



Mrs. Esther Elizabeth Eccles

April 12, 1925 - January 16, 2021

In order to view the Live Stream on the service date please go to YouTube.com and type in Esther Eccles home going service at the 11am mark.

Esther Elizabeth Eccles the matriarch of our family, left this world suddenly on January 16, 2021 at the young age of 95!

Esther was a caring daughter, sister, wife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother, mentor, teacher, and friend.

Her loving heart has left a beacon of light for all who lives she touched.

On Easter Sunday April 1925, Esther was born the youngest child of Earl and Sussie Embry. Her brothers and sisters Earl, Jean, Dorothea, Susan, and Neal.

Esther graduated from Crispus Attucks High School. After graduation Esther was recruited to draw maps as a member of the Army Map Corps During World War II.

She studied at Madam C. J. Walker's school of beauty, and became a licensed cosmetologist.

She later moved to Detroit where she met and married Arthur Humphrey and they had two sons, Arthur and Michael.

The marriage ended in divorce, and she became a single mother in the 1950's with two young sons.

In the 1950's and 1960's Esther worked as a stylist and licensed

cosmetologist, first at The House of Beauty and later at The House of Joy. She remained a single mom raising two boys until she married Arthur D. Eccles on June 28, 1969.

She later went to work at Glazier Elementary School as a Teacher Aide. Her love of children and teaching instilled in her the commitment to continuing her own education.

She earned her Bachelor's degree from the University of Detroit, and became a proud member of Phi Delta Kappa Sorority.

Throughout her life even the simplest pleasures in life seemed to bring Esther great joy!

In her later years, Esther had a Very Passionate Love Affair ... with ice cream. She also Loved shopping, evenings out with friends, and quiet evenings at home with music and an occasional glass of wine.

In her later years Ester still retained her uncanny ability to find happiness every day of her life!

She is survived by her sons, Arthur and Michael, Daughters Claudia and Janet, Adopted Daughter Sandy, and Host of: Nieces, Nephews, Grand Nieces, Grand Nephews, and Great Grand Nieces and Great Grand Nephews who continue to honor her legacy.

May all our memories of Esther Elizabeth Eccles far exceed all our sorrow without her.

Previous Events

Private Family Hour

Friday, Jan. **29**. 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Elim Baptist Church
19333 Lasher Road
Detroit, MI 48219

Private Funeral Service (Invite Only)

Friday, Jan. **29**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Elim Baptist Church
19333 Lasher Road
Detroit, MI 48219

Burial

Friday, Jan. **29** (ET)

Detroit Memorial Park East
4280 East 13 Mile Road
Warren, MI 48092

Tribute Wall



“ *O.H. Pye III Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Mrs. Esther Elizabeth Eccles*



O.H. Pye III Funeral Home - January 26, 2021 at 11:41 AM

GH

*May God keep you and your family close to his heart.
Glen Hendricks*

Glen Hendricks - January 28, 2021 at 10:30 AM



My deepest condolences to our family we have lost a monarch that taught me so much about our family I love you and you will be greatly missed 😭😭😭

Sherri Smith - January 29, 2021 at 08:42 AM

CC

I feel like a better person for having watched it. What a rare woman.

C. Curtis - January 30, 2021 at 12:34 PM



“ O.H. Pye III Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mrs. Esther Elizabeth Eccles



O.H. Pye III Funeral Home - January 26, 2021 at 11:38 AM



“ My sister am I met Esther by chance when she was in a rehabilitation facility in which our father was also a patient. We used to love to visit with her and hear her speak of her sons, her values and her faith. She had a graceful way of communicating lyrical pattern of speech, that was so gentle and kind. that it left you both, wise and self assured. It was the kind of self assurance that can only shine through from a woman who had lived a full and generous life. It was wonderful to listen to a woman who seemed to have so few regrets in a place where complaint and impatience were everywhere. Esther was a woman who knew who she was and who loved her sons with fierce devotion. She was proud and yet humbled by all that she had lived. It was a joy and blessing just hearing her speak.

C. Curtis - January 30, 2021 at 11:39 AM



“ Mrs. Esther Elizabeth Eccles

January 21, 2023 at 09:34 PM

JT

“ Hello, Richard and I and the brother and sister of Rodney and Janet Whitfield. We met Aunt. Ester during a visit to Michigan to visit family. We had breakfast with Arthur and Michael then were graciously invited to see her later that day. We had a wonderful visit with a lot of the family, almost like a reunion. Aunt Ester welcomed us with open arms having just met us and we could see her grace, wit and beauty immediately.

We send our condolences and prayer for God's peace to all souls grieving their loss of Aunt Ester Elizabeth Eccles.

Love,

Richard and Jacqueline Thompson

Jacqueline Thompson - January 29, 2021 at 10:46 AM



“ Sherri Smith lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Esther Elizabeth Eccles



Sherri Smith - January 29, 2021 at 08:38 AM

OL

“ Art, thanks for your call today about your mothers final arrangements.

As people always say, "I'm sorry for your loss", and in my case, I agree. But in addition, I want to say it has been a pleasure reconnecting with you, even though its been phone conversations over the last 6 years.

I've lost all my family I know of in Detroit to old age. My mother was the last to go back in 1993 and I know the pain your going through.

Are, be strong and I hope you are able to return to Beijing China soon to continue the schools you built and are still in operation.

Your Frat Brother,

*Omar Leatherman
404-680-1883*

Omar Leatherman - January 28, 2021 at 12:24 PM

BE

“ Aunt Esther. I will always remember your soft voice, laughter, caring and kind spirit. You had a zest for life and encouraged everyone around you. Thank you for thoughtfulness and being a beacon of light, hope and inspiration for me and others. Love you always and with fond memories, Bianca

Bianca Embry - January 28, 2021 at 12:02 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mrs. Esther Elizabeth Eccles.*



January 28, 2021 at 11:43 AM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Mrs. Esther Elizabeth Eccles.*



January 28, 2021 at 12:50 AM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Mrs. Esther Elizabeth Eccles.*



January 28, 2021 at 12:37 AM



“ *I remember my Aunt Esther was very elegant woman well-dressed woman, who made my Uncle Skites a very happy man. Hi Arthur and Michael. This is your cousin Eileen. I love you guys and you have my number. I'm here... call me... because we're in that same Club. I know what it feels like to have lost a mother. Arthor, Michael, always remember that God loves you best and don't forget I love you too. Hang in there...*

Eileen Littlejohn - January 27, 2021 at 09:36 PM

TM

“ *Time transitions the loss into beautiful memories purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of Mrs. Esther Elizabeth Eccles.*



Time transitions the loss into beautiful memories - January 27, 2021 at 09:22 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mrs. Esther Elizabeth Eccles.*



January 27, 2021 at 08:00 PM

PV

“ *During this time, we must celebrate the long and full life lived by Esther. She was a woman deep in faith, conviction, grace and kindness. You have our deepest sympathy, The Vogt Family*

Paul R Vogt - January 27, 2021 at 06:05 PM

GB

“ *I met Esther through my sister. She lovingly embraced our entire family (my mother, son, brothers, nieces and nephews) as if we were born kin. She loved to entertain guests- complete with an abundance of food and dessert. We spent countless occasions visiting, laughing, and playing cards. Her love for others was pure and amazing. Her beauty started from within and glowed outward. As her name implies, she was truly a “Star”. Love you Esther and deepest condolences to the family. Gloria Boone*

Gloria Boone - January 27, 2021 at 04:29 PM



“ *Pink Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Mrs. Esther Elizabeth Eccles.*



January 27, 2021 at 04:18 PM



“ *Donna Dugeon lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Esther Elizabeth Eccles*



Donna Dugeon - January 27, 2021 at 03:04 PM



“ *Aunt Ester always knew how to make you smile, laugh, and feel happy. She loved and cared for others deeply. My mother (Mary Frances), Ester and Jean were very close. I remember when I was little aunt Ester and aunt Jean would drive across the state to see us. A lot of great times and many great memories. She will be missed. With love from Pat & Leslie.*

Pat McLamore - January 27, 2021 at 12:42 PM



“ *Bryant Whitfield & Family purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Mrs. Esther Elizabeth Eccles.*



Bryant Whitfield & Family - January 27, 2021 at 10:27 AM

LC

“ *Esther Was One Of The Few People That I Could Honestly Say Was Beautiful Inside And Out. I've Felt This Way Well Over 60 Years. Esther And My Mom Were Dear Friends Until Her Passing. Esther Treated Me Like A Daughter When I Needed A Mother's Love And Direction. She Never Changed. She Was Always Dressed To The Nines, Well Coiffed And Had Her Nails Done. Esther Always Had That Glowing Smile And Sweet Disposition. I Never Ended A Call Or Visit Without Saying " I Love You". Esther, I Thank You For Everything You've Been And Done For Me In My Life. I Will Miss You Dearly. I LOVE YOU*💕

LORRAINE CAVER - January 27, 2021 at 12:37 AM

RM

“ *My deepest condolences to the family of Mrs Esther Eccles. Art and Mike you both made sure that your mother was taken care of . I got to know Ms Esther being one of her caregivers , oh how she loved the Lord and looked forward to watching Dr. Stanley and listening to music . “ she knew her music” and loved all types , but most of all she loved to get her long hair comb . She will always be remembered as a beautiful lady with an beautiful soul that loved her sons as much as they loved her. God blessings be among the family*
Robin Renee Mckinney

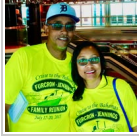
Robin R McKinney - January 26, 2021 at 11:01 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Mrs. Esther Elizabeth Eccles.*



January 26, 2021 at 10:13 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Al Boswell II - January 26, 2021 at 10:07 PM

NA

“ Mrs Esther was like a mother to me I will truly miss her,I remember every day after work me Brian and Aaliyah and hank! would go over to her house to see her and mr eccles, she would feed us as if we were her own kids she loved us all me,Brian,Aaliyah and her favorite puppy hank. You will truly be missed love you lots Aneka and Aaliyah



nikki And Aaliyah - January 26, 2021 at 08:27 PM



“ Aunt Esther, was one of the kind. She was always glad to see us when we would come by. She would love her music with a little snack, but also wanted other to join in. Before we would leave she would ask Perry to pray for her, then she would pray for us. That's the Aunt I knew, she loved the Lord with all her heart. We will miss her smile with her lib stick, but knowing her love stays here, and she's free. We can rejoice, and say Rest in Peace Aunt Esther. We love you. Perry and Dorothy Eccles

Dorothy Eccles - January 26, 2021 at 04:57 PM

TF

“ *The Boone and Sims Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mrs. Esther Elizabeth Eccles.*



The Boone and Sims Family - January 26, 2021 at 04:44 PM

GD

“ *Grandson, Terez and mother Darlene purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Mrs. Esther Elizabeth Eccles.*



Grandson, Terez and mother Darlene - January 26, 2021 at 04:19 PM

WM

“ *With Love, Hope Lovell & Heidi Morton purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Mrs. Esther Elizabeth Eccles.*



With Love, Hope Lovell & Heidi Morton - January 26, 2021 at 12:37 PM

KD

“ *Thank you Aunt Esther. Your smile warmed the hearts of thousands of souls; your hands improved the lives of many and your words encouraged us all! These memories will be cherished by all who loved you and comfort the bereaved.*

Keith Durham

Keith Durham - January 26, 2021 at 12:26 PM

TL

“ Aunt Esther was beautiful lady inside and outside a classy lady, always cool calm and collective. She loved family her sons, daughters, nieces, nephews grandchildren and especially her husband my uncle Arthur "skite" Eccles. We will miss her and her wonderful smile . God bless you family He is so Good!!

Sincerely Timothy Littlejohn and Family

Timothy Littlejohn - January 26, 2021 at 11:17 AM

TL

“ Mrs. Eccles. Was loved 🤗 and will be loved infinity I worked with her for about 4 years off & on she loved her nails done 💅 she would tap them on the table when she knew they was dry like she knew she was all dolled up. She loved her snacks 😊 & her tea ☕ I live in Phoenix now and wish I could make it to you and the family. I just lost my mom on the 5th of January and I feel empty now that I have heard the news about you it's saddens my heart it hurts. no one is never prepared for this kinda thing. Miss Eccles know that I love you your forever in my heart I promise you that I know you are all dolled up your nails are done in your hair is like silk. No more pain your set free love always Tiffany Lee

Tiffany Lee - January 26, 2021 at 09:22 AM



“ Growing up, I remember Aunt Esther as a force of nature. She was so dynamic, so “with it”, so hip! She was such a contrast to my mother, who was much more conservative and sedate in most matters.

Whenever she visited Indianapolis, I knew we were in for a whirlwind of a time, filled with much fun amidst retail therapy. Auntie taught me that although money couldn't buy happiness, it could sure put a down-payment on it. And, if retail therapy didn't work for you, then you needed to shop somewhere else – preferably where she shopped.

When I lived with her in Detroit, Auntie brought home a teaching unit about African cultures and traditional dress. We didn't learn to be proud of our heritage in the rather backward schools of Indianapolis. Because of Auntie, I now collect African trade beads (the real deal, not the drech) as well as other forms of African art. She also taught me how important it was to patronize Black-owned businesses, such as the ice cream shop run by the Black Muslims that sold such exotic flavors of ice cream as mango and guava. This was a very heady experience for a 7-year-old coming from Indianapolis, as I'm sure you can imagine.

Other firsts with Auntie included going to Metropolitan Beach. The is the first time that I remember going to a beach.

Another time, Mother didn't want me to have my ears pierced until I was older because she thought that an 8-year-old wouldn't take care of the piercings. Nevertheless, Auntie took me to Dr. Bruce to get my ears pierced, and bought me my first pair of nice (sterling silver) earrings. I have about 16 piercings, to date – you may guess where they are if you dare!

Auntie also got me my first halter top, my first pair of platform sandals, and my first hair pieces. And, you couldn't have told me that I that I didn't look good in all that!

Auntie and Skytes were there at my wedding to Mitch. The picture is of them at the pre-wedding dinner that was for the families to meet. Later, at the wedding, Skytes brought his camera and lighting gear. That lighting gear was a God-send, as things start getting dark early during Fall in Wisconsin.

Another first was that Aunt Esther was the first of her generation of the Embry family to earn a college degree to become a teacher. It took her many years and a lot of grit to achieve this triumph. This taught me that perseverance pays, and that women of a certain age can do anything they want.

Here's to you, Auntie – may you be in Heaven sitting with all of the other Embry queens who gone before!

Gina Holland - January 25, 2021 at 09:15 PM

GI

“*My sincere condolences are extended to Mrs. Eccles family. Although I didn't know her personally, it brought a great deal of joy to listen to Art talk about her. I know that her loving hands will rest over each of you.*

Frank L. Gillespie, IV

Frank L. Gillespie, IV - January 25, 2021 at 08:59 PM

AE

“ Aunt Esther, Great Aunt Esther, Auntie, whatever we called her and however we addressed her, she returned 100 fold with love. Somehow she would remember things about my brother and me that I would forget. She seemed to never miss a birthday or significant event in our lives and I never knew who told her. I will always hold the great memories of family reunions where she would secretly let us get away with almost everything but we all knew that we were not to try anything. I never knew her full story because perhaps I was too young to fully understand when we had our talks, but her voice and bright eyed smile hasn't left me after all of these years. I wish I could turn back time, and spend more time in her presence, but take comfort that she will be watching us all from above. Gently guiding, forever diligent, and always with love. God Bless and may she rest easy in the Kingdom of our Father. ~Aaron Embry

Aaron Embry - January 25, 2021 at 07:56 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mrs. Esther Elizabeth Eccles.



January 25, 2021 at 07:43 PM