Smith Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Russell Andrew Fooks Sr.*



Bennie Smith Funeral Home - May 24, 2024 at 04:55 PM



Eltonett Johnson - May 27, 2024 at 06:32 PM

PR

I will always be forever grateful to you for giving me a chance when nobody else would thank you for believing in me and always being there for me and my family in our times of need #gonebutneverforgotten. Pat Pat as you always called me

Patrice Robertson - May 31, 2024 at 03:51 AM

CJ

this is Chief Apostle Baby Boy Hester Jr this is the best friend I ever had helped me out many times.He even gave me a place to stay when nobody wanted me to live with them . Rest In The Arms Of Jesus Christ Job Well Done

Chief Apostle Baby Boy Hester Jr - February 08, 2025 at 09:57 AM

PR

“ Patrice Robertson lit a candle in memory of Russell Andrew Fooks Sr.



Patrice Robertson - May 31, 2024 at 03:48 AM

RJ

“ Sending my prayers and condolences to the family. Uncle Russell will truly be missed.

Rhonda Johnson - May 26, 2024 at 02:51 PM

AN

“ You will be missed my friend

anonymous - May 26, 2024 at 12:23 PM

RJ

“ I just recently found out about the passing of Mr. Russell. My prayers are with the entire family and Earth Has No Sorrow That Heaven Cannot Heal. Family, look to the hills from with cometh your help. Mr. Russell was there for us, when we lost dad and he did a phenomenal job with my dad. Sleep on and take your rest.

Rotunda Jenkins - May 25, 2024 at 10:48 PM

PF

“ Phillip Johnson and family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Russell Andrew Fooks Sr..



Phillip Johnson and family - May 24, 2024 at 03:22 PM

HB

“ I will miss seeing him at Delmarva Funeral Service Association meetings. He was always so nice to talk to. My condolences to his family and all who loved him.

Hannah Burns - May 24, 2024 at 01:23 PM

SB

“ To The Family of Mr. Russell Fooks, I am Saddened by The Notice of Mr. Fooks Death. What An Amazing Man Always Speaking Positive Thoughts and Words. I was Glad you had Been A Friend of Mr. Fooks I am Praying for The Family. Trust God for His are Honorable and True. God Bless You All.

Sharon L Ballard - May 23, 2024 at 04:18 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Russell Andrew Fooks Sr..*



May 23, 2024 at 03:23 PM



“ *From: Kerra Fooks planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Russell Andrew Fooks Sr..*

Kerra Fooks - May 23, 2024 at 03:23 PM



“ *1991 I hunted for Mr.Russell to fix my Father's Smile...one day before Dad's funeral, he graciously said yes ! I got the approval..and he did a normal smile..in a few minutes, also rearranged his glasses to his side..Daddy always thought highly of Mr. Russell..me too..Rest easy ...Job Well 🙏🕯️ Done*

Patricia Dodson-Smack - May 23, 2024 at 03:01 PM



“ *Janice L. Jones lit a candle in memory of Russell Andrew Fooks Sr.*



Janice L. Jones - May 23, 2024 at 12:03 PM

JJ

“ *Janice L. Jones lit a candle in memory of Russell Andrew Fooks Sr.*



Janice L. Jones - May 23, 2024 at 11:52 AM

CJ

“ *Sending condolences to the family.*



Cheyra Johnson-Nichols - May 23, 2024 at 11:46 AM

RF

“ *Rev Fitchett lit a candle in memory of Russell Andrew Fooks Sr.*



Rev Fitchett - May 23, 2024 at 10:39 AM

PW

“ *Praying for You and Your Family.*



Portia Williams - May 22, 2024 at 10:40 PM



“ *Helen White lit a candle in memory of Russell Andrew Fooks Sr.*



Helen White - May 22, 2024 at 04:07 PM



*Surrounding the Fooks Family in light and love
We will miss our beloved cousin. He is dining with our ancestors and sitting at our Savior's feet
"Well done my good and faithful servant. "
You warmed so many hearts ❤️ with your smile and comforted so many during their time of grief. Welcome Home 🙏🏾👤
Much love Your cousins in Atlanta
Whites, Johnsons & Hall families*

Helen White - May 22, 2024 at 04:18 PM



Sending Sincere Condolences To The Family

Portia Williams - May 22, 2024 at 05:31 PM



Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Be encouraged God will take care of you. Family we love you. Bro. Fooks is resting, gone from labor to reward.

Grace & Peace, Elder James Young & family

JAMES YOUNG - May 25, 2024 at 01:34 PM

LW

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with the family, friends, co-workers, and all who knew. Russell Fooks Sr.

*With Deepest Sympathy,
Linda Wise & family*

Linda Wise - May 21, 2024 at 02:11 PM

EJ

“ Eltonett Johnson lit a candle in memory of Russell Andrew Fooks Sr.



Eltonett Johnson - May 21, 2024 at 12:04 PM

EJ

So honored to know Russell Fooks sending love and prayers to the family my condolences to Katie and her family as well and my Nephew Devion truly be missed

Eltonett Johnson - May 21, 2024 at 12:05 PM

LB

“ I was very honored to know Russell as I am a Sr. Family Service Counselor at Springhill Memory Gardens Cemetery where it will be his final resting place. I spent many a time chatting, though briefly, at the Bennie Smith's committals here. He was always so kind with a cheery disposition and dapperly dressed in his big white truck. My sincere condolences to his family. I will be away on vacation during all of his arrangements otherwise I would attend. Blessings, Lisa Berger, Springhill Memory Gardens.

Lisa Berger - May 21, 2024 at 11:20 AM

MJ

Prayers and condolences to the family.

Mary Johnson - May 23, 2024 at 06:58 AM

ES

“ *Evan. Mary Elliott- Stanley lit a candle in memory of Russell Andrew Fooks Sr.*



Evan. Mary Elliott- Stanley - May 20, 2024 at 09:22 PM

ES

Rest in peace Mr. Russell.

Evan. Mary Elliott- Stanley - May 20, 2024 at 09:25 PM

RH

“ *Village of Hope Staff lit a candle in Memory of Russell Fooks Sr.,with condolenses to Jeannette and the Fooks family.*



Romanda L Hutt - May 20, 2024 at 04:03 PM

PS

“ *Peggy Snead lit a candle in memory of Russell Andrew Fooks Sr.*



Peggy snead - May 20, 2024 at 03:40 PM

TY

“ *Russell, you will be sadly missed, thank you for encouraging me to go to Funeral Service school and being so kind to our family. Prayers for the family and Bennie Smith work family.
God Bless*



Tammie Yarns - May 20, 2024 at 03:14 PM

DW

“ *Dr. Tammie Trader Wells lit a candle in memory of Russell Andrew Fooks Sr.*



Dr. Tammie Trader Wells - May 20, 2024 at 12:43 PM

JM

“ *Judy Majette lit a candle in memory of Russell Andrew Fooks Sr.*



Judy Majette - May 20, 2024 at 10:46 AM

JM

Russell and I were good Friends back in the day...May God forever Bless and Keep the Family...

Judy Majette - May 20, 2024 at 10:49 AM

JM

“ Judy Majette sent a virtual gift in memory of Russell Andrew Fooks Sr.



Judy Majette - May 20, 2024 at 10:45 AM

LA

“ Russell has been in my life since I was a kid! He was my Cousin Medford Dennis best friend! They used to babysit us! All my life he was like the Uncle always looking out w/o nothing but kind words! Loved him..He was family to me! RIP and a Job Well Done!! 🙏🥰
🙏

*Love and Sincerely ,
Lauren Dorman*

Lauren - May 19, 2024 at 08:42 AM

SK

“ ❤️

Shanee Kellam - May 18, 2024 at 08:16 PM

AG

“ Apryl Gaines lit a candle in memory of Russell Andrew Fooks Sr.



Apryl Gaines - May 18, 2024 at 08:49 AM



“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



Bennie Smith Funeral Home - May 17, 2024 at 09:20 PM

SB

“ Sandra Banks lit a candle in memory of
Russell Andrew Fooks Sr.



Sandra Banks - May 17, 2024 at 08:15 PM

MB

We will miss your famous smile.

Maurice Brown - May 18, 2024 at 12:22 PM

GS

“ growing up together will always be in hearts forever . back in the sixties he would go around the neighborhood and cut with none electric clippers,he would come to your house to cut your hair, working on the wright farm together his brothers and a lot of guys in our neighborhood. Russell was what his name is,Russell Fooks. to God be the Glory for his incredible life, and may his works speak for him. amen .

gregory dallas nichols sr - May 17, 2024 at 07:56 PM

SB

Russell Fooks I just don't know what to say. I've worked for you for years at Fooks funeral home. You taught me everything I know now jin the mortuary business and you also became the godfather to my oldest daughter I thank you and I salute you

Sandra Banks - May 17, 2024 at 08:14 PM

EM

“ *Will be missed, class of '66 SHS*

Edith Morris - May 17, 2024 at 07:01 PM

VK

“ *Vera King lit a candle in memory of Russell Andrew Fooks Sr.*



Vera King - May 17, 2024 at 04:58 PM

TF

“ *To the family of Russell Fooks Sr., Our prayers are with you during your time of sorrow. Russell was a wonderful, respectable and kind person who was truly loved by our family. May God Bless your family. The McIntosh Family*



The McIntosh Family - May 17, 2024 at 02:04 PM

CB

“ *Cassandra N Barbara lit a candle in memory of Russell Andrew Fooks Sr.*



Cassandra N Barbara - May 17, 2024 at 12:49 PM

JS

“ *James Simpkins lit a candle in memory of Russell Andrew Fooks Sr.*



James Simpkins - May 17, 2024 at 11:37 AM

TR

“ *Tasha Robinson lit a candle in memory of Russell Andrew Fooks Sr.*



Tasha Robinson - May 17, 2024 at 11:07 AM

BW

“ *Brenda White lit a candle in memory of Russell Andrew Fooks Sr.*



Brenda White - May 17, 2024 at 09:53 AM

CE

“ *Deepest sympathy to the Fooks family. May God strengthen and keep you.* ”



Candy & Elaine Elder - May 17, 2024 at 09:38 AM

DG

“ *Deborah Gates lit a candle in memory of Russell Andrew Fooks Sr.* ”



Deborah Gates - May 17, 2024 at 12:02 AM

TA

“ *Taylor sent a virtual gift in memory of Russell Andrew Fooks Sr.* ”



Taylor - May 16, 2024 at 09:23 PM

LE

“ *To the family of Russell we send our condolences and prayers to you at this difficult time Brown / Burkett family* ”



Lemissa Burkett English - May 16, 2024 at 07:20 PM

SM

“ To the Fooks family u all have my deepest condolences may god comfort u all❤️❤️❤️

Sarah Mitchell - May 16, 2024 at 03:56 PM

KM

Mr Russell I remember you from a little girl always smiling and always so nice I'm sorry to hear of your passing 😞 my deepest sympathy to the fooks family rip mr Russell fooks from kay murray and family

Kay Ann Murray - May 17, 2024 at 01:46 PM

MW

“ Ms Lexine Wigfall lit a candle in memory of Russell Andrew Fooks Sr.



Ms Lexine Wigfall - May 16, 2024 at 03:48 PM

LW

“ In celebration of Russell's life, I extend my heartfelt prayers and condolences to his family. May God wrap you in His divine arms and give you peace.

Lloyd Ward - May 16, 2024 at 02:32 PM