

Thanksgiving Service for the life of



**Elvern Christian Ebanks**  
**January 13, 1952 - June 15, 2021**

**Bodden Funeral Home**  
**Walkers Road**  
**George Town, Grand Cayman**

**Wednesday July 7, 2021**  
**3pm**

**Officiating Minister**  
**Pastor Martin Royer**

**Interment**  
**Boatswain Bay Cemetery**

## Order of Service

Opening Remarks .....	Pastor Martin Royer
Opening Prayer .....	Pastor Martin Royer
Hymn .....	How Great Thou Art
Scripture Reading .....	Psalm 23 (Elvern's Favourite)
Tributes.....	
Sermon .....	Pastor Martin Royer
Prayer .....	Pastor Martin Royer
Recessional Hymn .....	Because He Lives

### How Great Thou Art

O LORD my God! When I in awesome wonder  
Consider all the works Thy hand hath made;  
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,  
Thy power throughout the universe displayed.

#### Refrain

Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee,  
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to Thee,  
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!

When through the woods and forest glades I wander  
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;  
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur,  
And hear the brook, and feel the gentle breeze:

And when I think that God, His Son not sparing,  
Sent Him to die - I scarce can take it in:  
That on the Cross, my burden gladly bearing,  
He bled and died to take away my sin:

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation  
And take me home - what joy shall fill my heart!  
Then shall I bow in humble adoration,  
And there proclaim, my God how great Thou art

### Because He Lives

God sent His son, they called Him Jesus;  
He came to love, heal and forgive;  
He lived and died to buy my pardon,  
An empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives!

#### Refrain

Because He lives, I can face tomorrow,  
Because He lives, all fear is gone;  
Because I know He holds the future,  
And life is worth the living,  
Just because He lives!

How sweet to hold a newborn baby,  
And feel the pride and joy he gives;  
But greater still the calm assurance:  
This child can face uncertain days because He Lives!

And then one day, I'll cross the river,  
I'll fight life's final war with pain;  
And then, as death gives way to victory,  
I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know He lives!

## Tribute to my ever-loving dad

Gone too soon! Only God knows how I felt when my mom told me of your passing, heaven knows I will be missing you when I return to Grand Cayman.

Being away, trying to be the man you always want me to be, has taken so much of our time, never the less I am thankful for the special time we had together during the times when I was small and even when you were in your retirement home.

Memories! Oh, what great memories, your smile when I visited you at your home, putting up with my many short visits, your patience and understanding when I read your bible verses to you. Your comforting words and desired to see me succeed, Thanks a million, I am now a certify health and social care assistant. In your simple way you impact my world.

Dad, I was hoping to share my many achievements in the UK with you, but the good Lord call you home before I returned. You had left a big void in my life but I am sure you are in a better place where you are pain free and you are love endlessly.

I know my life will never be the same, love leaves a memory, no one can STEAL but death leaves a memory no one can HEAL.

Dad, word cannot express the way I feel in my heart knowing you will not be here anymore, knowing I am so far never to say GOODBY. I won't say Good-by, I will remember you the way you were when we took our last selfie before I left for England, you said Peter! I will miss you but remember daddy love you. I will simply say rest well dad, I love you with my whole heart and I know you will always be watching over me.

Sleep well Dad, until we meet again in Gods Kingdom.

Your ever-love son

## Tributes

From Kay Powery (Sister)

Elvern Christian Ebanks was born on January 13, 1952 to Merdine and Curwood Ebanks (better known as Peter) of West Bay, Grand Cayman. He was the 3rd of 4 children; we had a younger brother Tony, and our sister Ciscley who both preceded him in death a few years ago. Thanks to my Lord and Savior Jesus, he sees fit to let me live.

My brother was, for greater part of his life, a quiet man and a family man. He was married with one son Peter Ebanks.

He was hardworking, having worked in the hotel industry for years as well as other places. The last place he worked at was with the Department of Environmental Health keeping the seven-mile beach clean. He always did a great job and took pride in his work.

God saw it fit to take him home on June 15, 2021. He loved the Lord very much, and I never heard him complain about anything on any of our visits. We love you my brother and we always will.

From CEO The Pines Retirement Home, Lynda C. Mitchell

It is my honour to give tribute to the life of one of the gentlest men I have ever known. I met Elvern October 2012, and to be frank, I was a bit frightened. Little did I know at that time, Elvern was suffering with Parkinson's Disease which affected his equilibrium.

At that meeting, Elvern charged at me full steam ahead. I caught him by his wrist and poor Ms. Margaret "the MUM" ran over to protect her son and then asked Elvern to slow down. I witnessed Elvern charging at other women too. He thought that every woman that entered through the doors of The Pines was absolutely gorgeous. From that point in time Elvern became one of my favorite residents.

Elvern was not a person to be ignored. He had his way of summoning you to his seat. Once you got there, he would tell you how much he loved you and how beautiful you were. He even asked me one day for a date. I would just tell him that I loved him too.

We have two shih tzu dogs that reside at The Pines Retirement Home. Elvern took a liking to the female dog, Bella. Bella also took a liking to Elvern as he would often slip and feed her scraps from his plate. Each time Bella would enter the Day Room, she would sniff out Elvern and beg for scraps whether he was at the table or not.

As you will hear throughout these Tributes, Elvern was a kind man with a gentle soul. He was not just a resident at The Pines, he was also a friend, a son, a father, a brother, and one who loved the Lord, and Ms. Margaret. The loss of a good friend is not about ways to say Goodbye; but a way to say so long. Thanks be to God for allowing our paths to cross. May his soul rest in peace.

From Ms. Margaret Lue Pines Retirement Home  
Let all that you do be in Love. 1 Corinthians 16:14

The world has lost a precious life. Someone so special will not be forgotten. Elvern's memory will never pass away, he will live in our hearts always. Elvern loved the Lord and loved reading the Bible. He would often pray for you when he knew your name and would always say Good Morning. We will miss his courage and strength.

May God's love and peace be with Elvern's family and lift you up.

This is my command, love each other. John 15:17

From the Staff of the Pines Retirement Home

We are delighted to pay tribute to Mr. Elvern Christian Ebanks, who has left us with many precious memories.

We remember his laughter and his constant love for food, which he was often found in the kitchenette on the second floor snatching a snack. We remember his love and concern for our staff by asking them "you eat yet" and even offering his food to some of us. However, he was more overly concerned for our female staff, especially those who had a rather large abdominal circumference, by asking them "You pregnant", and telling them what they should and should not do.

Most notably, we remember his love for Christ, which was evident in him reading his Bible, even though falling asleep in the midst of his readings. His love for Christ was also seen with him singing hymns and praying, which he frequently offered for the staff.

We will miss Elvern, but he will always remain in our hearts.



Pines resident Elvern Ebanks decorates a pot containing basil.



Kids with Hearts and volunteers work with seniors. - PHOTOS: JEWEL LEVY

# Kids bring pots of smiles to Pines

**JEWEL LEVY**

[jewel@cfp.ky](mailto:jewel@cfp.ky)

The residents at Pines Retirement Home were all smiles on Friday.

Schoolchildren from Hope Academy, involved in the "Kids with Hearts" club, spent the morning participating in arts activities with seniors.

Armed with garden pots

containing fresh basil, paints and packages of spaghetti for decoration, the children assisted seniors in painting colour designs on pots to be presented on Father's Day.

"It is always good to see the children," said Pines resident Elvern Ebanks. "The plants are beautiful and smell wonderful. I love plants, especially those used for food like basil, spinach and mint."

"It's nice to come and visit the elderly, it makes me very happy to see their smiling faces and I hope we make them happy," said

young Ollie Bishop.

Art supplies for the activities were provided by Foreshore. "The company is pleased to be a part of the variety of activities the kids do at the Pines Home," said Polly Pickerins, a Foreshore representative. "It is a fun way for the children and seniors to interact and learn about art."

Kids with Hearts is planning a nautical theme day at the Pines. Anyone interested in sponsoring the event with arts and crafts materials may contact [pamela@thewebsterhouse.com](mailto:pamela@thewebsterhouse.com).





DAD-  
you WORKED So hard



## Graveside Service

Opening Remarks .....	Pastor Martin Royer
Prayer .....	Pastor Martin Royer
Hymn .....	Farther Along
Committal .....	Pastor Martin Royer
Hymns	

### Farther Along

Tempted and tried, we're oft made to wonder  
Why it should be thus all the day long;  
While there are others living about us,  
Never molested, though in the wrong.

#### Refrain:

Farther along we'll know more about it,  
Farther along we'll understand why;  
Cheer up, my brother, live in the sunshine,  
We'll understand it all by and by.

Sometimes I wonder why I must suffer,  
Go in the rain, the cold, and the snow,  
When there are many living in comfort,  
Giving no heed to all I can do.

Tempted and tried, how often we question  
Why we must suffer year after year,  
Being accused by those of our loved ones,  
E'en though we've walked in God's holy fear.

Often when death has taken our loved ones,  
Leaving our home so lone and so drear,  
Then do we wonder why others prosper,  
Living so wicked year after year.

"Faithful till death," saith our loving Master;

Short is our time to labor and wait;

Then will our toiling seem to be nothing,  
When we shall pass the heavenly gate.

### When we all get to Heaven

Sing the wondrous love of Jesus,  
Sing His mercy and His grace;  
In the mansions bright and blessed  
He'll prepare for us a place.

#### Refrain:

When we all get to heaven,  
What a day of rejoicing that will be!  
When we all see Jesus,  
We'll sing and shout the victory!

While we walk the pilgrim pathway,  
Clouds will overspread the sky;  
But when trav'ling days are over,  
Not a shadow, not a sigh.

Let us then be true and faithful,  
Trusting, serving every day;  
Just one glimpse of Him in glory  
Will the toils of life repay.

Onward to the prize before us!  
Soon His beauty we'll behold;  
Soon the pearly gates will open;  
We shall tread the streets of gold.

### I'll Fly Away

Some glad morning when this life is o'er,  
I'll fly away;  
To a home on God's celestial shore,  
I'll fly away (I'll fly away).

#### Refrain:

I'll fly away, Oh Glory  
I'll fly away; (in the morning)  
When I die, Hallelujah, by and by,  
I'll fly away (I'll fly away).

When the shadows of this life have gone,  
I'll fly away;  
Like a bird from prison bars has flown,  
I'll fly away (I'll fly away)

Just a few more weary days and then,  
I'll fly away;  
To a land where joy shall never end,  
I'll fly away (I'll fly away)