



Dr. Jack B. Gaines Sr.

January 27, 1945 - March 23, 2020

Dr. Jack B. Gaines Sr., 75, of Chesapeake, VA transitioned to eternal glory in the early morning hours of March 23, 2020. Jack was a humble man. In his early years, Jack became one of the first African American pitchers in Major League Baseball. In his later years, Jack dedicated his life by serving in the ministry as an Assistant Pastor, Missions Elder and as an Ambassador for Global Reconciliation.

To honor his legacy are his wife of 51 years, Mildred, Jack Jr. (Son), Joy Gaines Ransom (Daughter), Jerrold (Son), Jayda and Daurielle Ransom (Granddaughters), Gifted Children, Ineeta Harris and Perrerr Tosso, Sisters, Janice Forrest and Jacqueline Pope (Nathaniel), Brother, Jeremiah Gaines Jr. (Theresa) and a host of nieces, nephews and cousins.

Cemetery Details

Albert G Horton Jr. Veterans Memorial Cemetery

5310 Milner's Road
Suffolk, VA

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 29. 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

J.T. Fisher Funeral Services
1248 N. George Washington Hwy
Chesapeake, VA

Service

MAR 30. 11:00 AM (ET)

Body of Christ Community Church
4800 Station House Road
Chesapeake, VA

Tribute Wall

LH

“ Jerry, I just wanted to offer my condolences. People have written so many kind remarks about your brother. He really gave himself to this world through his ministries. Your parents raised strong, honorable men. I hope our paths will cross again one day. God be with you and your family during this time.
Lucy Brown Hill

Lucy Hill - April 02, 2020 at 11:36 PM

DM

“ Oh, how I will miss my friend, Jack. Faithful and fearless - I remember with gratefulness the times we traveled together in Africa and Asia as we partnered together in purpose and mission with Dr. Brian Johnson with COMINAD. The hours of conversation at Roger Brown's Sports Bar in Portsmouth and in many restaurants overseas in sharpening our focus and thoughts on Biblical Reconciliation. What a man! And Mildred - behind and beside and in front of him. The delight of him speaking in our church and visiting often. Yes, I will miss my friend.

*Rev. Dr. Olah L. Moore
Faith Community Church
Norfolk, VA 23504
"Worshiping in Park Place, Impacting the World."*

Dr. Olah L. Moore - March 31, 2020 at 10:07 AM

LJ

“ My deepest sympathy to the Gaines family in the loss of your love one! May God continue to bless and strengthen you during this difficult time. *Leslie C. Jordan and Family*

Leslie C. Jordan - March 30, 2020 at 10:37 PM

AL

“ RIP My Brother! You Have Earned Your Earned Your Heavenly Wings!🕊️ Ann Elliott Lewis



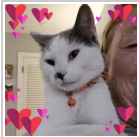
Ann Elliott Lewis - March 30, 2020 at 10:23 PM

TS

“ Mildred & family, I am so sorry to hear of Jack's passing. My prayers are with you all.

Terry Smith

Terry Smith - March 30, 2020 at 09:11 PM



“ Jenn & I offer condolences to Millie Gaines and all her family. We knew Jack about 25 years of his long life because of Brian Johnson and the COMINAD mission mobilisation group, thus we offer sincere condolences to all his ministry friends. I first met pastor Jack in Pittsburgh where he led a seminar on missions from the black church perspective, fascinating. And then Jack had me come to Chesapeake to meet Brian, Butch, Ola, and many others. He was man of ministry connections, so many will be bereaved on hearing he's left us, but overjoyed to know he's 'gone home'. Brian had me meet the President of Benin once, and it was because Jack had already worked with Mr. Kerekou on fostering reconciliation that such a meeting was possible. Loving Africa in action in Benin, the Sudan, and elsewhere was just easy for this pastor, and we thank God for such a model of a peacemaker.
Rev Jim & Jenn Bowers

Jennifer Bowers - March 30, 2020 at 04:06 PM

IG

“ *Emma Gaines and Isaiah Gaines, Jr. lit a candle in memory of Dr. Jack B. Gaines Sr.*



Isaiah Gaines - March 30, 2020 at 11:54 AM

“ *The Measure of the Man*
(An Elegy for Dr. Jack B. Gaines Sr.)

*The measure of the man can be done by the way he honored God,
his family and his friends.*

We measure how he keeps his word until his life ends.

*We measure his accomplishments, and how he exemplified his
faith,*

*We measure the balance of his life and if he mastered his
responsibilities weight.*

*We measure the tensions on the ordered path of his faith steps all
his life long,*

*We listen for the pianissimo and crescendo of notes played,
by the symphony of his life's song.*

*I am a big sports fan, and as I am getting older, living forward from
lessons looking back,*

*I know my love for all sports can be traced, (even my nickname
GSPN,*

given by my lifelong friends), to my cousin Jack.

*He pitched and batted left and helped break the racial barrier in
Major League Baseball,*

even though he was born with his dominant hand being right.

*He walked humbly and traveled Africa and the world, exemplifying
God's light.*

*I recall moving back from Pittsburgh, PA to Portsmouth, VA,
a single mother, after the birth of my son.*

Those encouraging "God Bless You!" shouts,

and those who gave the heavy money handshakes,

*Jack contributed with a big smile, quietly, he invested numerous
sums.*

*I know that many lives were coached to swing the bat at life's
pitches,*

to keep hitting the ball and most importantly listen,

to respect differences in others and follow God's plan.

*These are the accoutrements and attributes, These are The
Measure of the Man.*

*My condolences to my cousins, Mildred (Jappie), Jack Jr., Joy &
Jerrold Gaines
and the entire Gaines family.*

*Ginger R. Jones AKA the Spicepoet
Las Vegas, Nevada*

Ginger R. Jones - March 30, 2020 at 10:35 AM

LC

“When Tom Rees and I waited for Jack Gaines at the Houston airport terminal, I didn't know him. Several years earlier, I had Googled racial reconciliation and found Jack's book, *My Brother's Keeper Not My Brother's Killer*, and read excerpts from it.

When a dark-skinned man stepped out of the terminal, Tom said, “Well here's Jack.”

As I looked at the man headed our way, the Holy Spirit said: “Listen to everything that this man says.”

That moved my thoughts into a new gear. I understood that I was about to meet one of God's chosen. Mentally, I moved from mild anticipation to the very edge of my seat.

From that point on, when Jack spoke I noted a couple of things: he stuck to the Word of God, and he said what God had given him to say. He didn't freelance much into what God had given others but focused very much on what God had given him.

And Jack spoke with depth, which is where you find real truth, real meaning, real motivations.

Jack Gaines was a wonderful man, an inspiration past and an inspiration present to me. I think of him with a great deal of warmth. I have wondered how I can feel brotherly to a man I have only known a few years?

Must be God.

I'll conclude with this. Once during a Reconciliation Eagles webinar, the Holy Spirit referred to Jack, and the rest of the Eagles with high praise, “. . . of whom the world was not worthy”.

When He said that (NKJ, Hebrews 11:38), I knew I was among high-quality citizens of heaven on the earth.

Jack was indeed a citizen of heaven on the earth. He was a great man. And I miss him deeply.

—Larry Colbert, Oklahoma City, OK

Larry Colbert - March 30, 2020 at 09:31 AM

RT

“ You always talked about how you felt as a little boy when my daddy passed. You have been an integral part of my life since I was four. We got saved together, worked at the coal piers together, attended church together, ministered together, and raised families together. In the last few years we encouraged each other while going through our separate journeys. I will miss you until we meet again.

Ronald Taylor - March 29, 2020 at 05:55 PM

DR

“ Donna Revellon purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Dr. Jack B. Gaines Sr..



Donna Revellon - March 29, 2020 at 05:49 PM

IR

“ I met Jack in the first grade at Churchland Elementary School for Colored Children. He was jovial, fun to be around, and serious about learning. All through Crestwood High School I discovered that Jack was a great dancer as well as a serious baseball pitcher. As we ventured through our professional journeys, Jack continued to develop into a person exhibiting great godly character. I will cherish his knowledge and wisdom that he shared with our classmates when we celebrated class reunions and when I talked with him on the phone. Mildred, Jack will always hold a special place in our hearts.

Inez Loney Randolph

Crestwood High School Class of 1962

Inez Loney Randolph - March 29, 2020 at 12:28 PM

AL

“ *Aquilla Lee lit a candle in memory of Dr. Jack B. Gaines Sr.*



Aquilla Lee - March 29, 2020 at 12:04 PM

“ Pastor (Dr.) Gaines was the loving father of my childhood first and best friend, Joy Gaines Ransom. He was also one of my father's, the late Dr. Darnell Johnson, best friends. They were friends and neighbors for over 40 years. Our families were neighbors in Holly Cove for about 10 years and then about a year later became neighbors in Jolliff Woods until this day. But he was so much more than that. I grew up watching Pastor (Dr.) Gaines diligently provide for his family, while simultaneously supporting the needs of his community. He was a pillar of strength for those around him and a role model for young men in our neighborhood (Holly Cove) and the community-at-large. Pastor (Dr.) Gaines was an entrepreneur, a speaker and an author. He modeled excellence in the work that he set before him. He was a faithful servant of GOD, always working to share THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST! He was also always willing to lend a helping hand, especially to young men who were in need of his Wisdom and presence, even to the point that he constantly opened up his home to provide a safe harbor. Pastor (Dr.) Gaines was a great mentor. He introduced my father to Jail Ministry and they worked alongside each other as Volunteer Chaplains. Again, he was faithful to his calling to share GOD'S WORD near and far, even to the continent of Africa. And he was Blessed with a faithful, loving and doting wife, Mrs. Mildred Gaines, who supported him and their family in the most selfless ways. I will always remember her joy in serving her husband and family. I truly Loved and Adored The Gaines Family! They Were My Family, not by Blood but by Love and The Blood of JESUS CHRIST! And Pastor Gaines was not just an Awesome father-figure to me, but to so many young women and men. His presence in our lives was truly a Blessing for all the years we knew him. He stood tall in our community and stood in the gap for so many absent fathers. Pastor Gaines had a true servant's heart. His Love for THE LORD GOD MOST HIGH and the Love for his family and friends will always be remembered and admired! As a friend of The Gaines Children, I am thankful that he and his wife trained up their children to Love JESUS CHRIST and to Love GOD'S People. That legacy of GOD'S Love already lives on in them and I know that they will Boldly and Lovingly continue to carry

and share The GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST throughout the world to all those who may need it!!! May The Gaines Family All Be Comforted By THE HOLY SPIRIT And May They Be Richly and Abundantly Blessed IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST!!! I Love You All! GLORY TO GOD!!! Dawn L. Green (and Pastor Roosevelt Green III)

Dawn L. Green - March 29, 2020 at 09:09 AM

DJ

“ Jackie and Family,

*You are in my thoughts and prayers during this time of losing Jack in the midst of the COVID-19. My prayers are for your comfort and your well-being, and that a lifetime of memories and your faith in the LORD will sustain and strengthen you. Much love.
Deb Jenkins*

Deb Jenkins - March 28, 2020 at 10:41 PM

DE

“ Delmarene(Kippy)Barnes lit a candle in memory of Dr. Jack B. Gaines Sr.



Delmarene(Kippy)Barnes - March 28, 2020 at 06:22 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. Jack B. Gaines Sr..



March 28, 2020 at 06:02 PM

PE

“ *Pastor Davis And Joyce Eley lit a candle in memory of Dr. Jack B. Gaines Sr.*



Pastor Davis and Joyce Eley - March 28, 2020 at 02:25 PM

PD

“ *Jack and I have had a long string of conversations about community and personal difficulties as well as ministry to each other. A year ago or more Pastor Josie was telling me that Jack told him he appreciated very much my being a mentor to him. I was stunned. It's the other way around Jack! With only a brief bit of reflection I realize I am probably a member of a very very large crowd of folks who have been mentored and ministered to by Jack with great effect now and in the future.*

*With the highest regard,
Paul Van Doren*

Paul Van Doren - March 28, 2020 at 01:51 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Dr. Jack B. Gaines Sr..*



March 28, 2020 at 01:14 PM

ED

“ JACK,

YOU WILL ALWAYS BE A GREAT BROTHER IN LAW, WE WERE SORRY TO HEAR OF YOUR PASSING, BUT I KNOW THAT JAPPIE WILL BE LOST WITHOUT YOU, BUT SHE WILL FIND HER HELP IN THE LORD. THE KIDS AND GRANDKIDS WILL MISS A GREAT DAD.

LOVE YOU

REGINALD & EVELYN

EVELYN DAVIS - March 28, 2020 at 11:06 AM

AC

“ *Praying for the family.
Allen and Frieda Cason*



Allen Cason - March 28, 2020 at 10:59 AM

MF

“ *Please know how very sorry we are to learn of the loss of Jack Sr. Sending our thoughts and prayers to the entire Family. The Gains Family has always been SO very special to us! From Southwestern Elementary to their Family business, John and I feel very blessed to have known you all! Special love to Jack Jr. and Joy- my precious students! 💕 We appreciate that we kept up with them , Gerry and other family at your store!*

*Much Love,
Mary and John Failes*

Mary and John Failes - March 28, 2020 at 09:19 AM

AF

“ I am deeply sorry to hear about the transitioning of Dr. Jack B. Gaines, Sr., lifetime family friend, neighbor, and professional baseball star. As one of the first African American pitchers in Major League Baseball, he was an inspiration to many of the men and boys in the community. As an entrepreneur and minister, he was an inspiration to us all. His was a life well lived. May God continue to bless and strengthen the entire family, during this time of loss.
(Archie W. Earl, Sr. and Family)

Archie W. Earl, Sr. and Family - March 28, 2020 at 09:16 AM



“ 39 files added to the album Life Tributes



J. T. Fisher Funeral Services - March 27, 2020 at 08:00 PM

A(

Our family we love you and we know God doesn't make mistakes. Jackie is better off then we are and he knew the Lord for himself, so we are rejoicing that God loaned him to us until He was ready to call him home. May God bless us all as we all are trying to be safe during this Corona virus. We love you. Avis (Nee-Nee) & family, Carmen & family, Thurrel (Terry) & family and Eva Hill Taylor

Avis McCants (cousin) - March 28, 2020 at 12:29 PM

YJ

A man who will truly be missed! My condolences to the family!❤️

Yvette Jenkins - March 29, 2020 at 04:12 PM

VT

“ You were so much more than our Cousin. You were our mentor, our counselor, our great encourager, and most of all you were our Friend. The impact you have on our family goes beyond words. So glad we were able to talk to you by phone recently! Our last words to you were "we love you" and we always will. Our beloved Pastor Gaines we will forever be thankful for our memories with you. Praying God's comfort for your family. Bruce&Valarie

Valarie Taylor - March 27, 2020 at 03:08 PM

SV

Absent from the body present with the Lord. Prayers of comfort for the family and friends. In the care of Jesus now!! Kimmerick and Stephanie Vick

Stephanie Vick - March 28, 2020 at 06:01 PM

ER

“ Jack (Cousin) our prayers of comfort and love go out to your family for their loss, the head Patriarch of the Gaines family. In years of knowing you, you were always a man of few words but when you spoke they were words of wisdom and strength. You will greatly missed from one Crestwood Bomber to another. May God give to comfort you Gaines Family as you take these last steps with Jack in his Homegoing Service. Your loss is heaven gain. Weeping May Endure For A Night But Your Joy Will Come, In Jesus Name I Pray, Amen. Fred and Evon Rodgers



Evon Rodgers - March 27, 2020 at 08:52 AM

SW

“ Jack, I remember our fellowship and the fun we had playing golf. I remember you damaging your prized driver and I surprised you one day while we were playing with a brand new one. I remember the hospitality you showed when my wife Brenda and I visited this area almost 30 years ago when we came looking for my baby sister. Rip Jack. Love you. Sam.

Samuel Wiggs - March 27, 2020 at 08:25 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Dr. Jack B. Gaines Sr..



March 27, 2020 at 01:48 AM

MW

“ Michael White lit a candle in memory of Dr. Jack B. Gaines Sr.



Michael White - March 26, 2020 at 10:29 PM

CP

“ Growing up I was blessed with six brothers. I have always counted Jack as the seventh. Rest in peace my dear brother. You were a great husband, father, brother, grandpa and friend to many. Don Lee

Col(R) Don Lee Porter - March 26, 2020 at 09:55 PM

RF

“ I remember fighting over who got to spend the night at Uncle Jack's house every summer, we use to get to raid the icebox watch sports together while my uncle would tell the funniest stories. being from new york that humid virginia heat use to wear me out but at my uncles house he use to keep the AC pumping at a dreamy level...relief, love, great food, play with my cousins. What more could a knuckleheaded 9 year old boy ask for RIP...Love You Uncle

Randy D Forrest - March 26, 2020 at 09:45 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. Jack B. Gaines Sr..



March 26, 2020 at 07:58 PM

AR

“ Mike and I send to the family heartfelt prayers that The Father will bring you through this journey of loss...Much love and respect...
The Reid Family

Anita Reid - March 26, 2020 at 04:14 PM

JB

“ May the blessings of God be with your family during this difficult time.
Jacqueline Mungo Bradley



Jacqueline Bradley - March 26, 2020 at 03:56 PM

WB

“ Welton Brabble lit a candle in memory of Dr. Jack B. Gaines Sr.



Welton Brabble - March 26, 2020 at 03:21 PM

CM

“ I will always remember cousin Jack's big beautiful smile. May he forever rest in peace with the Lord. lovingly Cynthia Gaines Mapp & Family



Cynthia G. Mapp - March 26, 2020 at 01:35 PM

MK

May you find peace family at this time knowing that our lovely family is resting with the Lord we love you all and our prayers are always with you Melanie Kee and Family

Melanie Kee - March 26, 2020 at 04:49 PM

YT

Heaven rejoices at the transition of one of God children. Also know family He will not leave you comfortless. Your kin Earlene Gaines-Taylor and daughter Yvonne Thomas

Yvonne Thomas - March 26, 2020 at 08:53 PM

AJ

“ Ashby And Ruby Jordan lit a candle in memory of Dr. Jack B. Gaines Sr.



Ashby and Ruby Jordan - March 26, 2020 at 01:11 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Dr. Jack B. Gaines Sr..*



March 26, 2020 at 08:58 AM



“ *Our deepest sympathy to the Gaines Family in the loss of your loved one! May God Bless each of you as you walk the last mile with Jack 🥹🌹❤️🙏*

*Verna Walton Bowden (Carlton Walton's sister & his Mom
Edna W Dailey
Pooler, GA*

Verna Walton Bowden - March 24, 2020 at 05:30 PM



“ *Patricia Griffin - Crestwood High School lit a candle in memory of Dr. Jack B. Gaines Sr.*



Patricia Griffin - Crestwood High School - March 24, 2020 at 01:12 PM



“ *Praying for the Gaines Family . So sorry to hear about Jack .*



Vicky Porter - March 23, 2020 at 11:34 PM

MM

Melvin mungo rest in peace my friend crestwood bomber

Melvin. mungo - March 25, 2020 at 09:26 PM

ST

“ *Sheila Bowen Taylor lit a candle in memory of Dr. Jack B. Gaines Sr.*



Sheila Bowen Taylor - March 23, 2020 at 01:38 PM

JW

“ *My deepest sympathy goes out to the Gaines Family; I met Jack when I was about 13 batboy for the Deep Creek Tigers then the Aces, Jack was a major league pitcher for the Pittsburgh Pirates, it was when I turned 17 I started catching Jack in practice wondering and scared to death if I really could catch him 90 mile fastball ,it took a minute; it was an honor to have played with him and his brothers, the love of Baseball was in our Blood .Daddy Gaines was at almost every game.Rest in Peace Jack* 🏈🏈🏈❤❤❤



Jasper Walton - March 23, 2020 at 11:48 AM