



Lester N. Erving, Sr

January 12, 2020

Command Sergeant Major Lester Nelson Erving of Snellville left this earth to be with his heavenly father on January 12, 2020. He was born in New Brunswick, N.J. on May 13, 1930. Lester was the eldest of 5 children born to Grandville and Julia Erving of Jamesburg and Spotswood, N.J. He was preceded in death by 3 brothers; Grandville Jr, Robert, Edward; his sister Ester; and 4 children; Sharon, Ronald, Cindy and Robert. He is survived by his wife, Carole M. Erving of Snellville. He leaves behind his son; Lester, Jr (Bubby) & Regina, and was fondly known as “Pop Pop” to his 2 grandsons; Travis & Holly, Trent & Brooke, all of Rock Hill, SC. He is also survived by his stepchildren; Rhonda & Randy Bullock of Snellville, Vickie & Clifford Rollins of Statham, Robin & Lee Nesmith and Donnie & Michelle Holcombe, all of Loganville. He loved and celebrated 8 additional step grandchildren, 7 step great-grandchildren including his ever-present sidekick, Mason.

Lester was a decorated veteran proudly serving 30 years in the U.S. Army and reaching the highest enlisted rank of Command Sergeant Major (E-9). Upon retiring from the Army he also worked for NAPA Auto Parts and later for Gwinnett County Schools. After joining the US Army in 1947 he served in the Korean War and was deployed for two tours to Vietnam. In recognition of his outstanding bravery and service he was decorated with numerous medals and commendations. The Korean President presented him with The Combat Infantry Badge. He was the recipient of The Expert Infantry Man Medal, The Bronze Star, Army Commendation Medal (3 times), The Purple Heart, 3 Air

Medals, The Presidential Citation, The Meritorious Service Medal. For 14 years he proudly and rigorously trained the troops at Fort Jackson, Columbia, SC. During his first tour of duty in Vietnam he was honored to serve in the 1st Infantry Division. Due to injuries sustained there he spent 18 months hospitalized in Fort Gordon, GA. On his second tour of duty he served as the Advisor of the Vietnam Army with Army Team 51 in the Delta. In recognition for his dedication, the Vietnam Gold Cross of Gallantry with Palm was presented to him. As a testament to his passion for the mission of the Masonic Lodge, he faithfully devoted 60 years of service to the organization. In 2019, he was honored with a 60 year recognition apron. His additional participation and membership included the Scottish Rite, Columbia, SC; Jamil Shriners, Columbia, SC; American Legion Post 232, Snellville; VFW Post 4180, Snellville; Order of the Purple Heart of Georgia; DAV Chapter 90, Snellville; and Gwinnett County Retired Educators Association.

Lester was a member of Corinth Baptist Church in Loganville, GA for 28 years where he served faithfully as usher and as a member of the church security team.

Lester was one-of-a-kind that will undoubtedly leave lasting memories and "Lester stories" for generations to come. He enjoyed fishing, following NASCAR and cheering on his Atlanta Braves but his biggest joy in life was lending a hand to anyone in need be it stranger or friend never seeking recognition or acknowledgement. All who knew him will recall his flamboyant voice, his insistence on punctuality and his benevolence. He had an undeniable and overflowing love for his family, his country, his church, his military colleagues, and the Lord.

Tim Stewart Funeral Home, Snellville Chapel is in charge of arrangements. In lieu of flowers, the family would appreciate donations to Corinth Baptist Church, 3156 Langley Rd, Loganville, GA 30052.

Cemetery Details

Eternal Hills Memory Gardens

3200 Stone Mountain Highway
Snellville, GA 30039

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 15. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Tim Stewart Funeral Home Snellville
2246 Wisteria Drive
Snellville, GA 30078

Funeral Service

JAN 15. 2:00 PM (ET)

Chapel of Tim Stewart Funeral Home Snellville
2246 Wisteria Drive
Snellville, GA

Tribute Wall



“ *Tim Stewart Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Lester N. Erving, Sr*



Tim Stewart Funeral Home - January 13, 2020 at 01:00 PM



“ *Lester N. Erving, Sr*

October 08, 2022 at 11:31 AM



“ *To the Lester Erving, Sr. Family, On behalf of the Department of Georgia Disabled American Veterans (DAV), please accept our heartfelt sympathies on your loss of SGM (Ret) Erving. Words are never adequate in moments like these. You are in our prayers during this difficult time. We hope that the love of family and friends will comfort and strengthen you in the days ahead. Always remember the joyous memories of the times you shared with Lester. May these memories give you comfort for his life was rich because of you. May God's grace comfort and strengthen you. The Department of Georgia DAV thanks Lester for his devoted service to our Nation. Rest in Peace Comrade and Brother-in-Arms Lester N. Irving, Sr., SGM (Ret), USA. Albert Boudy, State Chaplain, Department of Georgia DAV*



Albert Boudy - January 15, 2020 at 08:14 PM

JB

“ Carol and family, My heart is heavy for you in the loss of Lester. May God wrap each of you in his comfort. Charles (the plumber) also enjoyed time talking with him when we came to your home for service. I had been made fill special upon his greetings at the door of Corinth the first time I visited and many more. Lester will be missed by many. God Bless , Judy Brownlee



Judy Brownlee - January 14, 2020 at 08:24 PM

CP

Our sympathy and condolences to the Erving family. Rest in peace Buster, you will be missed, the Petzold Family

Chona Petzold - January 15, 2020 at 06:01 PM

JR

“ John and Linda Roberts purchased the Beautiful i n Blue for the family of Lester N. Erving, Sr.



John and Linda Roberts - January 14, 2020 at 12:58 PM



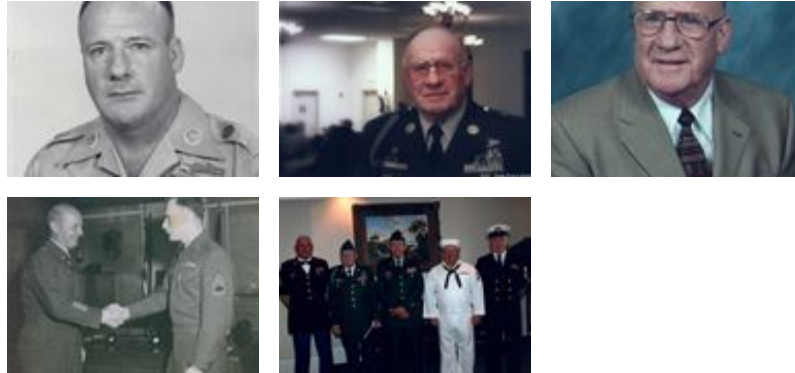
“ America the Beautiful was purchased for the family of Lester N. Erving, Sr.



January 14, 2020 at 07:43 AM



“ 51 files added to the album LifeTributes



Tim Stewart Funeral Home - January 13, 2020 at 12:41 PM

V4

“ The members of VFW Post 4180 offer our sincere condolence and deep sympathy to the family of our VFW Comrade and friend Lester Erving We shall miss him but will always remember what a kind friend and dedicated veteran he has been to our community.

VFW Post 4180 - January 13, 2020 at 12:32 PM

RS

“ I met Command Sergeant Major Lester almost 10 years ago. I was impressed by his passion for Veterans and he was always focused on doing anything he could to help those in need. He was a great Soldier as his record of 3 combat tours in two wars bears out and his achieving the highest rank for an enlisted Soldier. I am richer for having met him. God Bless, RIP and Hooah Sergeant Major until we meet again at Fiddlers Green.

Robert SPIDEL - January 13, 2020 at 11:49 AM