



Earl Baskin

November 7, 1934 - July 28, 2025

The day GOD created Earl Baskin was a special day indeed, one touched by divine joy and destined for greatness. It's as if GOD took His time, carefully crafting every detail, knowing the world would need someone just like Earl. From the start, he carried a light that brightened every room, a kindness that lifted hearts, and a spirit rooted in faith, love, and purpose. GOD didn't just create a man that day...He sent a special gift to the Baskin Family!

Earl Baskin, a devoted husband, patriarch, brother, father, grandfather, uncle, cousin and friend. Passed away peacefully on July 28, 2025, at the age of 90. He was born on November 7, 1934, in Vaiden, Mississippi, to the late George Ira and Mary Ella Baskin. He was the third child of 11 siblings. He had many names, "Early Bird", "The Duke" BIG E" "Joe" and "Champ".

Earl developed a love for Christ at an early age. He joined Hazel Green Baptist Church in Vaiden, MS. He was also a loyal member of Mt. Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church in Chicago, IL. He later joined Southside Worship Center, under the stewardship of Bishop Spencer Jones, and presently under the leadership of Pastor Titus Lee, and served as a faithful Usher on the Usher Board, the Men's Ministry, the Trustee Board, the Royal Rangers (ministry for boys) and served in many other capacities as needed. Earl loved the Lord with all his heart and lived a life rooted in Christ Jesus. His devotion to GOD was evident in the way he treated others, his patience, and his

integrity. He often spoke of GOD's goodness and grace, and his faith served as both a guiding light and a source of strength throughout his life. He was a man of prayer and unshakable belief.

Earl joined the United States Army in 1955 and served in Korea for the Korean War Conflict. Throughout his journey, he exemplified honor, discipline, and commitment, qualities that would remain with him throughout his life. He was a graduate from Crane High School in Chicago, IL.

Earl carried his parents and siblings in his heart everywhere he went. His love for them ran deep, far beyond what one might expect of someone so young. Even as a young man, he was mindful of their needs and well-being, always thinking two steps ahead to ensure they were cared for. He began supporting his parents and younger siblings with maturity and selflessness well beyond his years. He was a steady presence and protector, not out of obligation, but from a place of deep love. His heart was never too full to make room for his family, and his actions spoke louder than words ever could.

On August 14, 1960, he married the love of his life, Mary Frances "Babe" Towns who he affectionately would call "Babe" or "Mother". Together, they shared 64 beautiful years of marriage, marked by deep love and enduring faith. To this union, two beautiful daughters were born, Carmela "Peaches" and Angela "Angie B". He had a special love for his younger sisters whom he called "His Girls", Luella, Minnie, Brenda and Linda.

Earl's strong work ethic and dedication defined his career. He began his professional life at Jorgensen Steel, followed by a long and distinguished tenure as a United States Post Office (USPS), letter carrier for 30 years and retired from the Chicago Loop Station. On January 16, 1969, Earl began part-time work as a Concierge at the Thorndale Beach Condominium. A role he held with pride for an impressive 45 years. He was beloved by all who knew

him for his warm greetings, kind words, and unwavering professionalism.

Earl was a masterful storyteller, captivating anyone with vivid tales from his youth, military days, travel, and decades of work. His memory was impeccable; he could recall names, travel routes, scriptures, dates, and details with stunning clarity, often amazing his family with how sharply he remembered even the smallest moments. Earl had a story for every occasion, each rich in wisdom and the warmth of a life well-lived. His storytelling wasn't just entertainment; it was a way of connecting generations and keeping family history alive.

Earl was preceded in death by his parents; George Ira and Mary Ella Baskin, Brothers; James Willie, George Ira II, Thomas Henry "Bill" and William Lee Baskin; Sister Georgia Mae Johnson; Brothers-in-law, Charlie Frank and John Towns.

He leaves to cherish his memory: his beloved Wife; Mary F. Baskin; Children; Carmela (Michael) Nelson of Jacksonville, FL, and Angela Baskin of Chicago, IL; Granddaughter, Brittani Nelson of Atlanta, GA; Siblings, Jesse (Leora) Baskin of Memphis, TN, Luella Whitehead of Las Vegas, NV, Minnie (Clarence) Mason of South Holland, IL, Brenda (Franklin) Pearson of Waukegan, IL and Linda (Joe) Wilson of Prairie, MS; Sisters-in-law, Sarah F. Towns and Daisy Towns of Newnan, GA, and Mary Baskin of Maywood, IL; Brother-in-laws, Bennie H. (Elizabeth "Betty") Towns of Newnan, GA and Eddie Lance of Chicago, IL, a host of nieces and nephews; GOD Sons, Gregory Newsome Sr., Dr. Leodis "Billy" Scott, Derryl Caldwell, and Stephen Sealy; GOD Daughters, Linda Mahonie, Arnita "Jackie" Dennis, Corlisa Edwards, Frances Williams, Beverly Fitch, Andrea and Francine Chatman; Spiritual GOD Daughters; Evangelist Nina Bridgmon, Minister Gloria Gandy, Minister Zena Newson, Rev. Dr. Martie Susberry, Minister Hiola Austin, whom

he embraced and loved as his own; as well as his church family and friends.

Earl will be dearly missed and forever remembered. His legacy of faith, family, and quiet strength will continue to live on in the hearts of all who knew and loved him. Though his earthly journey has come to an end, the gift GOD gave us in Earl remains shining through every shared story, every act of kindness inspired by his example, and every prayer lifted in his honor.

Having fought the good fight, finished the race, and kept the faith, we find peace in knowing that our extraordinary gift now rests in the presence of the Giver, Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!!

Previous Events

Public Viewing

AUG 8. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Calahan Funeral Home Landmark Chapel
7030 S. Halsted
Chicago, IL 60621

Visitation

AUG 9. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Southside Tabernacle Church
7742 South Racine Ave
Chicago, IL 60620

Funeral Service

AUG 9. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Southside Tabernacle Church
7742 South Racine Ave
Chicago, IL 60620

Burial/Interment

AUG 11. 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery
20953 W Hoff Rd
Elwood, IL 60421

Tribute Wall

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“ Townsell & Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Earl Baskin.



Townsell & Family - August 07, 2025 at 11:18 PM

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“ Townsell & Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Earl Baskin.

Townsell & Family - August 07, 2025 at 11:18 PM

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“ Sending condolences to the Baskin Family! -Prairie RCDC of Prairie, MS

ZaNarrious Graham - August 06, 2025 at 12:24 PM



Our Deepest Condolences to Baskin Family. God's strength, peace and mercy be with you during this difficult time. Our prayers are with you. "You were was a blessing" "You will be missed" "Forever in our hearts" "Rest in peace" Townsell Savannah GA

Mizt Townsell - August 07, 2025 at 07:12 PM