



Mr. Ezell Conner

January 27, 1943 - September 22, 2023

Ezell Conner was born on January 27, 1943 in Freeport, Florida, the third child of Benjamin and Maggie Conner's nine children.

Ezell attended Liberia Elementary School in Freeport, Florida and attended Tivoli Middle School and Tivoli High School in DeFuniak Springs, Florida. As a child, Ezell was the most adventurous among his siblings, taking chances that his brothers and sisters refrained from taking as they were growing up. Ezell was an outstanding football player in high school. His athleticism earned him a college scholarship at Lane College in Jackson, Tennessee. At Lane, Ezell majored in physical education and health and minored in biology and earth science.

Ezell was drafted into the United States Army during the summer of July 1965 and completed his basic training in Fort Jackson, South Carolina. Amazingly, Ezell earned the rank of Sergeant E5 in ten months.

In September of 1970, Ezell moved to Milwaukee, Wisconsin and was immediately hired by Milwaukee Public School as a physical education teacher assigned to Wells Street Junior High School. In addition to teaching at Wells, Ezell taught at Rufus King High School for the Gifted and Talented, Riverside University High School, Juneau High School, and Bay View High School.

Ezell met the love of his life, Beverly Watson, while he and Beverly were teachers at Wells. After their courtship, the couple united in Holy matrimony. Two loving sons, Erik and Edwin, were born to their union. Ezell and Beverly were dedicated to their marriage of fifty-one years.

Ezell's work ethic as an educator was one that valued professionalism, time management, and punctuality. His belief was that all students will learn, regardless of their socioeconomic status and ethnic backgrounds and that students succeeded by having fortitude and determination toward accomplishing their goals. Throughout his career, Ezell treated people with respect and dignity. In addition to his employment in the Milwaukee Public Schools Ezell taught conflict resolution classes at McPherson College for over 20 years, culminating in 34 years of dedicated service as an educator.

Ezell retired in June of 2002 from his position of principal of Bay View High School. In 2004 Ezell was asked to return to the school district as the principal of Douglas Elementary School. His expertise was valued as a mentor and coach of school administrators.

Very important in Ezell's life was his membership as a congregant of St. Peter Immanuel Lutheran Church in Milwaukee, WI. There, Ezell served as an usher, trustee of the church, and attended Bible classes weekly. Ezell later transferred his membership to Second Baptist Church in Little Rock, Arkansas, serving under the leadership of his brother-in-law, Dr. Maurice Watson.

Ezell was formally recognized for his achievements and received numerous awards and recognition's: Top Ladies of Distinction Father and Son Award; Lane College Life Member Award; Metropolitan Milwaukee Alliance for Black School Educators Treasurer Award; and the HBCU Community Service Award

were among the awards and recognition received.

Ezell was an avid and skillful golfer and loved the challenges of competitive card games, especially poker. He also recognized the importance of living a healthy lifestyle and exercised frequently at the YMCA.

On September 22, 2023, the Lord wrapped Ezell in his loving arms and carried him home. Ezell is preceded in death by his parents, Benjamin and Maggie Conner; brothers, Percell (Carolyn) and Ozell (Willie Jean) Conner, and Calvin Watson of North Little Rock, AR. He leaves to cherish his memories: his wife, Beverly Conner of Milwaukee, WI; sons, Erik (Chankham) of Menomonee Falls, WI, and Edwin (LeeAnna) of Germantown, WI; four granddaughters, Tila, Abby, Layla of Menomonee Falls, WI, and Gianna of Germantown, WI; brothers, John (Ida Jean) of Lynn Haven, FL, Ben of Freeport, FL, Don (Debra) of Mary Ester, FL, and Rochelle of Brown Deer, WI; sisters, Magadelene Potter (Wayne) of Vernon, FL, Jeraldine Smith (Willie) of Orlando, FL; brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, Sherman Watson (Esther), Sandra Dickerson and Dr. Linda Watson, all of North Little Rock, AR, Patsy Baker (Kenny) of Rockledge, FL, Dr. Maurice Watson (Janice) and Charlotte Joyner (Lawrence), both of Little Rock, AR; and a host of nieces, nephews and many spiritual sons, daughters and friends.

Cemetery Details

Wisconsin Memorial Park

13235 W. Capitol Dr.
Brookfield, WI

Previous Events

Family Gathering

OCT 2. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Wisconsin Memorial Park "Chapel of Chimes"
13235 W. Capitol Dr.
Brookfield, WI 53005

Funeral Service

OCT 2. 11:00 AM (CT)

Wisconsin Memorial Park Chapel of the Chimes
13235 W. Capitol Dr.
Milwaukee, WI

Tribute Wall

TF

“ *Teresa Faison lit a candle in memory of Mr. Ezell Conner*



Teresa Faison - January 27 at 11:32 AM

TF

Happy Birthday! Thoughts of you today 💕💕

Teresa Faison - January 27 at 11:33 AM

TF

“ *Thoughts of you today. So hard to believe you are no longer here. Rest in peace, in Heaven. Love you.*

Teresa Faison - December 18, 2024 at 11:17 AM

TC

“ *Mr. Conner was the Best Assistant Principal Ever at Bay View High School. I was Class of 1993 and he was a father figure for many of us who grew up without father. He made sure you were in line, and didn't cross the line and he had us so scared not to even fall out of line, because you didn't want to disappoint him. Many of us from Class 1993 have careers in Education, Law, Law Enforcement Medical, Engineering, Environmental Science, Military and many more Prestigious Careers and we owe it all for Mr. Conner keeping us in line at Bay View High School! Thank you, so much Mrs. Conner, Edwin, your brother and the family for sharing Mr. Conner with us!*

*Love and God Bless,
Ms. Takeisha Collier
Bay View High School Class of 1993
MPS School Counselor*

Takeisha Collier - October 06, 2023 at 08:18 PM

TF

“ *Teresa Faison lit a candle in memory of Mr. Ezell Conner*



Teresa Faison - October 06, 2023 at 03:00 PM

LS

“ *My deepest sympathies go out to your family doing this difficult time. Amazing educator.*

Linda Addison Stringer - October 04, 2023 at 01:45 AM

CW

“ Mr. Connor will surely be missed he was my middle school gym teacher. Then my High school Principal. Stayed connected to him for years seeing him at the YMCA.

Charles Williams - October 02, 2023 at 03:24 PM

BR

“ My heartfelt condolences to my cousin Ezell's family as they live through this sad occasion. We have him in our hearts, God has him in his care.
Bobbye Randolph

Bobbye Randolph - October 02, 2023 at 11:39 AM

MJ

“ The Tivoli HS of 1963 pray for comfort and the Lord's Grace to the family of Ezell Conner. Many have known him since childhood. My older sister married into EZELL's family and grew up interacting in his family activities including his Family Reunions and later HS Reunions, etc. Ezell will be remembered as a gentleman and honored man. Our prayers are with you as you grieve the Heavenly Home-going of Ezell Conner.
His HS Classmate: Miriam Sheppard

Miriam Jackson-Sheppard - October 02, 2023 at 11:12 AM

TC

“ Mrs. Turner introduced me to Mr. Conner at my first Lane College homecoming. I then had the opportunity to work alongside his children. What a great family. To the family, there are really no words that can change your experience but know I am doing for you what someone did for me and that was pray that the Lord God would comfort me and give me the strength to finish his calling on my life. I am praying for each of you.

Tayotis Caldwell - October 01, 2023 at 08:30 PM

EK

“ Beverly, We send our condolences to you and family. Wallace and Evon Kincaid

Evon kincaid - October 01, 2023 at 02:15 PM

LK

“ Beverly, Charles and I wish comfort and peace to you, your sons and family. Ezell will be greatly missed by so many! I will always treasure the many years I worked with him at Bay View. Lillie Kimbrough

Lillie C. Kimbrough - September 30, 2023 at 03:05 PM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Mr. Ezell Conner.



September 30, 2023 at 09:17 AM

VP

“ Verline Peterson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Ezell Conner



Verline Peterson - September 29, 2023 at 09:09 PM

VP

“ Sending our deepest condolences to Beverly Connors, sons and family. We are very sorry for your loss. Steadman, Verline Peterson and family.

Verline Peterson - September 29, 2023 at 09:05 PM

Janet Key

“ We taught with Mr. Conner for McPherson College for many years. He was a nice man and a good colleague. He touched many lives. Please accept our condolences on your loss. Michael and Janet Key

Janet Key - September 28, 2023 at 11:40 PM

PF

“ Pat and Kenny Baker and family purchased the *Dreams From the Heart Bouquet* for the family of Mr. Ezell Conner.



Pat and Kenny Baker and family - September 28, 2023 at 12:55 PM

PF

“ Pat and Kenny Baker and family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Ezell Conner.

Pat and Kenny Baker and family - September 28, 2023 at 12:55 PM

MC

“ Wishing the Conner Family comfort and peace during this difficult time.

Michelle Crockett - September 28, 2023 at 07:33 AM

MP

“ *Maggie Potter lit a candle in memory of Mr. Ezell Conner*



Maggie Potter - September 26, 2023 at 12:09 AM