



Winton Ray Fenner

August 30, 1941 - January 22, 2019

Winton “Ray” Fenner departed this earthly realm, early in the morning, on January 22, 2019, in Chestertown, Maryland. He was 77 years old. Ray was the oldest of 10 children born to Fleetwood and Linea Fenner in Columbia, North Carolina. He graduated from Tyrrell County High School in Columbia, North Carolina. Ray received his Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from Elizabeth City State University. He obtained his Master’s Degree in Administration and Supervision from Morgan State University. Additional studies were completed at Shaw University, North Carolina Central University, East Carolina University, Loyola University Maryland, and the University of Maryland.

He began his career in 1963 with a teaching position in Jamesville, North Carolina and continued by returning to Tyrrell High School to teach General Science, Chemistry, Biology, and Physics. He coached championship basketball teams at Tyrrell and Columbia High Schools that are still talked about in Eastern North Carolina. In 1973, he moved his family to Kent County, Maryland after receiving a teaching position at Kent County High School. He taught General Science, Physical Science, and Mathematics. He coached the boy’s junior varsity basketball team and started the tennis team who won championships in the Bayside conference. He worked as Athletic Director and Academic Assistant Principal. He was assigned Principal of Galena Middle School and completed his tenure in 2008 as Supervisor of Pupil Services.

Ray's mother was extremely proud of her high school diploma and she instilled in him the desire to get an education. He motivated his family and students to study hard and to be the best they could be. He taught his youngest sister to read when he returned home from college on weekends using a Sally, Dick, and Jane book. Ray motivated his siblings and other family members to obtain college degrees. He marched in the 1960's so everyone would have equal opportunities and a chance for success. Ray loved the fact his children were academically successful. The day he took his grandson to the University of Delaware for a football tryout he told the coach he was a scholar athlete. He never forgot he was told he couldn't go to college, but he worked his way through and was determined to help others.

He received the Excellence for Minority Achievement Award from the Maryland State Superintendent of Education. Ray was a civic minded person who chaired the Education Committee of the Kent County NAACP. He was a past member of the Rotary and Optimist Clubs of Chestertown, Maryland.

Ray loved to return often to North Carolina to Chapel Hill Baptist Church in Columbia, North Carolina and St. John's Baptist Church in Creswell, NC. He looked forward to Rev. Brown calling on him to sing the old gospel hymns at Bethel A.M.E. Church in Chestertown. Broadening his horizons kept him busy in writing a book titled *The Minority Child and Self-Esteem*, singing gospel music (especially Sam Cooke songs), and publishing two CD's titled *Old School Gospel* and *Songs of Haiti*. He loved sports (Dallas Cowboys and Los Angeles Dodgers), gardening, reading, traveling, and camping with family at Pettigrew State Park in Creswell, NC.

Ray was preceded in death by his father, Fleetwood Fenner, his mother, Linea Fenner, brother, Billy Fenner, a nephew, Dwight Fenner, Jr., and an infant daughter, Katura Rae. Ray leaves many loved ones to cherish his memories.

He leaves his devoted wife of 54 years Beatrice Marie Thompson, his son Kenneth Fenner, Sr. and wife Coretta, and their son Kenneth, Jr. (Owings Mills, MD), daughter Princess Battle and her children Derek T. Battle and Kendall Battle (Sparks, MD), and daughter, Dr. Raenita A. Fenner and her husband Dr. Anthony Plummer, Jr. (Elkridge, MD). He also leaves his eight loving siblings and their spouses, Jean Carolyn Burroughs, Carl Fenner (Nadirah), Fleetwood Donald Fenner, Dwight Fenner (Precilla), Neal Fenner (Bridget), Sharon McDade (Joel), Dr. Gregory Fenner, and Christopher Fenner (Cheryl). Additionally, he leaves his cherished aunt Iva Grey Stewart, and many nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends who will miss him dearly. Ray has gone to be with his Lord who he sang about in so many churches.

Tribute Wall

MR

“ May you forever hold on tight to all the memories you cherish, at this most difficult time, may you find comfort in knowing that others share in your sorrow. the family and the many friends have my deepest condolences. Rev 21: 3-5.

Marie Robinson - February 18, 2019 at 08:52 PM



“ To the Fenner Family may God be with you and your families at this time.of sorrow. Mr. Fenner was a great Teacher and I had alot of Respect for him. Great and Gentle Man he was. God Bless ,Rose Dempsey Jackson

January 31, 2019 at 07:34 PM



“ Mrs. Fenner and the entire Fenner family, my family and I send our deepest condolences. May you continue too go forward in peace knowing that your loved one is in the loving arms of Our Father.Love,Janice (Hutchins) Scott

January 31, 2019 at 07:12 PM



“ There are so many wonderful memories that I have of Mr. and Mrs. Fenner. Mrs. Fenner has always been my answer to my favorite teacher. You encouraged me to push and work to my highest potential from the third grade. Then I finally got to high school and there was Mr. Fenner as my Vice Principal. He was always a calming voice and a person who I knew I could always go to if I needed sound advice from someone who was fair. Sometimes Mr. Fenner would validate that I was right even though I was a student and sometimes he would show me the teacher's side and tell me to go back to class. He touched so many people's lives in many more ways than I could even begin to describe. My prayers to his family and friends as they get through this tough time. Tamara Cooper

January 31, 2019 at 04:34 PM



“ To the Family, I'm so sorry for your loss. Matthew 22:32, Jesus quoted God as saying: I am the God of Abraham and the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob. Then he continued: He is the God, not of the dead, but of the living. I know that those words mean that those retained in God's memory will return in the resurrection. Ms Woodson

January 31, 2019 at 02:01 PM



“ My condolences to the family and friends of Mr. Fenner !God bless

Wilbert Givens - January 30, 2019 at 05:24 PM

LB

“ Princess, Mrs. Fenner, Kenneth and family, may the memories shared of Mr. Fenner remain with you always and bring you comfort. May your faith in God keep and guide you. My deepest condolences to you all. God bless. Lisa (Phillips) Butler Class of 1983

Lisa (Phillips) Butler - January 30, 2019 at 04:15 PM

PH

“ Mrs. Fenner and family, I send you my condolences for your loss. I remember Mr. Fenner as a quiet soft spoken man who would come to visit his wife at Garnett Elementary. He was kind and professional as was Mrs. Fenner. I will remember all of you in my prayers.

Peggy Hughes - January 30, 2019 at 01:52 PM

SS

“ My deepest sympathy to the family. I had the pleasure of being a student at KCHS and had Mr. Fenner as a Science teacher. I had a strong interest in the science field and went on to start a long term career in nursing which I am still in today. Thank you Mr. Fenner for sharing your knowledge and kind spirit thru the generations you served.

Sandra Kay SIMMONS - January 30, 2019 at 08:07 AM

SR

“ I am so sorry you have to go through this difficult time. My thoughts are with you at this moment. Please accept my condolences.

Solimar Reyes Rodriguez - January 29, 2019 at 09:54 PM

TM

“ To the Fenner family, I am very sorry for the of Winton. May you find solace as you mourn, to the family. The love we have for our love ones never leaves us, we yearn to see them with our eyes. For now the faith of things to come gives us strength to strive and endure the loss of those we love. This yearning we may fell is just how the the Creator feels, He yearn to awaken the work of His hands. Job 14:15

Teresa Midget - January 29, 2019 at 08:33 AM

LF

“ Wishing you peace to bring comfort, courage to face the days ahead and loving memories to forever hold in your hearts.

Larry and Twila Walker & Family - January 28, 2019 at 07:36 PM

JJ

“ My deepest sympathy for your loss. I hope you will find comfort in knowing that God is ready to heal the brokenhearted. - Psalm 147:3

JJ - January 28, 2019 at 06:55 PM

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."

H. Fields - January 28, 2019 at 12:29 PM

TA

“ Please accept my deepest and heartfelt sympathy. May the God who binds up the broken-hearted comforts all who mourn, sustain your family during this challenging time.(Isaiah 61: 1,2.)

TA - January 28, 2019 at 11:43 AM



“ Mr Fenner was one of the best principals I ever had his quiet spirit was genuine until u made him mad but it took a lot Rest In Peace mr fenner

January 27, 2019 at 11:41 PM



“ One of my favorite teachers!! Love you Mr. Fenner My Condolences to the Family and friends!! he was a great man!!!God Bless

January 27, 2019 at 03:03 PM

DF

“ My sincere sympathies to the family and also to all of his friends.

Deborah Fuchs - January 26, 2019 at 05:49 PM

JO

“ Please accept my heartfelt condolences on the loss of your loved one. May the wonderful memories of your loved one continue to provide a measure of comfort to you until God\u2019s promise is fulfilled at Matthews 5: 5.

joyceA - January 24, 2019 at 02:32 PM

TW

“ Sorry For Your LossJesus Christ :Loves MeWe Love You

Thomas Widgeon - January 23, 2019 at 06:21 PM