

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

*The family of Eric Darelle Sanders
extends heartfelt gratitude for the love,
prayers, calls, visits, and every act of kindness
shown during our time of bereavement.
Your thoughts and support have been
a source of comfort and strength.
May God bless each of you.*

TYESHA'S MESSAGE TO HER FATHER

*To my loving father who I will cherish for the rest of my life.
Walking me down the aisle on my wedding day means
everything to me and Stephon. We enjoyed all
the good times and the best vacation in the world.
You will forever be in my heart
I love you Dad!"*

INTERMENT FOLLOWING THE SERVICE

Sunset Memorial Park



Sanders Funeral Home
806 E Market St • Smithfield, NC 27577
Phone: (919) 934-8416

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

ERIC DARRELLE *Sanders*

MARCH 11, 1970

JULY 9, 2026



*"Well done, good and faithful servant.
Enter into the joy of your Lord."*

MATTHEW 25:21

FUNERAL SERVICE
FRIDAY, JULY 17, 2026
11:00 AM

Shiloh Christian Church

Reflections

Eric Sanders was born on March 11, 1970, in Hollandale, Mississippi, to the late Archie and Virgie M. Sanders.

Eric was a 1988 graduate of Smithfield Selma Senior High School, where he excelled in football and basketball. After graduation, he enlisted in the U.S. Army Reserves. Upon returning home from basic training, Eric resumed his lifelong career alongside his father, Archie, at Jones and Frank Petroleum Equipment Company, where he had begun working during the summers at the age of 16. He remained a dedicated employee there until his passing.

Eric met Brenda Sholars in 1989, and together they welcomed their daughter, Tyesha Simone Sanders, on May 29, 1991. Eric had an unconditional love for his daughter and would have moved heaven and earth for her.

Eric answered God's call on his life at an early age. He loved singing on the praise team and faithfully served in many capacities within the church. He was never hesitant to give of his time or talents in helping to build God's Kingdom.

Eric enjoyed football, especially cheering for the Dallas Cowboys, basketball, singing, composing music, fishing, traveling, cooking, learning through everyday life experiences, and building relationships with people.

Eric was a devoted family man who never met a stranger. Everyone loved "E." He never turned away anyone in need, whether they were someone he had known for years or someone he had just met.

Eric was preceded in death by his parents, Archie and Virgie M. Sanders, and his sister, Tamika A. Sanders.

He leaves to cherish his precious memories: his beloved daughter, Tyesha Sanders Randle (Stephon); three brothers, Derrick A. Sanders (Tawana) of Apex, North Carolina, Zachary D. Sanders (Crystal) of Creedmoor, North Carolina, and Possia L. Sanders (Tekella) of Fayetteville, North Carolina; ten nieces and nephews, Malik Sanders, Malicia Sanders, Madrik Sanders, Bryce Sanders, Alise Sanders, Caden Sanders, Casey Sanders, Faith Sanders, Zoë Sanders, and Micah Sanders; and four great nieces and great nephews, Imari, Brayden, Aaliyah, and Maliyah Sanders. Eric also leaves to cherish his memory a host of uncles, aunts, cousins, coworkers, classmates, teammates, and many special friends.

Order of Service

Presiding
Minister Essie Williams

Song of Praise
Word of Faith Christian Church

Old and New Testament Scriptures
Minister Caleb Blue Jr.

Prayer of Comfort
Minister Trina Neal

Song of Praise
Word of Faith Christian Church

Acknowledgements and Obituary
Tawana Sanders

Reflections
Class of 1988- Presented by Alisa Bizzell

Musical Selection
Word of Faith Christian Church

Eulogy
Pastor Adrian Blue

Closing Selection
Word of Faith Christian Church

Mortician's Brief
Sanders Funeral Home

Pallbearers and Floral Bearers
SSS Class of 1988
Family and Friends