



Charles Earls

June 24, 1965 - June 1, 2022

Charles Earls – Not a Self-Made Man

On Thursday, June 24, 1965, Charles Dean Earls made his debut and his journey in this natural world began. He was the third of three children and thus ‘The Baby Brother’. He was born to Earnest & Catherine Earls at what was known then as Hall County Hospital in Gainesville, Georgia. He grew up in the Gainesville community that is fondly known as “Newtown” – a community that was always near and dear to his heart, and forever ingrained as a part of his everyday life. He was blessed with an infectious smile and a distinct magnetic personality that he wore with both humility and an appropriate measure of confidence.

Charles grew up in the Methodist Faith attending both his Mom’s (Pleasant Hill United Methodist Church in Gillsville, GA) and Dad’s (Hickory Grove Christian Methodist Church in Dahlonega, GA) houses of worship. In December 1980, at the age of 15, while attending weekly bible studies hosted by his uncle, Pastor Joseph C. Earls, he chose to surrender his life to Christ.

Charles’ parents were both history makers. His father, Earnest Earls, Sr., as one of the first two African American police officers with the Gainesville Police Department retiring with a nearly 40-year career in law enforcement. His mom, Catherine Earls, was the first African American Bookmobile Librarian in Hall County.

Charles was educated in the Gainesville City School system and spent a significant amount of time at the Gainesville Boys Club playing basketball with people who ended up being among his lifelong community of friends. His mom, who was a basketball player herself in high school is the one who taught Charles the game.

He played basketball with the Gainesville High School Red Elephants Varsity Men's team achieving such accomplishments as 403 rebounds during his senior year alone, over 800 rebounds in his career, and over eleven hundred points over his varsity experience. He couldn't be guarded and was phenomenal on the floor! He was noted as the "key to success" on his team, the ultimate player that could do it all. His high school athletic career culminated in back-to-back winning seasons in State AAA Basketball (1983 and 1984). Charles went on to continue to hone his talent at the collegiate level with a full athletic scholarship to Georgia Southern University earning a baccalaureate degree in Education in 1989. At Georgia Southern he became a member of the Omicron Phi Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.

After college, Charles opted to exercise several international basketball opportunities, which included playing with teams in Milan, Italy, Barcelona, Spain and Beijing, China. Opting to return to the U.S. and his Georgia roots Charles pivoted, stepping in his dad's zone in law enforcement (Investigations, State Corrections and Bail Bonding). While working in the state penal system, he was able to design and implement a physical education program for the detainees. After nearly a decade in this field Charles found his true gift to be in mentoring youth in preparation for next level athletics. He envisioned working with young people to prevent them from getting involved in situations and circumstances that would lead to losing their legal rights. He went in full pursuit of that goal and back to his love for the game of basketball.

In 2000, Charles went full-on into a career path that he had been born for – Athletic Administration and Sports Management. Center Court Sports & Fitness was a vision that was birthed into reality in Stone Mountain. He took the 55,000 square foot facility and turned it into a basketball / sports training facility that operated 24/7. Center Court offered gym memberships, aerobics, boxing, martial arts, weightlifting and even a snack bar! Talk about forward thinking! During this time, he also worked as a sports agent representing more than 20 athletes and entertainers. Training and development services were provided for NBA, NFL, and MLB players. More than 400 athletes went on to colleges and universities across the country.

In 2015, he was so intrigued by an opportunity that he made yet another pivot from consistent travel to more community-based youth-focused service. He took the position of Recreational, Sports & Fitness Director at Rehoboth Baptist Church in Tucker, GA where he was back to foundational, programmatic, intentional work that targeted the health and welfare of individuals at every age which included a diverse population of recreational sports, fitness programs and activities which included hiking, camping, archery, skeet shooting, cardio, aerobics, and all things ball! In addition to these activities, he was charged to lead an After School program for at-risk boys and girls. A program was crafted teaching Law & Justice, Math & English, Life Skills and Basketball Training, along with human trafficking awareness, CPR, First Aid and AED training - sponsored by the USDOJ. Charles found great passion for this work and compassion for all he was blessed to encounter. He was ready, able and more than willing to serve a community like the one he grew up in. A community that had become very much a part of the man he had become. A community like “Newtown” in his hometown. He counted his experience at Rehoboth a gift and a blessing so much so that he joined the church and was baptized by Pastor Troy Bush.

In addition to Charles' passion and call to serve he had some very particular past-times that he had a great affinity for. His multipotentiality resulted from his natural inclination to pursue excellence and hone his skill and expertise in several vocations. Just a few of those hobbies (alter egos) included Golfer, Master Chef (both in the kitchen and outdoor grill), Auto Aficionado and Carpenter. Charles was the recipient of many auspicious awards over the course of his life. Just a few weeks ago (April 2022) Charles was honored as an inductee of the Gainesville High School Athletic Hall of Fame along with his beloved team members of the 1983 & 1984 Gainesville High Men's Basketball team. That GHS team achieved back-to-back State Championships – an amazing feat that had not been achieved before - nor since then repeated.

Charles was not a self-made man. Nor was he a simple product of any environment. He was a student and a steward of the Life Journey. He recognized early on that there was always something to learn and that we have responsibility for ourselves and others that must be both accepted and consistently exercised. He understood that he had both a path and a purpose and just enough faith to walk in his.

While considered an ultimate athlete's athlete, for him there was nothing more important than faith and family, and he dearly loved being "Dad" to his children. He ran his race, finished his course in this natural world on Wednesday, June 1 and was traded to Heaven. The solid bond of love he made and nurtured with his children will never be broken and remain a part of them. He left everything on the court. Well done ... good and faithful servant! Well done.

Charles was preceded in death by his grandparents, Reno and Jessie Earls and John & Essie Buffington, parents, Earnest E. and Catherine B. Earls, and his eldest daughter, Chelsea Danielle Earls. He leaves the memories of his

unlimited love, commitment, integrity, moral character, wisdom and faith to his children, Correy Earls, Eboni (Raymond) LaRue, Cortnei Earls, Coy Earls and Coby Earls. He also leaves to cherish his memories his siblings: Lisa Earls and Gene Earls and Nieces and Nephews: Dr. Asha Bolton, Ari Waller, Ezaunie Earls and Emekka Earls, Aunts: Sylvia Earls and Velma Earls, and a host of endeared family and friends and across the globe.

<https://www.facebook.com/WimberlyFuneralHome/>

Cemetery Details

Hickory Grove Cemetery

69 Hickory Grove Rd
Dahlonega, GA 30533

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 8. 12:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wimberly Funeral Home
325 Summitt St SE
Gainesville, GA 30501
(770) 536-3251
info@wimberlyjackson.com
<https://www.wimberlyjacksonfuneralhome.com>

Service

JUN 9. 1:30 PM (ET)

Rehoboth Baptist Church
2997 Lawrenceville Hwy
Tucker, GA 30084

Tribute Wall



“ *Charles Earls*

October 22, 2023 at 04:48 PM



“ *Wanda Tabor-Jenkins lit a candle in memory of Charles Earls*



Wanda Tabor-Jenkins - September 27, 2022 at 02:46 PM



“ *Coach Charles was a wonderfully respected man and coach. He trained my daughter and many of her friends. He gave them each the time they needed and never charged them. He was always there if they needed him outside of sports. I am truly blessed that my daughter had a man like Coach Charles in her life. He will forever be remembered as a trusted friend and advisor.*



The Wright Family

Debra Wright - June 13, 2022 at 02:29 PM

WP

“ *Wilma Parker lit a candle in memory of Charles Earls*



Wilma Parker - June 10, 2022 at 03:37 PM

CH

“ *Candace Hudson lit a candle in memory of Charles Earls*



Candace Hudson - June 10, 2022 at 12:48 PM

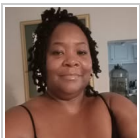
RT

“ *My condolences to his Family and Friends*

*Robin Tanner and Family
Gainesville Ga and Killeen TX*



Robin Tanner - June 10, 2022 at 08:42 AM



“ *Stephanie Johnson lit a candle in memory of Charles Earls*



Stephanie Johnson - June 09, 2022 at 01:58 PM



RIP Charles Earls...one of Gainesville's finest to ever play the game of basketball.

Stephanie Johnson - June 09, 2022 at 02:00 PM

CW

“ *Cleo Williams lit a candle in memory of Charles Earls*



Cleo Williams - June 09, 2022 at 01:37 PM

WL

“ *To Lisa & family, I worked with your Dad at HCSD & remember you children as you grew up. So sad for your loss. He will be missed by many.*
Willard & Margaret Langdon

willard Langdon - June 09, 2022 at 12:15 PM

DJ

My Nupe 🙏❤️👊🏀

David E. Palmer Jr. - July 20, 2022 at 03:32 PM

KR

“ *Karen Robbins lit a candle in memory of Charles Earls*



Karen Robbins - June 08, 2022 at 09:51 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Charles Earls.*



June 08, 2022 at 06:19 PM



“ *What a great asset to the Gainesville community. I was lucky to grow up with Charles and enjoyed seeing him on the few occasions in our later years. My thoughts and prayers are with his family.*

Joe Turner

Joe Turner - June 08, 2022 at 05:46 PM



“ *Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Charles Earls.*



June 08, 2022 at 03:23 PM



“ *I still can't believe you're gone. Charles you meant the world to me and my kids. Thank you for all the memories. I will never forget you. I miss you so much. 💕 🥺*

Christine Merridith - June 08, 2022 at 03:15 PM

CM

“ *Christine Merridith lit a candle in memory of Charles Earls*



Christine Merridith - June 08, 2022 at 03:12 PM

CN

“ *Charlene & Avery Niles lit a candle in memory of Charles Earls*



Charlene & Avery Niles - June 08, 2022 at 01:14 PM

WF

“ *With Love, your Tutton CDJR Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Charles Earls.*



With Love, your Tutton CDJR Family - June 08, 2022 at 12:26 PM

SH

“ *Stacy Davidson and Arielle Holloway purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Charles Earls.*



Stacy Davidson and Arielle Holloway - June 08, 2022 at 12:02 AM

EC

“ With our deepest sympathy thinking of the family during these difficult times and sending love .Elbert County Blue Basketball Team Class of 1983



Evelyn Cade - June 07, 2022 at 09:52 PM

LS

“ You will be truly missed 😭 words can't describe the pain I'm in right now!!!! Rest in peace!!!! You will always be in my heart ❤️💙



LaToya Smith - June 07, 2022 at 05:04 PM

HB

“ The Brother of Kappa Alpha Psi will truly miss you my brother.



Herman Barron - June 07, 2022 at 04:24 PM



“ Shelia Williams lit a candle in memory of Charles Earls



Shelia Williams - June 07, 2022 at 02:42 PM



“ *Shelia Williams sent a virtual gift in memory of Charles Earls*



Shelia Williams - June 07, 2022 at 02:41 PM

TB

This was so beautifully written. What a life well lived. The things he saw the things he did to protect those that needed protection and direction. Thank you for writing this so we could follow his beautiful life. He was too young to go, but I know the Lord is well pleased and has plans for such a fine fella.

Teri L Brock - June 08, 2022 at 09:06 AM



“ *Shelia Williams sent a virtual gift in memory of Charles Earls*



Shelia Williams - June 07, 2022 at 02:41 PM



“ *Shelia Williams sent a virtual gift in memory of Charles Earls*



Shelia Williams - June 07, 2022 at 02:38 PM



“ *Shelia Williams sent a virtual gift in memory of Charles Earls*



Shelia Williams - June 07, 2022 at 02:38 PM



“ *Stephanie Daniel sent a virtual gift in memory of Charles Earls*



Stephanie Daniel - June 07, 2022 at 02:09 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Charles Earls.*



June 07, 2022 at 12:13 PM



“ *Georgia Southern Nupes purchased the Lily and Rose Tribute Spray for the family of Charles Earls.*



Georgia Southern Nupes - June 07, 2022 at 11:38 AM

Mika Young

“ Sending our condolences to the Earl's family. May The Lord grant you All Strength and Comfort during the passing of your loved one. When we think of Charles we think of GHS Boys Basketball Team in the 80's who could FORGET!! REST EASY C.E.



Mika Young - June 06, 2022 at 05:49 PM



“ Dorothy Bolden sent a virtual gift in memory of Charles Earls



Dorothy Bolden - June 06, 2022 at 03:34 PM

TR

“ GOD BLESS YOU AND YOUR FAMILY R.I.P MY BROTHER TROY, SHARON,NATOYIA, JOSH RANDOLPH

TROY RANDOLPH - June 06, 2022 at 02:02 PM

MB

“ Mark Burris lit a candle in memory of Charles Earls



Mark Burris - June 06, 2022 at 01:49 PM



“ *Elaine Maxey lit a candle in memory of Charles Earls*



Elaine Maxey - June 06, 2022 at 10:52 AM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Charles Earls.*



June 06, 2022 at 10:49 AM



“ *Pamela Millsap lit a candle in memory of Charles Earls*



Pamela Millsap - June 06, 2022 at 08:38 AM



“ *Beverly Tate Stone lit a candle in memory of Charles Earls*



Beverly Tate Stone - June 06, 2022 at 07:47 AM

SD

“ Charles you touched so many lives and you gave of yourself to support the young people all around you and you will live forever in our hearts 🥹 RIP my friend

Sarah Davis - June 05, 2022 at 11:28 PM



“ Praying for the Earls Family❤️

Cynetia Banks - June 05, 2022 at 10:14 PM

DS

“ Dorethia Styles lit a candle in memory of Charles Earls



Dorethia Styles - June 05, 2022 at 08:31 PM

JM

“ Sending Love and Prayers to the family 🙏❤️



Joyce Mitchell - June 05, 2022 at 06:23 PM

BW

“ *Bryan Wells sent a virtual gift in memory of Charles Earls*



Bryan Wells - June 05, 2022 at 05:18 PM

BW

“ *Bryan Wells sent a virtual gift in memory of Charles Earls*



Bryan Wells - June 05, 2022 at 05:18 PM

SD

“ *Stephanie Daniel sent a virtual gift in memory of Charles Earls*



Stephanie Daniel - June 05, 2022 at 01:58 PM

CS

“ ❤️❤️❤️



Chasity Sanders - June 05, 2022 at 12:16 AM

DR

“ *Deanna Burris- Rucker lit a candle in memory of Charles Earls*



Deanna Burris- Rucker - June 04, 2022 at 10:59 PM

KA

“ *Kelly Arthur sent a virtual gift in memory of Charles Earls*



Kelly Arthur - June 04, 2022 at 09:19 PM

KA

“ *Kelly Arthur sent a virtual gift in memory of Charles Earls*



Kelly Arthur - June 04, 2022 at 09:18 PM

KA

“ *Kelly Arthur sent a virtual gift in memory of Charles Earls*



Kelly Arthur - June 04, 2022 at 09:17 PM

JH

“ Praying for the family. May God grant you peace and comfort. Joy Randolph Holeman

Joy Randolph Holeman - June 04, 2022 at 08:47 PM

EB

“ Elisa Bonds-Ratliff sent a virtual gift in memory of Charles Earls



Elisa Bonds-Ratliff - June 04, 2022 at 07:34 PM

MC

“ Sending all my Love, Prayers, Sympathy & Condolences, I will cherish the memories ❤️



Monique R Courts - June 04, 2022 at 02:40 PM

GE

“ Gene Earls lit a candle in memory of Charles Earls



Gene Earls - June 04, 2022 at 02:30 PM

BW

Gene, I'm so sorry for your loss.... please share my sentiments and condolences with your sister, Lisa.... God Bless
Bryan D Wells

Bryan Wells - June 05, 2022 at 05:16 PM

SD

“ *Susan Dukes sent a virtual gift in memory of Charles Earls*



susan dukes - June 04, 2022 at 12:32 PM

GM

“ *Gloria Kesler Maddox sent a virtual gift in memory of Charles Earls*



Gloria Kesler Maddox - June 04, 2022 at 12:12 PM

GM

“ *Gloria Kesler Maddox sent a virtual gift in memory of Charles Earls*



Gloria Kesler Maddox - June 04, 2022 at 12:12 PM

CD

“ *Our deepest sympathy to the family. Lit a candle in honor of Charles. May he rest in comfort and peace.*



Coleman Dixon - June 04, 2022 at 10:50 AM

KC

“ *Kimberly Carithers sent a virtual gift in memory of Charles Earls*



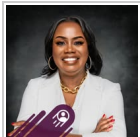
Kimberly Carithers - June 04, 2022 at 10:28 AM

SD

“ *Susan Dukes lit a candle in memory of Charles Earls*



susan dukes - June 04, 2022 at 09:25 AM



“ *Angela Mixon lit a candle in memory of Charles Earls*



Angela Mixon - June 04, 2022 at 06:39 AM

CS

“ *Camille Stephens lit a candle in memory of Charles Earls*



Camille Stephens - June 04, 2022 at 04:57 AM

PH

“ *Paulette Hendrix lit a candle in memory of Charles Earls*



Paulette Hendrix - June 03, 2022 at 08:42 PM

MH

“ *Melinda Hutchins sent a virtual gift in memory of Charles Earls*



Melinda Hutchins - June 03, 2022 at 08:14 PM

MH

“ *Melinda Hutchins sent a virtual gift in memory of Charles Earls*



Melinda Hutchins - June 03, 2022 at 08:14 PM

CC

“ Cheryl Castleberry lit a candle in memory of Charles Earls



Cheryl Castleberry - June 03, 2022 at 07:54 PM

MH

“ Minister Phyllis Hollis-Smith sent a virtual gift in memory of Charles Earls



Minister Phyllis Hollis-Smith - June 03, 2022 at 05:52 PM

SD

“ Stephanie Daniel lit a candle in memory of Charles Earls



Stephanie Daniel - June 03, 2022 at 05:27 PM

DB

“ DOROTHY BOLDEN sent a virtual gift in memory of Charles Earls



DOROTHY BOLDEN - June 03, 2022 at 03:24 PM

DW

“ *Our condolences go out to the family*

Diane Watkins - June 03, 2022 at 01:49 PM