

## Dr. Howard Monroe Fitts, Jr.

June 8, 1921 - January 30, 2023

Condolences are being expressed to the family of Dr. Howard Monroe Fitts, Jr., age 101, who passed away on Monday, January 30, 2023, at Duke Hock Family Pavilion.

We honor him for his service and dedication to our country with the United States Army.

A graveside service to celebrate the life of Dr. Howard Monroe Fitts, Jr. will be held at Beechwood Cemetery, 3300 Fayetteville Street, Durham, North Carolina 27707, on Friday, February 10, 2023, at 1:00 p.m. The family is also planning for a memorial service, the date will be posted at a later time.

Please keep this family in your thoughts and prayers as they prepare to lay their dear loved one to rest.

# Cemetery Details

## Beechwood Cemetery

3300 Fayetteville St  
Durham, NC 27707  
(919) 560-4154

# Previous Events

## Graveside Service

FEB 10. 1:00 PM (ET)

Beechwood Cemetery  
3300 Fayetteville St  
Durham, NC 27707  
(919) 560-4154

# Tribute Wall



“ *Dr. Howard Monroe Fitts, Jr.*

---

October 05, 2023 at 11:31 AM

“ Sending Deepest Condolences 🌸 to the Family of Dr. Fitts. May He Rest In Heavenly Peace. 🙏🙏🙏🙏🙏❤️❤️❤️❤️❤️



Dr. Fitts was my Health Professor at NCCU in the Health Department. I took a couple or more classes under his tutelage. He was a magnificent instructor. I enjoyed his classes very much. His wife also taught me advanced Typing at NCCU. May She Rest Heavenly also.

I was a neighbor living across the street from the Fitts family. I remember getting out of the hospital after a bout of Ulcerative Colitis (UC). Dr. Fitts stopped by the next morning. He wanted me to help him pass out community flyers to each house on our street. I went to street corner and sat on cement sidewalk. I said to Dr. Fitts: “Oh My God, I can’t do this!!” He extended his hand 🤝👉... Said: “Yes you can do it!!” I pulled up off of the ground. I walked to the end of the street with him, leaving the flyers on the doors.

I said: Dr. Fitts ... “Do you ever remember coming home 🏠 and your front yard was full of car 🚗 tire tracks, the ground was torn up, and your bushes were run over?” He said, he couldn’t remember that at the moment.

I said.. “Well .... Mr. Bobby Lawrence (the summer school drivers Ed teacher) was screaming at Calvin Kearns when it was his turn to drive; because Calvin got the car stuck in your front yard and couldn’t get out for about 30 minutes. Going back & forth in the yard. We were about 15 years old. I was in the back seat of the student drivers Ed car. My stomach hurt, because I was laughing so hard. I was Screaming..... with my hand over my mouth 🗨️, bent over.... 🌀🌀🌀 that morning. I told Dr. Fitts the story, and we had a good ol’ laugh 😄😄 together. 🌸🌸🌸🌸

We accomplished the goal & by the time we walked back to our homes, I felt a lot better.

---

*Dr. Fitts said: "I'm going to call Calvin Kearns, because I know Calvin, for messing up my yard." We chuckled some more.*

---

*Thank you 🙏 for giving me knowledge, care, laughter & concern:  
Dr. Fitts! You're a great example of strength & determination.*

---

*God's Speed & Have A Peaceful Journey To The Other Side.... ❤️*



---

*Love, Dona B.*

---

**Dona V. Brown** - April 05, 2023 at 03:14 PM

AB

“*Dr. Fitz was one of the kindest people I've ever known. He was truly a person with a serving spirit. He was so kind and helpful to my family when my mother was ill as well as a support to my youngest son. I am so sorry to hear of his passing, but I'm grateful to have known him. May he rest in peace and may the peace of God be with the family.* 🙏  
*Alma Barnett-Siler*

---

**Alma Barnett-Siler** - February 09, 2023 at 10:28 PM

IM

“ My thoughts & prayers are with the family of Dr. Howard Fitts that Jesus will be of comfort to them as they grieve the loss of my NCCU Alumni, NCCU Health Education Professor, my Omega Psi Phi Brother and a Great Humanitarian. May Brother Fitts rest in external peace as he reunited with his wife in Heaven. His Omega Psi Phi Beta Phi Brother of 48 years. Isaac Bucky McGraw



Isaac McGraw - February 09, 2023 at 12:27 PM

JN

“ Joy Norris lit a candle in memory of Dr. Howard Monroe Fitts, Jr.



Joy Norris - February 08, 2023 at 06:59 PM



“ Reatha Page lit a candle in memory of Dr. Howard Monroe Fitts, Jr.



Reatha Page - February 07, 2023 at 06:21 PM

CM

“ Wayne and Carolyn Mckinnie sends condolences to the family of Dr.Howard Fitts, Jr.



---

**carolyn mckinnie** - February 07, 2023 at 10:05 AM

JP

“ Sending sincere condolences to the Fitts family. One of my most recent memories of Dr. Fitts was visiting him at Brookdale Senior Living and bringing him a fried oyster dinner ( one of his favorite meals ). He insisted that I share his meal and take his seat and that he would sit on the bed and use his walker as a table. It amazed me that at 101 years old, he was more concerned about me being comfortable than himself. Selfless gentleman, scholar, activist, family man, mentor, sportsman and servant of the Lord are words that come to me when I think of Dr. Fitts. Rest in peace my Brother, you have truly made a difference in this world. FIETTS!  
( Friendship Is Essential To The Soul )

*Jerry and Mary Jane Palmer*

---

**Jerry and Mary Jane Palmer** - February 07, 2023 at 09:58 AM



“ Dr.Fitts was a kind and gentle educator at nccu.He taught me health ed. Which I enjoyed been in his class.my prayers go out to the family.A truly wonderful human being. Rev.Nathaniel (Deacon) Jones 1971.

---

**Nathaniel Jones** - February 06, 2023 at 07:21 PM

RM

“ Randy Mills lit a candle in memory of Dr. Howard Monroe Fitts, Jr.



Randy Mills - February 06, 2023 at 02:24 PM

RM

“ Robin Burton Mason lit a candle in memory of Dr. Howard Monroe Fitts, Jr.



Robin Burton Mason - February 05, 2023 at 01:55 PM

JC

*Dr.Fitts has always referred to me as my neighbor and my son as his paper boy who was always on time with his papers. James Carter*

James Carter - February 06, 2023 at 08:46 AM

MJ

“ *Dr. Fitts was one of a kind... he taught and mentored with grace and dignity. He challenged you to go above what was expected! I credit he and all of the health education team at NCCU for my success in being able to serve in public health locally and internationally. Prayers and condolences to the family. Margo Johnson Jenkins- Class of 69*

Margo Johnson Jenkins - February 04, 2023 at 04:12 PM

IF

“ Sending love and healing to the family during this difficult time. Dr. Fitts will always be remembered for his wisdom, knowledge, leadership and kind spirit. I will remember him always assisting others to be better in contributing to society. He was one in a million and will be sorely missed. I am sure he is in the army of the lord now and continuing to do his father's work on the other side of the mountain. May God Comfort the Family knowing that your dad's life work spoke volumes.

Agape,  
Iris W. Fuller & Family

---

**Iris W. Fuller** - February 04, 2023 at 10:59 AM

TT

“ Terri Timberlake-Briscoe lit a candle in memory of Dr. Howard Monroe Fitts, Jr.



---

**Terri Timberlake-Briscoe** - February 04, 2023 at 09:53 AM

VS

“ Dr. Fitts, you have been a true public health leader and educator. It has been an honor to know you. May your memory live in forever (see <https://go.unc.edu/HowardFitts>), and your many contributions reverberate through the ages.

---

**Victor Schoenbach** - February 03, 2023 at 09:14 PM

ME

“ Studied under Dr. Fitts and his crew earning BS in health education in 1977. 46 years of rewarding work in public health to show for it. Professor, mentor, role model, brother. Rest In Peace. Marquis Eure. Class of 1977.

Marquis Eure - February 03, 2023 at 07:46 PM

LP

“ Lionell Parker lit a candle in memory of Dr. Howard Monroe Fitts, Jr.



Lionell Parker - February 03, 2023 at 12:00 PM

VW

“ What a wonderful person to have known in the lives of the Wilson family. Dr. Fitts always shared this joke that he and I were in the same class at NCCU which made the listener(s) think that I was as old as he. The truth: Dr. Fitts taught me during my freshman year--1954 which was his first year teaching at NCCU. He, my late husband Jairus, and my son Jevon enjoyed attending the Durham Bull's game together. They never missed a game. Dr. Fitts was a fine, considerate gentleman, and he will be missed! Rest in peace, Dr. Fitts. Your journey here is complete.

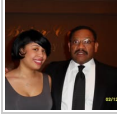


Velma S Wilson - February 03, 2023 at 09:13 AM

ME

Earned (literally) BS degree in Health Ed at NCCU in 1977, and 44 years working in public health to show for it due to Dr. Fitts and his crew. Professor, mentor, role model, brother- Rest In Peace.

Marquis Eure - February 03, 2023 at 02:48 PM



*Brother Fitts is a great man! He tutored me early in my career at NCCU, and I am extremely grateful!*

*Touch his family during these difficult times, but rejoice in his life eternal in the presence of our Creator!*

*RIP Frat!*

*Sundar Fleming*

---

**Sundar Fleming** - February 05, 2023 at 09:33 PM

CW

“*Rest in peace my dear friend and mentor. My thoughts and prayers are with the Fitts family. Dr. Fitts was a pioneer in his field and one of the cornerstones of NCCU. He was always kind and compassion and willing to give his time to all, especially young students and faculty who were trying to find their way. Carlton Wilson*

---

**Carlton Wilson** - February 03, 2023 at 08:33 AM

DF

“*Rest in Peace Bro. Fitts Ω! The legacy of the Fitts Family has been magnified by your excellent work in the vineyard and the legacy you've left for us all to follow. You've earned your rest and be assured we will continue to uphold the Fitts name while we're still in the vineyard.*

*Until we meet again!*

*The Fitts Family  
Maxine, David Ω and David, Jr.*

---

**David L Fitts** - February 03, 2023 at 01:03 AM

VT

“ *The Durham NAACP salutes Dr Fitts for his years of service as a member of the Executive Board of the NAACP local branch. Yours in service, Vivian Timlic ,Executive Director , Emeritus .*

Vivian Timlic - February 02, 2023 at 08:41 PM

MJ

“ *Our sincere condolences to Howard and Rosemary. Remembering Dr. Fitts with very fond memories as a professor and in later years a neighbor.*

Muriel M. and Johnetta Jordan - February 02, 2023 at 04:23 PM

JJ

“ *Johnetta Jordan lit a candle in memory of Dr. Howard Monroe Fitts, Jr.*



Johnetta Jordan - February 02, 2023 at 04:16 PM

RB

“ *René Baker lit a candle in memory of Dr. Howard Monroe Fitts, Jr.*



René Baker - February 02, 2023 at 10:56 AM

WG

“ *Dr. Fitts will always be remembered as a very positive caring man. May his soul rest with Jesus Christ.*  
*Walt and Phyllis Garrison*



---

**Walt Garrison** - February 01, 2023 at 09:19 PM

AV

“ *Andre D. Vann lit a candle in memory of Dr. Howard Monroe Fitts, Jr.*



---

**Andre D. Vann** - February 01, 2023 at 11:26 AM

TH

“ *Timothy D. Holland lit a candle in memory of Dr. Howard Monroe Fitts, Jr.*



---

**Timothy D. Holland** - February 01, 2023 at 10:23 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Dr. Howard Monroe Fitts, Jr..*



---

February 01, 2023 at 09:13 AM

QF

“ Queen Lawrence & Family lit a candle in memory of Dr. Howard Monroe Fitts, Jr.



Queen Lawrence & Family - January 31, 2023 at 10:42 PM

OG

“ My sincere condolences to the family! Dr. Fitts, my late husband and I shared some pleasurable times together. I enjoyed him as a teacher; and later as a friend for many years. Blessings and prayers to the family! 🙏

Olivia G. Gilmore - January 31, 2023 at 04:47 PM

TD

“ Thank you... Many moments Church, The Committee and School.



Thaddeus Daniels - January 31, 2023 at 11:59 AM

MK

“ I will miss my other Dad.He and Bert are together again. condolences to howieand Rosemary. Marsha Goodwin kee



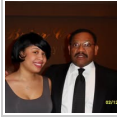
Marsha G Kee - January 30, 2023 at 11:33 PM

CR

*My condolences to the family. Mr. Fitts bowled with us, the Senior Bowlers. He was a true gentleman and a joy to*

---

**Collene Rogers** - February 04, 2023 at 02:54 AM



*Brother Fitts is a great man; he tutored me early in my career at NCCU! And, I am grateful; bless his family during these difficult times; yet, rejoice in his spiritual eternal life with our Creator!*

*RIP Frat!*

*Sundar Fleming*

---

**Sundar Fleming** - February 05, 2023 at 09:22 PM