

*In Loving  
Memory  
of*

*Sunrise*  
May 3, 1938

*Sunset*  
April 1, 2013

*Joseph Ervin*  
*“Honey / Pop Pop”*

Service  
Saturday, April 6, 2013 - 9:00 a.m.

**UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS INC.**  
2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY



## Obituary

**Joseph Ervin 2<sup>nd</sup>** was born on May 3, 1938 to Joseph Ervin, Sr. and Elzena Lonnon in Darlington, South Carolina. As a child, Joseph had to work the farm, but found education to be very important, so he found time to go to school. This proved very difficult to do at that time. He has told many stories of how he really had to fight to go to school, because as a young, healthy and strong young man on a farm, your job was to work the field. He can remember hearing people say “look at the big ol’ boy in school, knowing he should be working on the field”. But Joe knew better and despite all the extra time he had to put in on the farm when he got home from school and as tired and as worn out and as dirty as he was showing up for school, he managed to earn his High School Diploma from Mayo High School, which he was very proud of.

In the Spring of 1957, Joe met Sarah the love of his life. After having their first child, he found working the farms wasn’t enough to raise a family, so he left his wife and baby, and hopped on the chicken bone express (*the train*) and headed for New York City, Harlem for a better opportunity. There, he moved in with his sister, Helen in Wagner Projects, until he established himself and was able to bring his wife and baby to the big city. This began at Montefiore Hospital, where he went from messenger to retiring as a Mailroom Supervisor forty-two years later.

Honey or Pop Pop (as he was affectionately called by his family) enjoyed fishing, westerns and the company of his family (Joe’s Tribe), which were most important to him.

Joseph was preceded in death by his parents, Joseph Ervin, Sr. and Elzena Lonnon, his brothers, James, Clarence, Albert, Isaiah, Tommy and Woodrow.

He is survived by: his wife, Sarah (Dolly); brother, Edgar; sister, Helen Ervin; sisters-in-law, Lula Ervin, Patricia Ervin, Elizabeth Ervin and Amell Ervin; his children, Joseph Ervin III (Pat), Prestel Ervin (Ronald Albert), Sam James Ervin (Karen) and Chrissy Ervin; his grandchildren, Joseph, Nathaniel, Renetta, Linda, Kenya (Jason) Walter, Ronald, Samantha, Taneshia, Suzette, Sam, Melody and Christina; his great grandchildren, Jermaine, Mikey, Little Prestel, Justice, Eli; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

# *Order of Service*

Processional

Selection

Scripture Readings

Prayer

Selection

Acknowledgements

Remarks

Obituary

Selection

Eulogy

Committal

Viewing

Recessional

## **Interment**

Christ Church Cemetery  
South Amboy, New Jersey

## *We Only Wanted You*

They say memories are golden  
well maybe that is true.

We never wanted memories,  
We only wanted you.

A million times we needed you,  
a million times we've cried.

If love alone could have saved you  
you never would have died.

In life we loved you dearly,  
In death we love you still.

In our hearts you hold a place  
no one can ever fill.

If tears could build a stairway  
and heartache make a lane,  
We'd walk the path to heaven  
to bring you back again.

Our family chain is broken,  
and nothing seems the same.

But as God calls us one by one,  
the chain will link again.

## *God Saw You Getting Tired*

God saw you getting tired and a cure was not to be  
So he put his arms around you and whispered "Come With Me."

With tearful eyes we watched you, slowly fade away,  
Although we loved you dearly, we would not make you stay.

A golden heart stopped beating, hard working hands at rest.

God broke our hearts to prove to us,  
He only takes the best.

## *Acknowledgement*

*The family acknowledges with deep appreciation all acts of kindness extended to them during this bereavement hour. God bless you for all your thoughtfulness and concern.*

