

Celebrating the life of
DR. JESSE HENRY HURST II

Sunrise JULY 2, 1941 *Sunset* JANUARY 26, 2024

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2024

II:00 a.m.

WHEELER AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH
3826 Wheeler Avenue | Houston, Texas 77004

Dr. Marcus D. Cosby, Senior Pastor | **Rev. Alexander E.M. Johnson, Executive Pastor**
Rev. William A. Lawson, Founding Pastor Emeritus

Remembering DR. JESSE HENRY HURST II

Dr. Jesse Henry Hurst II, known affectionately as “Coach Hurst”, passed away on January 26, 2024, in his hometown of Houston, Texas. He was born on July 2, 1941, the youngest of four kids and the only son to Jesse Henry and Lee Ethel Hurst. Jesse grew up in the Third Ward area of Houston, Texas. He attended Douglas Elementary School and graduated from Jack Yates Sr. High School in 1959. While attending Yates, Jesse served as Senior Class President, played baseball and football, earned his Eagle Scout rank, and was voted “Most Versatile” by his graduating class.

Jesse attended Oklahoma State University (OSU) on a football and baseball scholarship. He was a member of the second class of African American recruits to attend OSU. While attending OSU, Hurst joined the ROTC and pledged Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Incorporated. He graduated from OSU in 1963, with a Bachelor of Science in Sociology.

Thereafter, Jesse joined the Army Reserves after receiving his draft notice. He proudly served almost ten years of active duty, completing two and a half tours in Vietnam. He attended several U.S. Army programs and trainings that included Air Assault School, Methods of Instruction, Jungle Training, and Air Borne and graduated from the U.S. Army's War College. His military service honors include: the Army Commendation Medal, Combat Infantry Badge, Air Medal, Bronze Star Medal with one Oakleaf Cluster, Republic of Vietnam Ranger Badge, Vietnamese Armed Forces Honor Medal 1st Class, two Bronze Service Stars for Vietnam Service and the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with Palm. Hurst served in the U.S. Army Reserve, earning the title of Lieutenant Colonel before his retirement.

Jesse taught physical education and coached at Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) for more than ten years, where he earned a Master's degree in Education. He also oversaw the academic program for athletes at the University of Houston for seven years. Thereafter, he taught elementary education at various schools in the Houston Independent School District (HISD). In 1984, Jesse Hurst obtained a Doctorate in Higher Education

from Texas Southern University (TSU), where he later joined the football coaching staff as an Offensive Line Coach. In addition to coaching, Dr. Hurst taught kinesiology and health education classes for more than 20 years. He “bled” maroon and gray and LOVED TSU Football. After teaching for more than 30 years and serving in various capacities within TSU's Athletic program, Dr. Hurst retired from TSU in 2014.

Jesse attended Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church for almost 57 years. He was also a very active volunteer within his community. He was as a member of the Houston Police Citizen Committee-Southeast; was a life member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.; served as a board member of the Central Care Integrated Health System; served on the Citizens' Police Board and on the Maroon and Grey Alumni Board. Dr. Hurst was a Master Certified Official for the discus throw, hammer throw, shot put, and javelin throw. One of his favorite pastimes was serving as an official for USA and AAU Track and Field.

In 1977, Jesse Hurst married his loving wife Carol, and together they raised four children: Kenyatta Washington, Carolyn Nicole, Katrena Mercedes, and LaMonika Densie. He was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather whose grandkids (Lauren, Ashton, Jr., Landon, Kamille, and Axelle) affectionately called him “Paw Paw”. Jesse's family was the cornerstone of his life. He enjoyed attending his grandchildren's activities and watching sports.

Dr. Hurst was preceded in death by his parents and his siblings, Fannie Faye Harmon, Muriel Martha Miller and Clotile Carolyn Hurst. He leaves behind a legacy of love, laughter and cherished memories with his wife, Carol E. Hurst; his children: Kenyatta Washington, Carolyn (Patrick) Hervey, Katrena (Kenneth) Brantley, and LaMonika (Ashton, Sr.) Taylor; and his grandchildren: Lauren Nicole Hervey, Ashton Levar Taylor Jr., Landon Wayne Hervey, Kamille Carol Brantley, and Axelle Hurst Taylor; and a host of nieces and nephews, as well as great nieces and nephews.

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Order of Service

REV. ALEXANDER E.M. JOHNSON, Eulogist

PROCESSIONAL

HYMN OF PRAISE.....Wheeler Avenue Music Ministry

READING OF THE HOLY WORD

OLD TESTAMENT (*Psalm 121*).....Rev. Ranyne H. Johnson

NEW TESTAMENT (*John 14:1-6*).....Rev. David E. Moore

PRAYER OF CONSOLATION.....Dr. Jacques D. Denkins

MUSIC OF CONSOLATION.....Wheeler Avenue Music Ministry

RESOLUTIONS.....Dr. LeKesha R. Attuquayefio

REFLECTIONS (please limit to three minutes)

Jack Yates Sr. High Class of 1959.....Ann Carr

Texas Southern University.....Dr. Thurman Robbins

U of H Black Alumni Association.....Dr. Demetrius Pearson

USA Track & Field Association.....Clarence Farmer

MUSIC OF COMFORT.....Wheeler Avenue Music Ministry

MESSAGE OF COMFORT.....Rev. Alexander E. M. Johnson

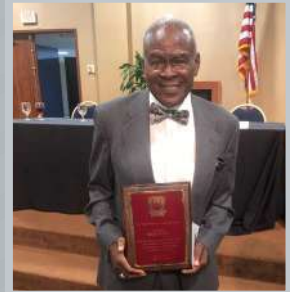
RECESSIONAL

I have fought the good fight...

I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness...

2 TIMOTHY 4:7-8A

Loving Memories



Loving Memories



Loving Tributes



To My Loving Husband...

From the moment we became one, I have always been by your side. I have witnessed the husband, mentor, father, and grandfather you had become. As my husband, protector, and provider, you have given our family everything we could have ever wanted and needed in life. Although you are no longer present with us physically, we are reminded of you daily and miss you greatly!

I have taken pride in being your partner in life but most importantly for being your wife. I love you with every part of me and I want you to rest now because you have done a phenomenal job! You have equipped us with everything we need mentally and physically to continue life's journey.

Love, CAROL



Tribute to Our Paw Paw...

We call you Paw Paw, but that name was short for so much more. You were our coach, our protector, and most of all our number one fan! Whether you were in the stands or in the audience, we could always look out and see that proud smile! Although you are no longer present, you will always be in our hearts. And if we ever feel like giving up, we can always hear your voice telling us to "come on"!

We love you Paw Paw and will continue to make you proud, as the future scholars and athletes with Jesse "Paw Paw" Hurst II bloodline.

Loving Tributes

Tribute to Our Daddy...

We are probably the only kids who could say that our every Saturday morning consisted of KCOH and yard work. Our Sundays started with church and ended with writing newspaper article summaries from the Houston Post. And we woke up on Monday mornings to a “whopping” \$2.50 monetary reward each week. Though we did not understand the method to your “madness”, as we got older, we realized you were teaching us the value of hard work, discipline, and the importance of making your OWN money. Texas Southern University was our second home. Every summer we attended the NYSP program and attended every Labor Day Classic game and TSU relays.

We are thankful for all you gave us- love, support, advice, our daddy-daughter conversations, endless laughter, celebrations, and so much more. Though these memories are now accompanied by a feeling of sadness, they will provide comfort as well.

You were proud of EVERYTHING we did; however, our biggest accomplishment was making you a “Paw Paw”. We were honored to watch you enjoy and spoil your grandkids, who never did any yard work and never received less than \$20 (but who’s counting).

Our love for you is infinite. If God gave us a choice, we would choose you as our father again, again, again, and again.

Always and forever, your daughters,

NICOLE, TRENA, & MONIKA





Active Pallbearers

Kenneth Brantley • Patrick Hervey • Earl Jameson
Marcus Keys • Ashton Taylor • Kenyatta Washington

Honorary Pallbearers

Johnny Benjamin • B. T. Williams, Jr. • Johnny Means
Jim Norwood • Jack Yates Senior High Class of 1959
Michael Young • Clyde Drexler • Dr. Demetrius Pearson
Ronnie Davis • TSU Athletics • U of H Black Alumni Association
USA & AAU Track & Field Staff • TSU Relays Staff

Expressions of Gratitude

We are deeply grateful for the kindness shown in the passing of our beloved father. We have been comforted by your visits, calls, flowers, prayers, and all thoughtful deeds during our bereavement.

THE FAMILY OF DR. JESSE H. HURST II

Final arrangements entrusted to

MCCOY & HARRISON FUNERAL HOME
4918 Martin Luther King Blvd.
Houston, Texas 77021

Interment

PARADISE NORTH CEMETERY
10401 West Montgomery Road
Houston, Texas 77088

In lieu of flowers...

monetary donations can be made to the TSU Relays in memory of Dr. Jesse H. Hurst II. Visit <https://tsusports.com/> (select TSU Relays link and complete Signage/Ad/Sponsorship Form). Questions? Contact Norma Hughes.

PROGRAMS PROVIDED BY WHEELER AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH