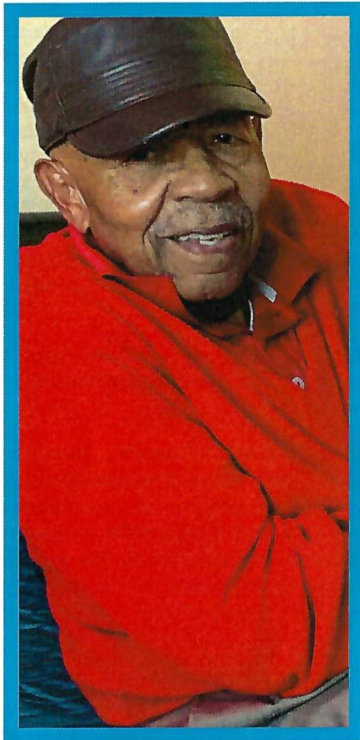


## Acknowledgements

On behalf of the Ezell H. McKinnon Family, thank you for your boundless demonstrations of love and support during our time of bereavement. Your endless kindness and your presence have given us strength.



### The Ezell H. McKinnon Family

The Committal Service

Pending at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery

Rev. Nathaniel Taylor, Jr. - Officiant

Opening Prayer

Scripture

Military Honors

The Committal

Remarks ~ Carter Taylor Williams Mortuary, Incorporated

Benediction

## HONORING THE LIFE OF Ezell Haynes McKinnon



Sunrise  
May 22, 1935

Sunset  
January 23, 2023

10:00 a.m.

Saturday, February 4, 2023

**Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church**

225 North Swiss Street

San Antonio, Texas 78202

**The Reverend Dr. Melvin Wilson, Host Pastor**

**The Reverend Nathaniel Taylor, Jr., Officiant**



**The Reverend Dr. Lemelle Taylor, Eulogist**  
**Butler African Methodist Episcopal Church, Pastor**

## Order of Service

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Prelude   | Musicians   |
| Processional "The Battle Hymn of Republic" by Julia Ward Howe | Congregation  |
| The Prayer of Comfort   | Rev. Douglas Lanier Randle<br>Pastor of Bethany Missionary Baptist Church                     |
| Old Testament Reading ~ Psalm 23                              | Rev. Dawarren Ennis<br>Associate Minister of Second Baptist Church                            |
| New Testament Reading ~ John 14:1-7, 27                       | Rev. Geraldine M. Galloway<br>Associate Minister of Butler African Methodist Episcopal Church |
| Music   | Butler African Methodist Episcopal Church Praise Team   |
| Resolutions   | Bro. Donald O. Ebert<br>Butler African Methodist Episcopal Church                             |

### REFLECTIONS & ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

|                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Representing His JROTC years     | Lieutenant Colonel, Retired Jerry Cheatham  |
| Representing The Family          | Dr. Renita Laury  |
| Clergy Representative            | Rev. Dr. Michael Angelo Jolla<br>Pastor of the "Exciting" West End Baptist Church |
| Remarks (please limit to 2 mins) | Family & Friends  |
| The Solo                         | Rev. Nicole S. Johnson  |

### THE EULOGY

#### "The Transformation of a Good Soldier"

2. Timothy 2:1-4; NIV

Rev. Dr. Lemelle Taylor

Pastor of Butler African Methodist Episcopal Church

|                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| Closing Prayer & Benediction | Rev. Ronson C. Hall<br>Pastor of True Light Christian Fellowship |
|------------------------------|--|

The Recessional "Onward, Christian Soldiers by Arthur Sullivan

The Committal Service is at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery pending

## EZELL HAYNES McKINNON



Ezell Haynes McKinnon was born in Houston, TX. May 22, 1935. He was the first son born to the late John McKinnon and the late Letha Callies - McKinnon. Ezell affectionately called "Hank", "Eazy", "Mac", or "First Sgt" by his friends and family, graduated from Phillis Wheatley High School of San Antonio, Texas in 1943; where he enjoyed being in the band. Upon graduation, he entered the United States Army. Coming from a family that was deeply rooted in the church and coming from a family with strong work ethics, Ezell worked hard in the army, rising to the ranks of First Sargent (E8). Ezell often stated that his success in the Army was because he knew that his family had high expectations

and that "I could not come home a failure or Big Mother (his grandmother who was very instrumental in raising him) would have had torn up my rear end". Along with the mentorship of his aunts and uncles, he achieved great success while serving.

Ezell served twenty-six years in the Army. Upon retiring from Ft. Bliss, TX., he made his home in El Paso, TX. Working as a JROTC Instructor for eleven years in the El Paso ISD. He remained in El Paso until he married Bennie Marie in 1990.

Ezell began working for Northeast ISD as a JROTC Instructor. During his eleven-year tenure at Roosevelt HS JROTC grew from a mere district organization to a top state and national performer in academic, drill, and rifle competitions. His combined teams won numerous state skills meets, including an astonishing 45-event consecutive winning streak. He guided the Rough Rider Marksmanship team to multiple successes including 17 nationals. Over an unprecedented seven years, they won 10 national championships and two runner – up titles. They brought home so many awards that the campus had to build a storage just to store their trophies. Instructors from across the country videoed the Roughriders and used these tapes to train their teams.

On November 11, 2012, retired 1st Sgt. McKinnon was recognized for his professionalism, loyalty, and leadership. Sacrifices, valor and dedication to hundreds of students in the naming and dedication of the Roosevelt High School JROTC Building which is named the Rose – McKinnon Leadership Building. He later was asked to help develop the JROTC program at the newly opened Ronald Reagan High School in the same district, which is where he retired.

When Ezell retired he returned to Northeast ISD in 2001 as a Bus Driver. He continued to serve in his capacity until a knee injury made it too difficult to continue this career.

Ezell served his church faithfully. He was a founding member of Chosen Generation Baptist Church where he was ordained as a Deacon and the Treasurer under Rev. Nathaniel Taylor, Jr. He served as a deacon at the "Exciting" West End Baptist Church under Rev. Dr. Michael A. Jolla, and as a Trustee and recently as a Steward at Butler AMEC. He also was a faithful member of the Male Chorus in churches that he attended.

Ezell is survived by his wife, Bennie, of 32 years, his children, Ezell McKinnon, Jr, and Reene Spence, his stepchildren, Eddie Laury, Dr. Renita Laury, Craig Laury (Shayna) and Sheree Hill, his brother, John McKinnon (Washington, DC), his sisters, Ermazelle Briscoe (Houston, TX), Valesa Taylor and Theresa Henry (Houston, TX). His aunt, Rozella Miex (San Diego, CA), his uncle Dr. Bennie L. Callies (Houston, TX), his grandchildren, Rashad Spence, Sade Spence, Miah Hill, Kara Hill, Chelsea Laury, Craig Laury, Jr., and a host of cousins. His mother – in-law, Minnie Applewhite, along with a host of cherished friends, church members, classmates, and neighbors. He is preceded in death by his brothers, Tommy Earl Taylor and Hebert L. Jackson.