



Mr. Ervin Lee Hester, Sr.

September 16, 1937 - October 25, 2018

Mr. Ervin Lee Hester, Sr., age 81, a native of Durham, North Carolina, departed this life on Thursday, October 25, 2018.

As a trailblazer in media, Ervin Hester was the first African American news anchor in the southeast. For many years he served our community at WTVD.

Many life lessons can be learned from Ervin's strength, courage, and faith.

Funeral services will take place on Friday, November 2, 2018 at St. Joseph A.M.E. Church, 2521 Fayetteville Street, Durham, North Carolina 27707 at 12:00 noon, with a family visitation one hour prior to the service.

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 2. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

St. Joseph AME Church
2521 Fayetteville St
Durham, NC 27707
(919) 683-1379

Celebration of Life

NOV 2. 12:00 PM (ET)

St. Joseph AME Church
2521 Fayetteville St
Durham, NC 27707
(919) 683-1379

Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. Ervin Lee Hester, Sr.*

October 05, 2023 at 11:31 AM



“ *Anna Williams lit a candle in memory of Mr. Ervin Lee Hester, Sr.*



Anna Williams - November 08, 2018 at 10:01 AM



“ *Margaret Wrein lit a candle in memory of Mr. Ervin Lee Hester, Sr.*



Margaret Wrein - November 02, 2018 at 03:27 AM



“ *Rita and Gwen: Your Dad's light will continue to shine forever. Much peace to all of the Hester family.*
Hilda Smith

Hilda Smith - November 01, 2018 at 05:59 PM



Thank you! 🙏

Rita Pompey - November 02, 2018 at 08:12 AM

MW

“ *Mr.&Mrs. Lance & Tangelia Wilson purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Mr. Ervin Lee Hester, Sr..*



Mr.&Mrs. Lance & Tangelia Wilson - November 01, 2018 at 12:53 PM

MG

“ *Sincere condolences to the Hester Family. Ervin' s life legacy will forever reign.*



Marian Gentry-Monroe - November 01, 2018 at 08:36 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr. Ervin Lee Hester, Sr..*



October 31, 2018 at 04:25 PM

LM

“ *My mother , Peggy Mann, was very fond of Ervin and I remember him as a very young man just starting out when I would hang around at the station with my mother. May family and friends find peace with his passing.*

Lesley Mann

Lesley Mann - October 31, 2018 at 02:21 PM

RP

Thank you!! And he was fond of her as well!

Rita Hester Pompey - October 31, 2018 at 03:13 PM

LM

“ *Lisa Moreno lit a candle in memory of Mr. Ervin Lee Hester, Sr.*



Lisa Moreno - October 30, 2018 at 06:15 AM

Cat Watson

“ *Cat Watson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Ervin Lee Hester, Sr.*



Cat Watson - October 30, 2018 at 06:11 AM

TB

“ *Rest in Jesus Arms*

Teresa Davis Browning - October 30, 2018 at 05:36 AM

TB

“ *Teresa Davis Browning lit a candle in memory of Mr. Ervin Lee Hester, Sr.*



Teresa Davis Browning - October 30, 2018 at 05:36 AM

BE

“ *Barbara Webb Edwards lit a candle in memory of Mr. Ervin Lee Hester, Sr.*



Barbara Webb edwards - October 29, 2018 at 10:50 PM

BE

May the family find Comfort during this very difficult time may God be with you all

Barbara Webb edwards - October 29, 2018 at 11:07 PM

BT

“ *Bonnie Green Turner lit a candle in memory of Mr. Ervin Lee Hester, Sr.*



Bonnie Green Turner - October 29, 2018 at 10:22 PM

RP

“ *Ruth Powell lit a candle in memory of Mr. Ervin Lee Hester, Sr.*



Ruth Powell - October 29, 2018 at 09:49 PM

PF

“ Percy Joyner And Family lit a candle in memory of Mr. Ervin Lee Hester, Sr.



Percy Joyner and Family - October 29, 2018 at 09:10 PM

PF

A historian of “The Bottom”! He never forgot his roots and supported entrepreneurship in our community. He loved calling my mom when he was on WSRC! God bless the family!

Percy Joyner and Family - October 29, 2018 at 10:17 PM

Thomasine Hedgepeth

“ Thomasine Hedgepeth lit a candle in memory of Mr. Ervin Lee Hester, Sr.



Thomasine Hedgepeth - October 28, 2018 at 07:44 PM

MW

“ Laura & Marilyn Womble



Marilyn Womble - October 28, 2018 at 02:58 PM

FA

“ Rita,

Dads are important people, and I know yours was especially important to you. I am sorry for your great loss.

Please accept our condolences to the Pompey and Hester families.

Wendell and Faye



Faye - October 27, 2018 at 02:38 PM

RP

Thank you! Love you!!

Rita Hester Pompey - October 30, 2018 at 05:57 PM

CL

“ *It has been an honor to have known Mr. Hester. A personable man with a kind heart for the people who he served as a news reporter, talk show host, and news anchor. Rest in Peace. The family and friends have my deepest sympathy on the loss of this wonderful man.*

Caroline Lattimore

*Member and past president of the
WTVD Advisory Committee*



Caroline Lattimore - October 27, 2018 at 01:42 PM

RP

Thank you Soror Caroline! 💕💕💚

Rita Hester Pompey - October 30, 2018 at 04:54 PM

VL

“ *Mr. Ervin Lee Hester, Sr. became a pioneering legend in the field of mass media communications becoming an integral part of the landscape for television and radio in Durham, NC. Thanks for the lasting & impacting memories that will forever remain as your undeniable legacy.*



Vincent Lawrence - October 26, 2018 at 10:49 PM

RP

Thank you!

Rita Pompey - November 02, 2018 at 08:14 AM

MI

“ *Milton lit a candle in memory of Mr. Ervin Lee Hester, Sr.*



Milton - October 26, 2018 at 07:30 PM

HT

“ *Rita,
Sorry to hear of your father's passing. I'm keeping you and your family in my heart, thoughts and prayers. May happy memories sustain you all today and in the days to come.
Helen D. Thompson
Jacksonville, NC*



Helen D. Thompson - October 26, 2018 at 06:50 PM

RP

Hi!!!! Thank you so much!

Rita Hester Pompey - October 30, 2018 at 05:59 PM

PL

“ *Patricia Lea lit a candle in memory of Mr. Ervin Lee Hester, Sr.*



Patricia Lea - October 26, 2018 at 11:02 AM

CR

“ *Curtis West/Winn Dixie Retired lit a candle in memory of Mr. Ervin Lee Hester, Sr.*



Curtis West/Winn Dixie Retired - October 25, 2018 at 06:39 PM

CR

I remember Mr. Hester in the early 70's as a customer of mine at Winn-Dixie, North Duke Mall in Durham. He was a fine gentleman who met no strangers. Refined, eloquent, but down to earth sincere and friendly. He pioneered the anchor desk at WTVD, and was accepted by a public audience, of all races, during troubling times, and succeeded. His legacy on the desk, and the news audience was and still is remembered with thanks and honor.

Curtis West, Winn Dixie Rt. - October 25, 2018 at 06:50 PM

MW

To The heater family! Gwen and I was in the same class at Brogden Jr. High. I also remember her brother David and their sister Rita. Who didn't watch WTVD news back in the day. It was history watching Mr. Ervin Hester on the Tube. I believe because of Mr. Hester many doors were open to African American Men/Women. I am so sorry for the Lost of your dear father. My prayers goes out to The heater Family at this time.

Margaret Wrein - November 02, 2018 at 04:25 AM

DC

“ *Dennis Cromartie lit a candle in memory of Mr. Ervin Lee Hester, Sr.*



Dennis Cromartie - October 25, 2018 at 06:21 PM