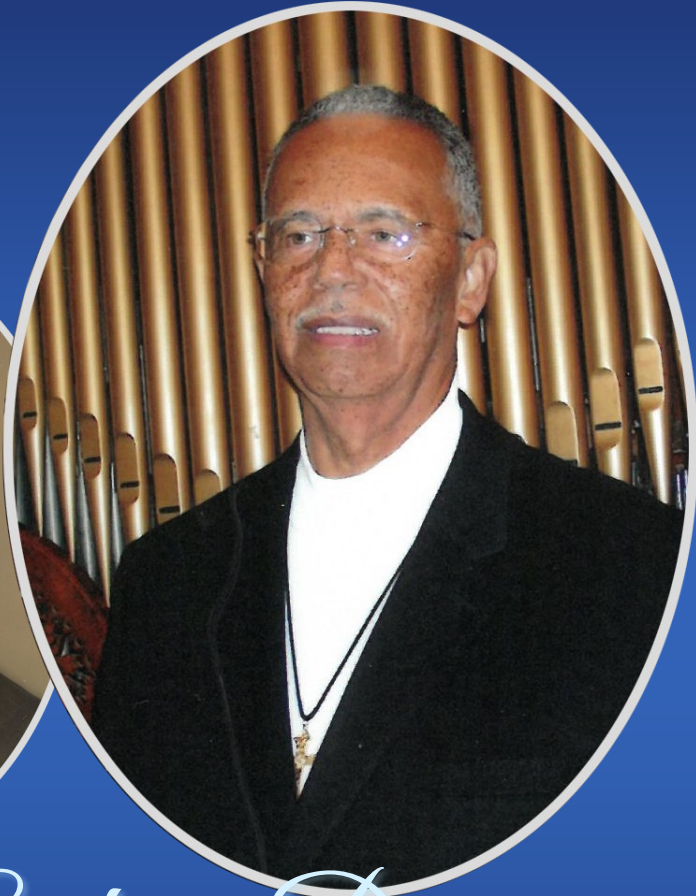


A CELEBRATION

OF LIFE *for*



John Andrew Dearing

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 2025

January 5, 1936 ~ February 24, 2025

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, BROAD CREEK
9801 LIVINGSTON ROAD | FORT WASHINGTON, MARYLAND 20744
THE REVEREND MARIAN HUMPHREY, PRESIDING

Obituary

John Andrew Dearing was born on January 5, 1936, to the late John A. and Elizabeth Dearing in Staunton, Virginia. He entered eternal rest on February 24, 2025.

John was raised by his grandparents, Robert and Sarah Dearing (lovingly referred to as Big Ma and Big Pa) after his mom's transition when he was seven months old. Surrounded by loving grandparents and aunts, he derived outstanding culinary skills.

After graduating from Burley High School in 1954, in Charlottesville, Virginia, he obtained employment at the University of Virginia Hospital as an orderly and later assumed the duties of a messenger. In 1957, John left Charlottesville and traveled to Atlantic City, New Jersey, where he obtained employment in various capacities.

John began his federal government career with the U.S. Department of State in 1958, as a bindery worker. Over his career span of 45 years, he held several positions within the Department from press operator to that of supervisor. John took great pride in his work while receiving numerous awards.

It was during his tenure with the State Department where John met, via a co-worker, the love of his life, Cynthia. The two were united in holy matrimony on June 26, 1971, at the Church of Atonement. From this union, they were blessed with two precious daughters, Shana and Shanita.

From childhood to adulthood, John was a devoted Episcopalian. He thoroughly enjoyed the Ministry of Music, where he sang "bass." Not only did he sing with his present church family, St. John's Episcopal Church, but John also sang with the Fort Washington Community Chorus for July 4th celebrations, including Handel's Messiah at various church locations and at the Kennedy Center.

To know John was to know a man who had a giving heart with a quiet demeanor.

To know John was to know a man who loved to cook—his spaghetti and corn pudding were "the bomb."

To know John was to know that he could sew. He made his own tuxedo for the annual "Black and White" ball held in Charlottesville, Virginia.

To know John was to know that he liked to look good. He enjoyed shopping, which was evidenced by his well-dressed appearance. He took bus sponsored trips to out-of-town shopping centers just to compare prices or maybe to purchase a pair of socks.

To know John was to know a man who enjoyed family gatherings, especially birthdays and holiday fellowships.

To know John was to know a man that his children's friends loved and respected.

John was a great example of a husband, father, grandfather and uncle who demonstrated unconditional love.

To know John was to know that he was a godly man who loved the Lord.

John will be dearly missed by all who knew and loved him. Left to cherish his memories are his wife of 53 years, Cynthia; daughters, Shana Farmer-Bradley (Darryl) and Shanita Cox (Christopher); granddaughters, Jazmyn Farmer and Elizabeth Cox; grandson, Jayden Farmer; faithful play son, Anthony Norris; and several nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Order of Service

Welcome to St. John's.....The Reverend Marian Humphrey

Prelude

Hymn.....“Blessed Assurance”

Prayer

The Liturgy of the Word

Old Testament Reading: Lamentations 3:22-26, 31-33

Psalm 23

New Testament Reading: Romans 8:14-19, 34-35, 37-39

Remembrances

Annette Mercer, Friend

Faith Chisholm, Friend

Darryl Austin, Nephew

Shanita Cox, Daughter

Letter of Condolence: Elder Charles Wright, Friend

Selection.....Linda Gray, Soloist

The Gospel—John 11:21-27

Words of Comfort.....The Reverend Marian Humphrey

Prayers of the People

The Holy Communion

The Commendation

The Blessing

Interment

Cedar Hill Cemetery

4111 Pennsylvania Avenue | Suitland, Maryland 20746

Congregational Hymn



BLESSED ASSURANCE

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.

CHORUS

**This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long,
this is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.**

Perfect submission, perfect delight, visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
angels descending, bring from above, echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

CHORUS

Perfect submission, all is at rest, I in my Savior am happy and blest,
watching and waiting, looking above, filled with His goodness, lost in His love

CHORUS

Family Sentiments

A PRAYER

(This prayer was written for John's 80th birthday celebration)

On January 5th dear Lord, John will be 80, and there's much he hasn't done.
I hope, dear Lord, you'll let him live until he's 81.

By then, if he's not finished with all he wanted to do,
Would you be so kind as to let him live until he's 82?

There are things John wants to know about, and oh, so much to see!
Do you think that you could manage Lord, to make it to 83?

The world is changing all too fast, and yet there's much in store,
So, he'd like to be on hand, when he's 84.

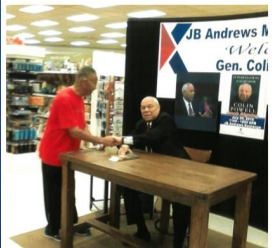
And if by then John's hearing is sound, and he is still alive,
He would like to be around when he's 85.

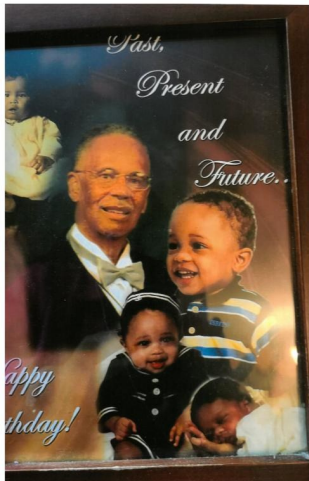
There are so many problems and so many things that need "A FIX",
He'd like to live and be around when he's 86.

I know, dear Lord, it's much to ask, and it's mighty nice in Heaven,
But he would like to stick around until he is 87.

Perhaps by then he may be slow, and he knows it's getting late,
But it would be so nice NOT to be a guest when he is 88.

John will have seen so much by then, and had so grand a time,
That he MAY be willing to call it quits and settle for 89.





Acknowledgements

The family of John Dearing acknowledges with deep appreciation every act of kindness and expression of love shown to us during our time of bereavement. May God richly bless you. We love you all.

Pallbearers

Family and Friends

Flower Bearers

Family and Friends

Services Entrusted To:

*Hodges and Edwards
3910 Silver Hill Road | Hillcrest Heights, Maryland 20746*