

# *Celebration of Life*



## *Albert Glen Stephens*

**Sunrise: July 23, 1934**

**Sunset: August 3, 2023**

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23, 2023**

**WAKE: 11:30 a.m. FUNERAL: 12:00 Noon**

**JOSEPH H. BROWN FUNERAL HOME**

**2140 North Fulton Avenue**

**Baltimore, Maryland 21217**

**Rev. Walter Sheppard, Jr. Officiating**

## *Life Reflections*

Albert Glen Stephens lived a life where he marched to the beat of his own drum. While many in the world walked in a steady, regular rhythm and remained in step with others, Glen didn't hesitate to create his own melodies and patterns of existence. His love of jazz spoke to the defining qualities of his character. While jazz music absorbs influences from many genres, it maintains its distinctive identity. Until the day he perished, Glenn did things exactly the way he wanted to. Without being heavily impacted by what other people thought, said or did in the world at large, he remained fully independent and comfortable with being different from the social norm.

As the only child born to the late Wallace and Beulah Stephens on July 23, 1934, Glen was raised in a well to do neighborhood of Baltimore City. While Wallace worked hard to provide the everyday needs for the family and Beulah remained home to prepare meals and polish her crystal dinnerware, Glenn was forced to carve his own niche within the opulent makings of 810 North Mount Street. Glenn developed a unique passion for building model trains and focusing his youthful gaze upon the primary elements of technology. It was during these formative years that Glenn's academic prowess would be nurtured by the Baltimore City Public School System.

As a member of Gospel Tabernacle Baptist Church, Glen would spend parts of his weekend singing on the young adult choir and also serving as a junior usher amongst the congregation. The spirit of good friendship and loyalty that filled the solid oak pews, led Glen to develop a close camaraderie with other younger church members, Carter, Levi, Sylvester and Millard. Glen would often desire to pursue fellowship beyond the sanctuary. He was known to cry to his parents and beg for permission to travel to the Halethorpe section of Baltimore. Once Sunday afternoon services had concluded, Glen was given the go ahead to engage in fun and amusement alongside the Johnson family children, little Lee, cousin Peaches and other friends.

Before graduating from Douglass High School in 1951, Glen joined the military with support from his mother and a bit of hesitation from his father. Glen was only seventeen years old, but he was also very self-confident, decisive and determined to pursue his mission. By the time Glen's one and only daughter, Zakiya was born, he was already climbing the ranks of his division. Having trained in Seattle, Washington, being stationed in parts of Hawaii and also fighting on the frontlines in the Korean War, Glen displayed effective qualities of a commissioned officer. Glen's ambition, tenacity, relationship building, and courage led to his Sergeant ranking. It became Glen's role to command a fire team of other soldiers and set an overall standard for those serving under his leadership. Upon returning home, Glen once again tapped into his first love of building and creating in a world that at this time was developing technologically. Glen lent his skills of productivity and efficiency to working on cars for a local mechanic shop.

He then married his late wife, Helen Louise Stephens and pursued specialized training in the operation of transit passenger transportation. Glen would go on to obtain the required licensing that allowed him to drive the citizens of Baltimore from city line to city line under the reliability of Maryland's Transit Administration.

Glen would go on to obtain the required licensing that allowed him to drive the citizens of Baltimore from city line to city line under the reliability of Maryland's Transit Administration. During his rest stops in zones bordering the County, Glen would meet up with his grandchildren, Zazembi and Nyasha. Sitting in the front seats alongside their grandmother, the moments were often filled with quiet laughter and pop pop pulling loose change from his pocket to give to the semi-restless pair.

During the thirty years that Glen dedicated his days to safely leading others through their travels throughout the city of Baltimore, he also served as a patriotic member of the American Legion, war-time, veteran's organization. The American Legion was chartered by Congress in 1919; promoting strong national security and continued devotion to fellow service members. When Glen wasn't enjoying the singing, acting and dancing being performed at various nightclub cabarets, he was sunk into the dramatic references of the Civil War that were commonly displayed in Western films. With an original train running its tracks through the backside of his cozy basement, Glen spent hours sitting in his recliner on the front end and following the familiar plotlines of cowboys versus Native Americans -- all played against the rugged landscapes of the American West.

Albert Glen Stephens lived his life without too many bounds. He believed in being in the moment, awake and alive. He didn't worry about relying on medications and modern science to postpone the inevitable. During his final years, he was physically nurtured and taken care of by his daughter, Zakiya Lumumba. As best they could, the nurses and doctors of the Gilchrist Home Hospice provided Glen with security, comfort and emotional support. His social worker, Earl Woodard, and his nurse, Delores Williams, made sure that his medical and other associated needs were met.

He will forever be respected by his grandson, Zazembi Lumumba, and loved by his granddaughter, Nyasha Lumumba. Glen maintained a caring, patriarchal relationship with Ruth Lavata Hooper, and extended care for her children, Caprisa and Billy Hooper. Glen will be sorely missed by his son-in-law, Locy Imani Lumumba, cousins, and the immediate and extended family of Helen Stephens, as well as his intimate circle of close friends and tight knit neighbors. His beat goes on.

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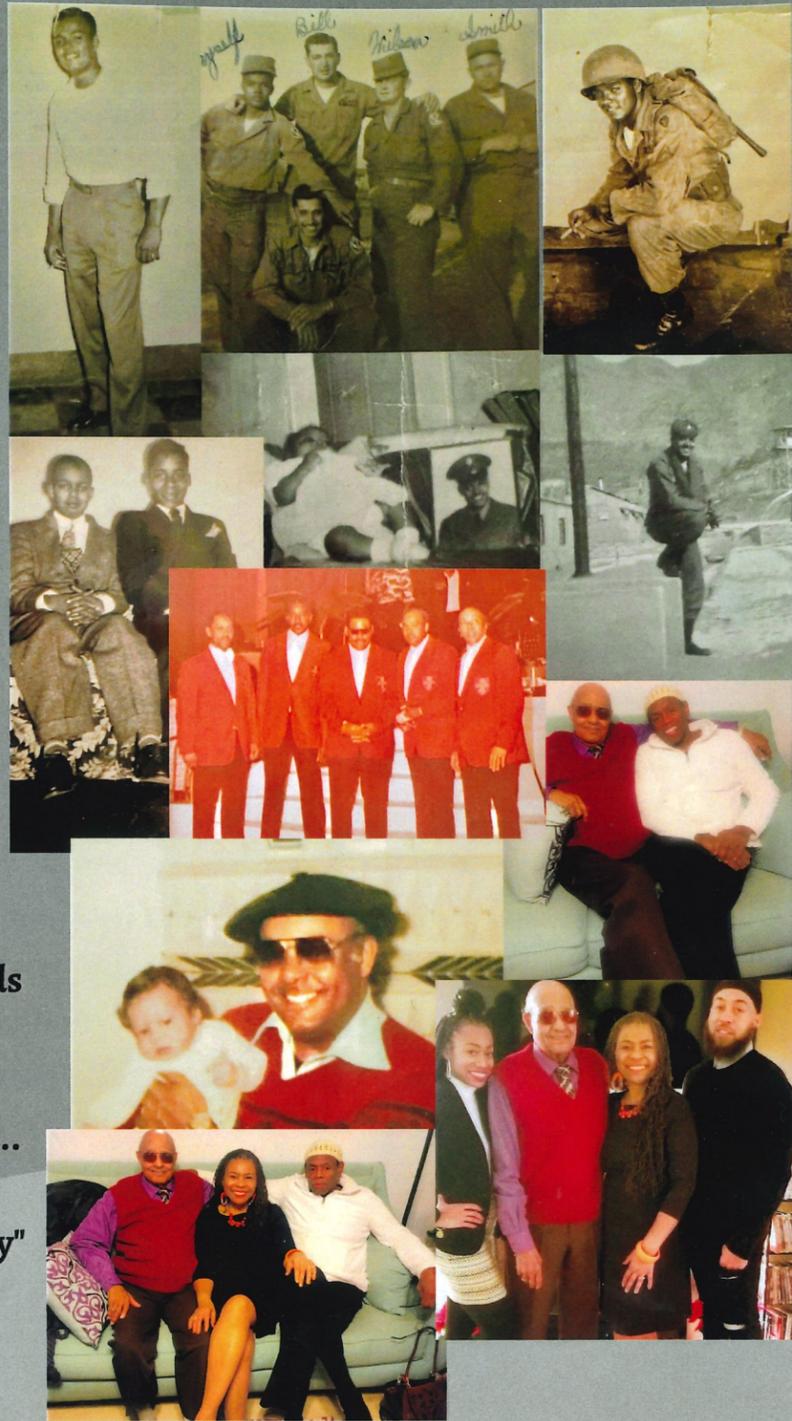
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### Acknowledgments

The Family gratefully acknowledges the kind and beautiful expressions of sympathy and love shown during this difficult time. It is deeply appreciated and will forever be remembered.

Obituary Design By:  
KEWT Creations LLC  
Crystal Russell  
443-392-5057

### Order of Service

- Processional.....Pastor and Family
- Selection.....Organist
- Scripture.....Ruth LaVata Hooper  
Old Testament- Psalm 23  
New Testament- John 14:1-7
- Selection.....Caprisa Hooper  
Amazing Grace, he looked beyond my faults
- Acknowledgements.....Nyasha Lumumba
- Obituary Reading .....Zazembi Lumumba
- Selection .....Organist
- Life Reflections .....Family & Friends  
Limited 2 Minutes each person
- Benediction .....
- Recessional ..... "I Did It My Way"

### Interment

Garrison Forest Veterans Cemetery  
11501 Garrison Forest Road  
Owings Mills, Maryland 21117  
Immediately Following Service

### Pallbearers

Family and Friends

### Professional Services of Comfort Entrusted To:

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