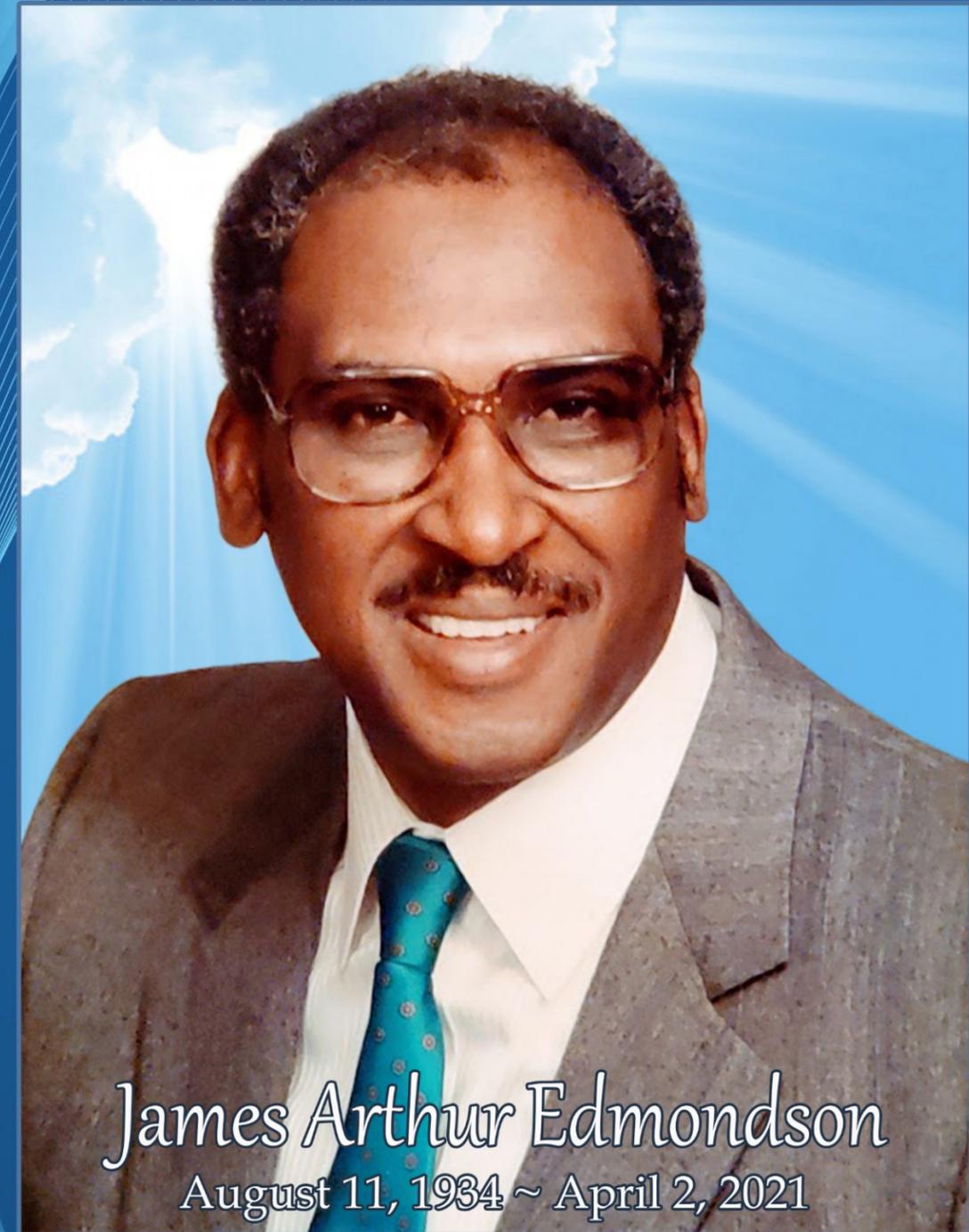


# Homegoing Celebration For



**James Arthur Edmondson**  
August 11, 1934 ~ April 2, 2021

~Service~

**SATURDAY, APRIL 17, 2021 ~ 11:00 AM**  
**MARLAN J. GARY FUNERAL HOME**  
**Chapel of Peace East**

5456 E. Livingston Avenue  
Columbus, Ohio

**Reverend Lynn Robinson, Officiating Minister**  
**Ms. Sylvia Edmondson-Holt, Eulogizing Minister**

## Acknowledgement

*The family of James A. Edmondson is extremely grateful for all the kindness displayed during this difficult time. Whether you sent a card, flowers, offered comforting word, lent a shoulder, whispered a prayer or just kept us in your thoughts, every deed of kindness was sincerely appreciated.*

## PALLBEARERS

Douglas Edmondson ▪ Gregory Heard  
Kevin Holt ▪ Robert Blackwell, Sr. ▪ Benjamin Nesbitt  
Stephen Talley ▪ James Talley Jr., Terrell Holt Sr.

## FLOWERBEARERS

(All nieces present)

Lauretta Talley-Thomas ▪ Stephanie Blackwell  
Kimberly Castaneda ▪ Tamara Fournier-Alsaada  
Tiffany Nesbitt Martin

## HONORARY FLOWERBEARERS

Estrellita Edmondson ▪ Fydencia Edmondson  
Donna Lisa Edmondson Thomas ▪ Lena Nesbitt

*A million times, I've needed you  
A million times, I've cried  
If love alone could of saved you,  
You never would have died*

*In life I loved you dearly;  
In death, I love you still.  
In my heart you hold a place,  
no one else can ever fill.*

*It broke my heart to lose you  
but you didn't go alone.  
Part of me went with you  
the day God took you home.*



To offer condolences to Edmondson Family,  
visit [www.TheChapelofPeace.com](http://www.TheChapelofPeace.com)

We Entrusted Our Loved One to the Caring Professionals At



MARLAN GARY FUNERAL HOME  
CHAPEL OF PEACE

NORTH: 2500 CLEVELAND AVENUE  
EAST: 5456 E. LIVINGSTON AVE  
614-267-8310  
[WWW.THECHAPELOFPEACE.COM](http://WWW.THECHAPELOFPEACE.COM)



# Obituary



Promise Land Heritage Association

## **Promise Land Heritage Association (PLHA)**

Presents this Resolution.

In recognition of the life and works of

## **James Arthur Edmondson**

*James Arthur Edmondson, 86, was born August 11, 1934, he entered eternal rest on April 2, 2021. James was born and raised in the historic Promise Land community near Charlotte, Tennessee where he received his early formal education at Promise Land Elementary School (a one-room schoolhouse now on the National Register of Historic Places) and Hampton High School, Dickson, Tennessee. As a young man he moved north and completed his education in Columbus Public Schools along with classes at The Ohio State University. He married his childhood sweetheart, the late Mary (Nesbitt) Edmondson. Together they had four children and shared 45 years of marriage. In Promise Land, James was a member of St. John Methodist Church; James, Mary and children were members of Asbury North United Methodist Church in Columbus.*

*James was known for being industrious; he often worked two jobs at the same time. Most of his employment was in public service, starting with positions at University Hospital and London Correctional Institute, ultimately retiring from a career with Columbus Recreation & Parks where he was the first African American promoted to Foreman I. His father Theo, grandfather Jim, and several uncles were recognized as "top" carpenters in Dickson County. James followed in their footsteps as an entrepreneur carpenter who was well-known in Columbus & Bexley for his attention to detail and perfection. He was also a real estate investor both in Columbus and in Tennessee. Before the age of 30, he purchased his first family home in Linden. Before the age of 40, he had a custom-built home and multiple investment properties.*

*James and Mary loved to cruise, travel, and spend time with friends and family. In later years, he especially enjoyed the guitar and playing with Jackson his 3-year-old great-grandson.*

*James is preceded in death by parents, Lizzie and Theodore Edmondson; wife, Mary Nesbitt Edmondson; infant son (twin to Bruce), Brian Edmondson; daughter, Dr. Ardis Edmondson-Holt; sister, Wilma Edmondson Talley; brothers, Lory and Douglas Edmondson; mother and father-in-law, Gracie and Ernest Nesbitt.*

*James leaves to cherish his memory, daughter, Cynthia Edmondson; son, Bruce Edmondson; devoted son-in-law, David Holt; devoted special daughter, Kathleen Lewis; grandchildren, Chaniqua Edmondson, Brian (Christina) Holt, and Lauren Holt; great grandson, Jackson Theodore Hopkins; sisters, S. Bernice Heard, Helen Hughes, and Sylvia Edmondson-Holt; brothers-in-law, Bobby Nesbitt and Revered Dr. Sokoto Fulani; sisters-in-law, Nancy (Michael) Winfield and Veronica Nesbitt; long time special friend, Dorothy Ragland and family; the entire Holt family; and a host of devoted nieces, nephews, cousins, Godchildren, and dear friends.*

*James' mother Lizzie was one of the founders of the Promise Land Community Club now known as the Promise Land Heritage Association (PLHA). James donated land, labor, funds and love to the preservation and improvement of this historic site. In lieu of flowers, donations are welcome to the Promise Land Heritage Association [www.promiselandtn.com](http://www.promiselandtn.com)*

*The Board of Directors, officers and membership of the Promise Land Heritage Association are one in offering both thanks and praise for the Lord's will to bring to close the earthly life of Elder Member, James Arthur Edmondson.*

*To his immediate and extended family, his children, grandchildren and great grand grandson, sister, relatives, friends and all others who mourn his absence, we offer heartfelt condolences.*

*Now Whereas: James born in the Promise Land Community to loving devoted parents in a Christian home, was the third oldest child of seven children. He spent his formative years in Promise Land where he was surrounded by many extended family members and friends.*

*Whereas: As a young man he left his home of origin and relocated to Columbus, Ohio. Equipped with skills and wise council from his parents, as well as an education from the Dickson County School System, he set out to make a life for himself and then his family of procreation.*

*Whereas: He married his childhood sweetheart, Mary Nesbitt. They became parents of four children. Unfortunately, they lost an infant son. Despite such life storms, his family lived a charmed life. Building a foundation of the faith of their ancestors, James and Mary withstood life challenges and successes. Their home was welcoming, filled with joy and love. They took pride in being hosts to their siblings, family, friends and out-of-town family.*

*Whereas: After the loss of his beloved wife James preserved meeting other challenges with gallantry, through his faith in God and the support and love of family and friends. Similarly, he responded to his many blessings with humility and gratitude.*

*Whereas: James has always demonstrated his love for his home of origin, the Promise Land Community. He was a life member and the Elder of the PLHA and was a benefactor to the organization.*

*Whereas: In response to his generosity, dedication and love, a park at the site was named in his and Mary's honor.*

*Now Whereas: In recognition to the life and works of our dearly beloved, Elder James Arthur, the Promise Land Heritage Association, declares submission of his body back to the earth as God has ordained it to be and while the Lord of eternity has received his soul, we offer our sincere thanks to God for allowing him the time spend with us on earth.*

*We offer this resolution as a pledge and token of our thoughts and intentions. Offered on this 17<sup>th</sup> day of April in the year Two-Thousand and Twenty-One.*

**Humbly Submitted by  
The Promise Land Heritage Association Board of Directors**

# Order of Celebration

Prelude	Music Ministry
Processional	Clergy
Officiant Welcome	Reverend Lynn Robinson, Family Friend <i>Asbury North United Methodist Church</i>
Scripture Readings	
Old Testament, Psalms 23:1-6	James Talley Jr, Nephew
New Testament, 1 Corinthians 15:50-57	Bethany James, Great-Niece
Vocal Selection	Briana Heard Knight, Great-Niece
Prayer	Robert Blackwell, Sr., Nephew
Resolutions & Condolences	Toka Nesbitt-Raney, Great Niece
Memories from the Grandchildren	Chaniqua Edmondson Brian (Christina) Holt Lauren Holt
Words of Comfort	Reverend Lynn Robinson
Reflections from Family	David Holt, Son-in-law Tammy Fournier-Alsaada, Niece
Vocal Selection	Tiffany Nesbitt Martin, Niece
Eulogy	Sylvia Edmondson-Holt, Sister
Vocal Selection	Tiffany Nesbitt Martin, Niece
Benediction	Reverend Dr. Sokoto Fulani, Brother-in-law
Recessional	Clergy, Family, and Friends

Interment  
GREEN LAWN CEMETERY

Repass  
VFW POST 9857  
2330 Stelzer Road • Columbus, OH 43219

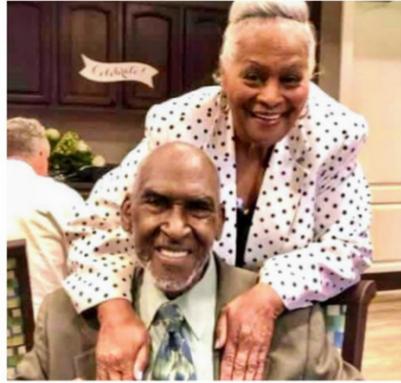
## ***Miss Me, But Let Me Go***

*When I come to the end of the road  
And the sun has set for me,  
I want no rites in a gloom filled room  
Why cry for a soul set free!*

*Miss me a little, but not for long,  
And not with your head bowed low.  
Remember the love we once shared,  
Miss me but let me go!*

*For this a journey we all must take,  
And each must go alone;  
It's all a part of the master's plan  
A step on the road to home.*

*When you are lonely and sick of heart  
Go to the friends we know,  
And bury your sorrows in doing good deeds,  
Miss me but let me go.*



**James and Mary Nesbitt / Edmondson Park**  
In Memory of: Theodore and Lizzie Edmondson, Ernest and Gracie Nesbitt, and Charlie Nesbitt.

