



Elmer Townsend Parkerson Jr.

November 25, 1936 - September 17, 2019

Elmer Townsend Parkerson, Jr. 82, passed away peacefully at his home in Chester, MD, surrounded by family and friends on September 17, 2019.

He was born November 25, 1936, to parents Elmer Townsend Parkerson, Sr. and Dorothy Jones Parkerson. He enjoyed an idyllic childhood growing up in St. Michaels, MD. After graduating high school, he spent three years in the U.S. Air Force. Upon returning home, he pursued a career with Maryland State Police and retired in 1980 at the rank of 1st Sergeant.

While pursuing his career, he also met the love of his life and future wife Elizabeth Ann Dobson (Betty). They enjoyed a wonderful life and marriage together on Kent Island for over 59 years. After retiring, Elmer began his own business, Parkerson's Painting. Subsequent to that, he worked for a period at Avon Paint and Wallpaper. In his final retirement, he found real pleasure and reward by volunteering in different capacities. He was a regional coordinator for Road To Recovery, an organization that provides rides for those in need of transportation for cancer treatment. After his own brush with cancer, he was inspired to give back to others by volunteering at the University of Maryland Shore Regional Cancer Center in Easton. Ironically, this is the same disease that would come back to end his life far too soon. Those who knew him and worked with him described him as a kind, selfless, and a gentle spirit who shared his wit and humor to bring smiles to anyone with whom he crossed

paths. He was a dedicated servant to those in need. He was a long time member of the Kent Island United Methodist Church and served on various committees as part of his service. He also sang in the church choir; his tenor tones will be sorely missed.

He is survived by his wife, Betty, and their two sons, Greg and wife Lorraine, and Keith and his wife Kim. "Pop" also leaves behind adoring grandchildren and great grandchildren; Brooke (Owen), Danielle, Brady, Jared, Preston, Harper, Taylor, and Owen, Jr. He is also survived by cousins Ted and Larry Jones, David Parkerson, and their extended families.

Friends and loved ones may call on the family Monday, September 23, at Kent Island United Methodist Church from 2:00-4:00 PM and 6:00-8:00 PM. Burial will take place on Tuesday, September 24, at 11:00 AM at Woodlawn Memorial Park in Easton, followed by a formal service at 12:00 PM at the Kent Island United Methodist Church, 2739 Cox Neck Road, Chester, MD. There will be a time for gathering and sharing memories immediately following the service in the church hall. Contributions can be made to these organizations close to Elmer's heart: Kent Island United Methodist Church, The American Cancer Society, or Compass Regional Hospice.

Cemetery Details

Woodlawn Memorial Park

11365 Ocean Gateway
Easton, MD 21601

Previous Events

Graveside Service

SEP 24. 11:00 AM (ET)

Woodlawn Memorial Park
11365 Ocean Gateway
Easton, MD 21601

Tribute Wall



“ *Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Elmer Townsend Parkerson Jr.*



Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home - September 20, 2019 at 03:35 PM



“ *Elmer Townsend Parkerson Jr.*

October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ *Elmer Townsend Parkerson Jr.*

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ *Elmer Townsend Parkerson Jr.*

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM

CC

“ i am so sorry to her of Mr. Elmer's passing he was always so nice when he would come into get his labs done and always asked about my family he will truly be missed



Crystal Comegys

crystal comegys - September 26, 2019 at 04:37 PM

KE

“ It was a privelege having the opportunity to know Elmer through his volunteer work with the American Cancer Society's Road to Recovery program. Elmer was one of kind - a truly compassionate man who made a difference in the lives of so many people battling cancer. His dedication to the program and to the patients will never be forgotten. We are all better for having known this special man.

Kira Eyring - September 24, 2019 at 08:35 PM

PP

“ Thinking of you all during this difficult time. May the memories that you have give you strength in the days ahead. So very sorry. 💙



Pam Kinnamon Price - September 23, 2019 at 10:33 PM

DB

“ Greg, We were so sorry to hear of your loss. Please know that there are many caring thoughts and prayers for you and your family. Our deepest sympathy, Debbie & Henry Bitter



Debbie Bitter - September 23, 2019 at 01:31 PM

DB

“ Dear Greg and family, we were so sorry to hear of the loss of your father. Please know that you are all in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. Your friends at Shore Lumber and Millwork



Debbie Bitter - September 23, 2019 at 01:20 PM

JH

“ Our deepest sympathy to Mrs. Betty & family on the passing of Mr Elmer. He was a great man, a man of real class. Whenever or where ever we saw him he always had time to stop and chat. His friendly manner and helping hand will be greatly missed. Joe & Sally Heim

Joe & Sally Heim - September 23, 2019 at 12:14 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Elmer Townsend Parkerson Jr..



September 23, 2019 at 11:42 AM

SC

“ *Spencer And Debbie Clarke lit a candle in memory of Elmer Townsend Parkerson Jr.*



Spencer and Debbie Clarke - September 23, 2019 at 10:31 AM

ML

“ *Michelle And Doug Leatherman lit a candle in memory of Elmer Townsend Parkerson Jr.*



Michelle and Doug Leatherman - September 22, 2019 at 06:14 PM

DC

“ *Sending deepest sympathy to Betty and family. A great loss - he was a wonderful man with a sweet sole. Thoughts and prayers
Donna*

donna coursey - September 22, 2019 at 05:03 PM

TK

“ *Tom And Donna Kaufman lit a candle in memory of Elmer Townsend Parkerson Jr.*



Tom and Donna Kaufman - September 22, 2019 at 09:11 AM

NR

“ *Norval & Roberta lit a candle in memory of Elmer Townsend Parkerson Jr.*



Norval & Roberta - September 22, 2019 at 08:54 AM

RB

“ *Ruth Baker lit a candle in memory of Elmer Townsend Parkerson Jr.*



ruth Baker - September 22, 2019 at 08:37 AM

LT

“ *Lexie And David Thomas lit a candle in memory of Elmer Townsend Parkerson Jr.*



Lexie and David Thomas - September 21, 2019 at 04:55 PM

JS

“ *Love and hugs to Betty, Greg, Keith and families.
I will surely miss my coffee Buddy over the past 25 years!*

Jane Sparks - September 21, 2019 at 12:01 PM

KO

“ *Kari Oulahyane lit a candle in memory of Elmer Townsend Parkerson Jr.*



Kari Oulahyane - September 21, 2019 at 11:01 AM

LB

“ *In the 1980's it was my privilege to serve with Elmer at the Annapolis Barrack of the State Police. Elmer was unfailingly a great person, and dedicated to the responsibilities of his position. I can remember some interesting incidents, and the sense of humor that was always a part of him.*

My best to his wife and family who will miss him, but they have the memories of a good and decent human being to move forward in life with. A son recently told me he could not have had a better father. I have no doubt of that being true.

Elmer was in a class by himself.

Les Booker, MSP, Retired

les Booker - September 21, 2019 at 10:38 AM

JS

“ *Love and hugs to Betty. Greg. Keith and all the family. I will surely miss my coffee buddy for 25 years!*

Jane Sparks - September 21, 2019 at 07:50 AM

JP

“ *John And Phyllis Perkins lit a candle in memory of Elmer Townsend Parkerson Jr.*



John and Phyllis Perkins - September 20, 2019 at 08:14 PM

JA

“ *I feel honored and privileged to have known Mr. Elmer and his beautiful family. He was a kind, funny, and family oriented man. Rest easy, Mr. Elmer and please know you were loved, respected, and cherished!*

Jane Anthony - September 20, 2019 at 04:05 PM

PA

“ *Phyllis & Carlton Austin lit a candle in memory of Elmer Townsend Parkerson Jr.*



Phyllis & Carlton Austin - September 20, 2019 at 12:14 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Elmer Townsend Parkerson Jr..*



September 20, 2019 at 11:13 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Elmer Townsend Parkerson Jr..*



September 19, 2019 at 08:07 PM



“ *I met Elmer at The Cancer Center where we were both volunteers and then he recruited me to drive for Road to Recovery where he was the area coordinator. It was my pleasure to work with him and for him. He was a kind and decent human being who will be missed. God bless him and his family. May he rest in peace.*



Penny Womack

Penny Womack - September 19, 2019 at 08:05 PM



“ *Mr. Elmer will be sorely missed, such a kind gentleman always with a smile, great conversation and ready and willing to help anyone! Keeping you all in our prayers for strength, peace and rest.*



Colleen Thomas - September 19, 2019 at 06:44 PM

WC

“ Safe journey Mr Elmer your work here is done. Everyone will look after Mrs Betty. You leave behind a wonderful legacy. All our love

June and Wanda Collier

wanda collier - September 19, 2019 at 06:42 PM

LC

“ Myrtle Crouse and family send our prayers to the family



Linda S Chalupa - September 19, 2019 at 05:24 PM

JB

“ Elmer was a member of our MD State Police academy class in 58. Great guy and a great trooper. So sorry to hear of his passing.



John R Biggs - September 19, 2019 at 05:03 PM

JG

“ Joan Gray lit a candle in memory of Elmer Townsend Parkerson Jr.



Joan Gray - September 19, 2019 at 04:18 PM

GB

“ So sorry Aunt Betty, Greg, Lorraine, Keith&Kim. Just broke my heart when Kayla told me. Uncle Elmer always treated me with nothing but love. You all have such a special place in my heart. I'm so sorry for such a great loss in your family. You are in my thoughts and prayers. Love to you all.



Gina Butler - September 19, 2019 at 03:20 PM

BN

“ Bob and Genevieve Norris are lighting a candle in memory of Elmer with sincere sympathy to the family.



Bob Norris - September 19, 2019 at 12:42 PM

BL

“ Beth (Fuchs) Lacey sent a virtual gift in memory of Elmer Townsend Parkerson Jr.



Beth (Fuchs) Lacey - September 19, 2019 at 12:35 PM

DP

“ Doug Pierson lit a candle in memory of Elmer Townsend Parkerson Jr.



Doug Pierson - September 19, 2019 at 12:24 PM

LF

“ Larry And Peggy Cole And Family lit a candle in memory of Elmer Townsend Parkerson Jr.



Larry and Peggy Cole and Family - September 19, 2019 at 11:07 AM

LF

“ Larry And Peggy Cole And Family lit a candle in memory of Elmer Townsend Parkerson Jr.



Larry and Peggy Cole and Family - September 19, 2019 at 11:07 AM



“ He was the nicest, sincerely funniest person. I ran into him in the Sherwin William's paint store one day on the island, it was the happiest paint I've ever bought! I left there humming some tune he was singing while mixing it, he helped me pick out the colors, he mixed it perfectly. I painted my house singing all day, he knew how to bring joy to people, it was contagious. I had known him since I was 5 when Keith and I started kindergarten together. He always made me laugh and I recall him making my friends laugh too. The world needs more people like him in it. I feel blessed to have crossed his path in life. I will cherish the memories. My condolences to you all Betty, Keith, Greg, Kim and Lorraine. If I was able to get to Maryland I would.



Dani Woodhurst - September 19, 2019 at 11:06 AM

BS

“ Betty & Jim Shaw lit a candle in memory of Elmer Townsend Parkerson Jr.



Betty & Jim Shaw - September 19, 2019 at 10:55 AM



“ Mr.Elmer was a big inspiration to me..Im sure he was loved by everyone..He will be missed..



Nan Severa - September 19, 2019 at 10:42 AM

BS

“ Betty & Jim Shaw lit a candle in memory of Elmer Townsend Parkerson Jr.



Betty & Jim Shaw - September 19, 2019 at 09:42 AM

WB

“ Sending hugs to Betty and the boys. Such a special man. You were blessed to be his family.

Fondly, Holly and Wheeler

Wheeler Baker - September 19, 2019 at 09:36 AM

TF

“ Tracy And Stacey Schulz And Family sent a virtual gift in memory of Elmer Townsend Parkerson Jr.



Tracy and Stacey Schulz and Family - September 19, 2019 at 09:21 AM

BJ

“ Greg and family, I am so very sorry for you loss. He was a great man, I liked him the first time I met him. The world could use more like him for sure. Again, very sorry to hear of his passing. God Bless.

Burt Jamison - September 19, 2019 at 09:19 AM

BS

“ Wonderful person. He will be missed by all

Betty & Jim Shaw - September 19, 2019 at 09:16 AM

GP

“ Gene & Lynda Palmatary sent a virtual gift in memory of Elmer Townsend Parkerson Jr.



Gene & Lynda Palmatary - September 19, 2019 at 09:02 AM

GP

To the family: What a wonderful gentleman that has left this community. Mr. Elmer was a great man that loved his family, friends, neighbors, colleagues and a friend he had just met. I can remember the days when he was a State Trooper coming into the County Commissioner's Office. He could tell a joke, but his work was first. You are in our thoughts, our hearts and our prayers. Wishing your family strength and peace. He was a man that loved his community and had a heart of gold. He surely was welcomed with open arms when he left and met God. God Bless each one of you and time and prayers are the keys to healing pain. Have faith in the everlasting and take comfort in the love of friends and family. God Bless. You will never be forgotten Mr. Elmer Parkerson. Love, Gene and Lynda Palmatary

Gene & Lynda Palmatary - September 19, 2019 at 09:10 AM

BN

“ Bob and Genevieve Norris are lighting a candle in memory of Elmer with sincere sympathy to his family.



Bob Norris - September 19, 2019 at 08:52 AM

JC

“ June Clark lit a candle in memory of Elmer Townsend Parkerson Jr.



June Clark - September 19, 2019 at 08:40 AM

PB

“ I am so sorry to hear of Elmer's passing. What a beautiful man; so devoted to his family and his church. It's been a joy listening to his singing voice and witty comments 'leading' us into church service on Sunday mornings. He will definitely be missed. Blessings to the entire family.

Patty Baker

Patty Baker - September 19, 2019 at 08:22 AM

JE

“ Jim And Mary Ann Edwards lit a candle in memory of Elmer Townsend Parkerson Jr.



Jim and Mary Ann Edwards - September 19, 2019 at 07:59 AM

DF

“ David Wenck & Family lit a candle in memory of Elmer Townsend Parkerson Jr.



David Wenck & family - September 19, 2019 at 07:58 AM

LK

“ Laurel Beauchamp Kimbles lit a candle in memory of Elmer Townsend Parkerson Jr.



Laurel Beauchamp Kimbles - September 19, 2019 at 07:26 AM

DG

“ *David & Annie Gardner lit a candle in memory of Elmer Townsend Parkerson Jr.*



David & Annie Gardner - September 19, 2019 at 06:50 AM

KH

“ *Kim Honeycutt lit a candle in memory of Elmer Townsend Parkerson Jr.*



Kim Honeycutt - September 19, 2019 at 06:04 AM



“ *Sending condolences to Greg and Keith and the whole Parkerson family. So sorry for your loss. Liz Clements*

Liz Clements - September 18, 2019 at 10:21 PM

PD

“ *My condolences to Mrs. Parkerson, Greg, Keith and the entire family. My prayers are with you.*



Phil Davidson - September 18, 2019 at 10:06 PM

BL

“ *The world will be notably less generous, kind, and patient without this man in it. If anybody was ever looking for a role model all they had to do was look his way. With great love, Peg and I offer our most sincere condolences.*

Brent Lewis - September 18, 2019 at 09:54 PM

SR

“ *Mr. Elmer was such a kind man and true gentleman. He will be missed by many. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family.*

Scott and Kim Ruth - September 18, 2019 at 09:45 PM

VI

“ *To all his family and friends 🙏
I am sorry for your loss! It was always a pleasure any time I saw him and was always greeted with a smile and kind words. It obviously runs in the family 😊 May your memories of him help and comfort you all at this sad time! 🏠❤️ He will surely be missed by many!*

Val whaley n bob ivins - September 18, 2019 at 09:33 PM

ML

“ *Matt And Tammy Larrimore lit a candle in memory of Elmer Townsend Parkerson Jr.*



Matt and Tammy Larrimore - September 18, 2019 at 09:03 PM

DG

“ *Sending prayers. Didn't know Mr. Paterson personally. May the Lord comfort the family. Cancer is such a terrible disease.*

Doris Greiner - September 18, 2019 at 08:20 PM

BC

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you Betty and your whole family. I have been blessed to know such a wonderful person in my life who always made me laugh over something*
Much love to you and Greg and Keith and all the family
Love Bonnie



Bonnie Coleman - September 18, 2019 at 07:55 PM

BW

“ *Bob & Sheila Willis sent a virtual gift in memory of Elmer Townsend Parkerson Jr.*



Bob & Sheila Willis - September 18, 2019 at 07:47 PM

NT

Ms. Betty, my thoughts and prayers are with you, Greg and Keith. I had no idea Mr. Elmer was ill. Please know I'm here if there's anything at all I can do. Nancy Boone Thompson

nancy boone thompson - September 18, 2019 at 10:11 PM

LL

Rest easy Mr. P, you were a kind & gentle man! You raised 2 great sons, who have your gentle spirit!! Condolences to the Parkerson family!

Lori Lovett-Eaton - September 18, 2019 at 11:19 PM



Love and prayers to the Parkerson family

Susan Ewing - September 19, 2019 at 07:16 AM

JC

“Joyce (Joy) George Cox lit a candle in memory of Elmer Townsend Parkerson Jr.



Joyce (Joy) George Cox - September 18, 2019 at 07:39 PM

JC

I grew up 2 houses down from Townsend (we always called him Townsend) and his parents on East Maple Street in St Michaels. Betty grew up on the opposite end on West Maple. Both Townsend and Betty have wonderful families and were such a nice couple. I haven't seen either of them for many years but Townsend's cousin Ted, who is my cousin also, kept me informed on how they were doing. It was so sad to get the call from Ted that Townsend had passed. To Betty, Greg, Keith and family, you all are in my thoughts and prayers. Joy

Joyce "Joy" George Cox - September 19, 2019 at 05:27 PM

MZ

“Mark & Karla Zador lit a candle in memory of Elmer Townsend Parkerson Jr.



Mark & Karla Zador - September 18, 2019 at 06:59 PM

RP

“There will never be another like him, lots of memories from all of our summer camping trips in Assateague to many of family dinners and holidays. I know Roy and Thelma were waiting with open arms and a hot cup of coffee. Go sing with the angels Mr Elmer, you will be greatly missed.



Rachel Phillips - September 18, 2019 at 06:47 PM

JP

“ *JoAnn & Royden Powell lit a candle in memory of Elmer Townsend Parkerson Jr.*



JoAnn & Royden Powell - September 18, 2019 at 06:35 PM

BM

“ *So very sad for the family's and the community's great loss! Elmer was a wonderful friend and true Christian man! My fondest memories are of the meals shared at Roy and Thelma Phillips (my in laws) and sitting around the table talking! Such a loving family..Elmer will be missed by many. He had a true servants heart! Well done God's good and faithful servant! Miss you!! Barbara Phillips Maness*

Barbara Phillips Maness - September 18, 2019 at 06:28 PM



“ *Jim Ewing lit a candle in memory of Elmer Townsend Parkerson Jr.*



Jim Ewing - September 18, 2019 at 06:17 PM

JT

“ *Prayers for the family*



Judy Thompson - September 18, 2019 at 05:53 PM

LW

“ *Larry And Lynne Wilkins lit a candle in
memory of Elmer Townsend Parkerson Jr.*



Larry and Lynne Wilkins - September 18, 2019 at 03:31 PM