



Deacon Eddie "Babe" King, Jr.

February 14, 1951 - May 3, 2018

UTICA - Deacon Eddie "Babe" King, Jr., age 67, went home to the Lord when he passed away on Thursday, May 3, 2018 at the Faxton-St. Luke's Healthcare Center with the ones he loved the most in his heart.

Born in Marked Tree, Arkansas on February 14, 1951, Eddie was the son of the late Eddie and Georgia (Gilmore) King. In the 1960's, the family relocated to Utica where he graduated from T.R. Proctor High School.

Babe began his working career at St. Elizabeth Hospital in the Maintenance Department where he was employed for 27 years. He subsequently held similar positions at the Hunter House and lastly at the Loretto Utica Center.

Eddie was a good, humble man, traits he inherited from his parents. A generous soul, he visited all his family members during the Christmas holiday and gracefully gave each a gift to remember him by. He never expected anything in return. Babe was blessed with a quick wit, and with his famous sayings and one-liners, he really got the party started. He literally was the "king of the grill" always

prepared to feed everyone who dropped by. He had no favorites, so he just enjoyed it all! His snack of choice was "Suzie Q's".

He and his dad enjoyed watching cowboy and Bruce Lee movies, and WWE Wrestling together. You couldn't get him off the chair, and if he needed anything while these programs were in progress, he would yell out for whatever he wanted. Babe was proud to be born the 3rd of 12 children. He was a wonderful brother, and a loving uncle to the generations that followed.

His legacy is his character. Every first Sunday of the month he attend the Friendship Baptist Church where he was a faithful member of over thirty years. Rev. March welcomed him with great affection. On one of the last Sundays of his life, he was blessed to be able to fulfill his duties as deacon at the service. He worshipped and worked well that day. Eddie was an independent and self-sufficient man, but all that changed when he had his stroke. Through all his adversity and challenges, he maintained a strong, positive outlook and a smile on his face.

Eddie is survived by his siblings, Willie King Sr., Minnie King, Henry King, Bessie Tolbert, Nannie King and Ricky Spight, Tommy King, Davy King, Janie King, Donna King, Billie King and Candy, and Mae King; a host of beloved nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, and cousins; and his aunt and uncle, Dorothy and Fred Lee Gilmore. He drew strength from his pastor, Rev. Charles March, and his special friend, Lawanner Jackson. He was predeceased by his brother-in-law, Al Tolbert Sr.; his sisters-in-law, Sandra King, and Nancy King; and his uncle, Willie James Clark.

The family extends their sincere thanks to Dr. Joseph Booth who was so supportive of Eddie's wellbeing; Olga from Palliative Care for her compassion and comfort; and the staff of the Heritage Healthcare Center for their loving touches.

Visitation will be held Friday, May 11th from 10:00-12:00 at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. Eddie's funeral service and Home Going celebration will commence on Friday afternoon at 12:00 at the funeral home immediately upon conclusion of visitation with Rev. Charles March officiating the ceremony. Interment will take place in Forest Hill Cemetery.

Cemetery Details

Forest Hill Cemetery

2201 Oneida Street
Utica, NY 13501
(315) 735-2701

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 11. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Eannace Funeral Home, Inc.
932 South Street
corner of Hammond Ave.
Utica, NY 13501
(315) 724-6714
eannacefh@roadrunner.com
<https://www.eannacefuneralhome.com>

Tribute Wall

SR

“ *Salimah Rahman lit a candle in memory of Deacon Eddie "Babe" King, Jr.*



Salimah Rahman - May 12, 2018 at 06:49 PM

DB

“ *Darlene Branch lit a candle in memory of Deacon Eddie "Babe" King, Jr.*



Darlene branch - May 09, 2018 at 11:43 PM



“ *Classie Boyd lit a candle in memory of Deacon Eddie "Babe" King, Jr.*



Classie Boyd - May 08, 2018 at 07:08 PM

JT

“ My siblings and I along with the rest of our cousins (which by the way is a lot of us) always looked forward to our Christmas gifts from Uncle Babe which included socks and a fruit and nut bag that we all enjoyed. It may not have been much for some but it's was always enough for us. We also enjoyed watching western tv shows with him and “ black and white” tv shows. The minute he fell asleep we would take the remote and change the channel. He was so humble and kind hearted. We had fun joking around with him and always thought it was so cool that our uncle had a 6th digit on his hand which we called another pinky, lol. Thank you Uncle Babe for being such a great uncle as well as a great man that stood for so much and valued your family as much as we valued you. You will be greatly missed. We love you always and forever. May you Rest In Peace. Love you always Jackie Pooh💜

Jacqueline Tolbert - May 08, 2018 at 04:35 PM