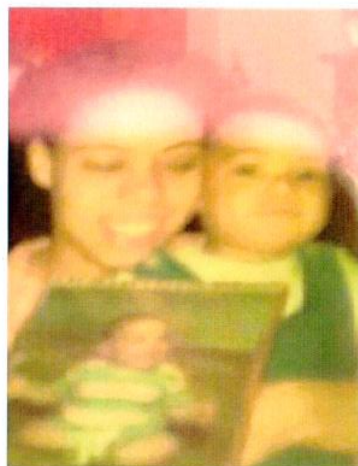


To Manny

*As 2020 ended and 2021 began,
I could not have imagined what this year would bring.*



*Even though I do not understand,
I know that this is God's perfect plan.
I may not be able to walk on water or
calm a raging sea, but as I look, read,
and listen I hear God saying to me,
"My Child I will never leave you,
so keep your eyes on Me. I will fill you
with my peace and love." So, I thank the
Lord for the time we had together.*

*I give God all the Glory
for all the things that he has done.
I thank you Lord for my precious son,
for Emmanuel's Life on this earth is finally done.*

I will miss you, Love Ma.

LEGACY OF LOVE

~ Acknowledgment ~

*The family wishes to express our sincere gratitude to all those who
have supported us during this time of loss. Hellens Family*



In Touch

Funeral and Cremation Services, LLC
"PROVIDING A PERSONAL TOUCH TO LASTING MEMORIES"

Nikkia L. Brown, LE LFD Business: (708) 299-6217

www.intouchfuneralandcremation.com

Designed & Printed By: Distinction Obituaries (773) 671-0069

Celebrating the Life of...



Emmanuel Hellens

Sunrise:

December 4, 1975

Sunset:

June 25, 2021

THURSDAY, JULY 22, 2021

Memorial Service: 10:30 A.M.

In Touch Funeral Services (at Wheatley Funeral Home)

400 Pulaski Rd.

Calumet City, Illinois 60409

Rev. Warren Woods, Officiating

~ Life Reflections of... ~
Emmanuel Hellens

Emmanuel Hellens, 45, passed away peacefully at his home in Laredo, TX, on June 25, 2021. Emmanuel was a decorated Army Veteran who served both in Afghanistan and Iraq. He spent an additional three years in the Army Reserves after active Duty.

Emmanuel, affectionally known as **'Manny'** was born on December 4, 1975, in Chicago, IL, to Lorretta Smith and adopted by her husband Michael Hellens Sr. Manny began to think about joining the Military in high school at the tender age of 16, following in the footsteps of his uncles and grandfathers however, decided to delay his service to serve as a protector to his mother and four siblings. He worked several jobs after graduating from Alan B. Shepard High School including Jewel-Osco Bakery department, Dillinger's eatery, and Murrays Auto discount as Assistant Manager.

As his youngest siblings turned 18, it was time for Manny to fulfill his dream and proceeded to join the military at the age of 28. He was stationed at Ft. Polk in Louisiana.

During his time of service, he was awarded the following awards: Afghanistan Campaign Medal with campaign star, Army Commendation Medal, The Army Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal with Campaign Star, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, & the NATO Medal.

While attending Chicago Baptist Tabernacle, Manny accepted Christ as his savior at the age of 10 and was baptized. He later rededicated his life before joining the Armed Forces. Manny had one of the kindest spirits and biggest hearts. He would give the shirt off his back and he loved making others smile.

What brought Manny the most joy was BBQing, collecting Hot Wheels, playing video games, and working on his computer. Manny had an extensive and eclectic movie and music collection. He could go from 1940 swing music to Lil Nas X, he was currently listening to Garth Brooks "Standing Outside the Fire" and Luke Combs "Beautiful Crazy." Manny had one of the most beautiful tenor voices as part of the award-winning Alan B. Shepard High School Chorus and would be heard singing with his friends a wide range of music.

He is survived by his mother, Lorretta Smith and father, Michael Hellens Sr.; one brother, Michael Jr. (Nelly); three sisters: Madelene Joy, Paula (William), Paulette, and eleven nieces and nephews: Sean, Autumn, Christian, Albert, Abigail, Aniya, Caleb, Caitlyn, Mikayla, Nalla, Mia; and a host of aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends. His passing has left a hole in the hearts of all who knew him, loved him, and enjoyed his playful grin and protective ways.





*God's Garden
God looked around
His garden,*

and found an empty place.

He then looked down upon the earth, and saw your handsome face.

He put His arms around you and lifted you to rest.

God's garden must be beautiful He always takes the best.



To Manny

*As kids,
we lived together;
we fought,
we laughed,
we cried.*

*We did not always show
the love that we had inside.
We shared our dreams and plans,
and some secrets too.*

*All the memories we share
is what bonds us now to you.
We grew to find we have a love
that is very strong today.*

*It's a love shared by our family,
that will never fade away.*

*You are our brother not by choice,
but by the nature of our birth*

And we could not have chosen a better one!

You were the best here on earth.

Your Siblings

Joy

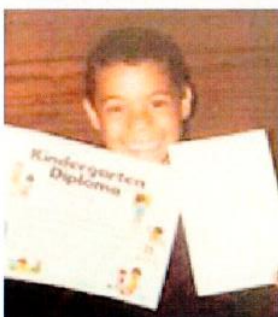
Mickey

Paula

and Paulette



TREASURED IN OUR HEARTS



This playlist was lovingly curated from Manny's IPOD with a few of his TOP-played songs. So whenever you want to feel close to him, miss him, or a memory crosses your mind: put this playlist on in remembrance of him.

Scan Here



~ Order of Service ~

Family Processional Song

Andre Crouch "Through it All"

Manny's Favorite Scripture John 5:24 & 25

Steven Smith

Prayer

Clyde Smith Sr.

Song

Donnie McClurkin "I'll Trust You Lord"

Tribute to Manny

Slide Show

Remarks/Expression (2-Minute Limit)

Reading of the Obituary

Paulette Hellens

Eulogy

Rev. Warren Woods

Closing Prayer

Rev. Warren Woods

Recessional

Farewell Tribute Slide Show

~ Interment ~

Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery

20953 W. Hoff Rd

Elwood, Illinois 60421

Full Military Honors (21-Gun Salute)

