



## Mr. Geary Steffan McNair

February 6, 1953 - October 18, 2016

Geary Steffan McNair, 63, of Peoria, IL passed away at 6:03 pm on Tuesday, October 18, 2016 at Unity Point Methodist Hospital.

Geary was born on February 6, 1953 in Seattle, WA to Avin Johnny and Garlene Theresa (Holt) McNair. Geary was a Veteran who honorably served over 12 years in the US Army. He later received an Associate's Degree from Illinois Central College. He was a past Code Enforcement Officer for many years with the City of Peoria. He was also a newspaper courier for the Peoria Journal Star for over 20 years. Geary was a faithful member of Heaven's View Christian Church where he served as a Trustee and Deacon. He presided over the usher board and was a member of the male chorus. Geary was an athlete. While in the military he was a featherweight boxer. He ran marathons in Chicago and Peoria. Geary raised his daughter Cotisha as a single parent. He married Rhonda Dunigan on June 2, 2012.

Geary leaves to cherish his most precious memory his loving and devoted wife, Rhonda (Dunigan) McNair of Peoria; his mother, Garlene McNair of Surry, VA; his daughter, Cotisha (DeMarcus)Russell of Peoria; his step children, Ashanda Dunigan of Indianapolis, IN, Jermaine Dunigan of Winston Salem, NC, Darius Dunigan of Peoria and Jamal Dunigan of East Peoria; and foster daughter, Michaela Hittle of Peoria; brothers, Danny M. McNair, of Renton, WA, Alvin J. McNair, III of Newport News, VA and Gregory McNair of Spokane, WA; sisters, Aljeania Siggall of Conyers, GA, Dolly McNair of Puyallup, WA, Janice McNair of Avondale, AZ, Yvette Brown McNair of

Seattle, WA and Alvie McNair of Dallas, TX ; three grandchildren, Ke'Lonna McNair, Keelan McNair and Marqueyja Brown; god daughters, Cary Hines and Ebony Kelley, god sisters, Kimberly (James) Dabbs and Yvette (Fred) Thompson; and a host of nieces, nephews, aunts, other relatives and friends. He is preceded in death by his father, Alvin J. McNair, Jr., and three granddaughters, De'Asia Russell, Mezmariyah Russell and DeMari Russell. Funeral services will be held at 10:30 am on Friday, October 28, 2016 at City of Refuge Cathedral of Worship with a visitation one hour prior beginning at 9:30 am. Host Pastor, Bishop Timothy Criss, Pastors Tony Pierce and Cliff Parks will officiate. Geary will be laid to rest at Camp Butler National Cemetery in Springfield, IL where U. S. Army Military Honors will be rendered. Simons Mortuary has been entrusted with arrangements. Online condolences may be made at [simonsmortuary.com](http://simonsmortuary.com).

# Cemetery Details

**Camp Butler National Cemetery**

## Previous Events

### Visitation

OCT **28**. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (CT)

Greater City of Refuge Cathedral of Worship  
2201 SW Adams Street  
Peoria, IL 61602  
pastortimcriss@comcast.net  
<http://corwc.fmbwebhosting.com/pastor.html>

### Funeral Service

OCT **28**. 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM (CT)

Greater City of Refuge Cathedral of Worship  
2201 SW Adams Street  
Peoria, IL 61602  
pastortimcriss@comcast.net  
<http://corwc.fmbwebhosting.com/pastor.html>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Simons Mortuary created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Geary Steffan McNair*



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**Simons Mortuary** - October 28, 2016 at 12:24 PM



“ *Mr. Geary Steffan McNair*

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January 29, 2023 at 06:10 AM



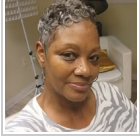
“ *Mr. Geary Steffan McNair*

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January 29, 2023 at 03:12 AM



“ *Sorry for the loss Cotisha.Mr. McNair was an example to every young black man who walked up and down Thrush street and who lived in the East Bluff.*

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**Theo** - January 07, 2017 at 02:14 PM



“ Geary was an angel and God let us borrow him for a while. Now it's time to say goodbye because God has a greater task for him. He is our guardian Angel and he will continue to protect us and watch over us just like he did when he was here! Thank you big little brother for your love, your kindness and for showing us the love of God through you. Your baby sis, Dolly. I love you always. Thumbs up: 1: 🙏😊

Dee Mac - November 13, 2016 at 05:52 PM



“ sending heart felt condolences to your family in your time of sorrow!  
  
*The Ellis Family of Seattle!*

Chuck Ellis - October 30, 2016 at 01:49 PM



“ I knew Geary from working with him at the City of Peoria. He was always kind and considerate with a smile that would melt the coldest heart. He was a good person and will be missed. Prayers to his family. Connie Colvin

connie Colvin - October 28, 2016 at 01:33 PM



“ We are so sorry for your loss. We knew Geary through him delivering our newspaper. We were impressed with his outstanding dedication, hard work ethic, and always positive nature. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.  
  
God bless,  
Matt & Susan Coker

Matthew Coker - October 28, 2016 at 08:33 AM

DM

*Matthew, thank you for your kind words about our brother. I wish our family could have had more time to plan and invite his co workers from the journal. He was dedicated to his paper route until the doctor had to force him to quit. I wish we could have met some of you. His baby sister Dolly.*

**Dolly McNair** - November 10, 2016 at 10:04 AM



*My prayers are with your families. I attended Harrison school with Geary and 2 of his sisters. I am truly blessed to have known the McNair family. Geary was a fun person during our childhood. God Bless!*

**Janice Blanchard** - November 29, 2016 at 05:29 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. Geary Steffan McNair.*



October 27, 2016 at 05:45 PM



“ *Our thoughts are with you. We will miss Gary's smiling face in our neighborhood.*

*Dave and Jodi Cohn*

**Jodi Cohn** - October 27, 2016 at 11:53 AM

CB

“ *My condolences to the family. Geary was a great person praying for strength during this difficult time.*



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**Cozette Bradford** - October 26, 2016 at 08:24 PM

RH

“ *Ronda Hines lit a candle in memory of Mr. Geary Steffan McNair*



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**Ronda Hines** - October 26, 2016 at 07:21 PM

JO

“ *RIP cousin Geary. We're gonna miss you. The Ellis family from Virginia.*

*Delilah (Dee)  
Jonathan (JJ)  
JoAnna  
Jewel  
Jillian  
Jessica*



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**jonathan** - October 25, 2016 at 01:22 PM

CB

“ *Chrystal Barber lit a candle in memory of Mr. Geary Steffan McNair*



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**Chrystal Barber** - October 25, 2016 at 10:47 AM

CB

“ *We send condolences, prayers and love to the McNair family at their time of sorrow. We love and support you all from Seattle and beyond!!!!*

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**Chrystal Barber** - October 25, 2016 at 10:47 AM

MR

“ *To the family of Gary we worked together at PHA and was neighbor in Taft Homes I will truly miss him. I always admire him for raising his daughter.*

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**Mattie Risby** - October 24, 2016 at 02:46 PM

TB

“ *To the family of Geary McNair, May the good lord abound you with peace and understanding, during this troubling time. know that we stand with you and you are not alone for this transition. To Rhonda, we feel your grief and knowing of your heartbreak and loss because you are family to Us.*

*God speed  
Tony & Candy Brown  
Bartonville,il*

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**tony brown** - October 24, 2016 at 10:58 AM

SB

“ Sharon Buckner lit a candle in memory of Mr. Geary Steffan McNair



Sharon Buckner - October 23, 2016 at 09:13 AM

CM

“ Cotisha CJ McNair-Russell lit a candle in memory of Mr. Geary Steffan McNair



Cotisha CJ McNair-Russell - October 22, 2016 at 02:22 AM

CM

“ Hi dad where do I begin? I feel like I have lost a piece of me when you took your journey home to be with God. I am so glad that you no longer suffer, but so sad to lose you! I'm definitely going to miss my hero, mother/father, my best friend. You are the true definition of a real man. Raising me as a single father, it was me and you against the world. We have been through so much and I could always tell you everything and you never judged. And you are the best grandfather ever you took great pride in your three grand babies. I am going to miss you so much.... Rest easy because you definitely deserve it. I know you will be watching over us. And I know we will make you proud. Sincerely your daddies girl love ❤️ you.



Cotisha CJ McNair-Russell - October 22, 2016 at 02:19 AM

JC

“ To our co-worker and friend from the City of Peoria Code Enforcement Department; Glenda Williams, Joe Ann Cayson, David Graham, Leon Abner, Lisa Eads, Kay Burroughs, Joe Dulin and Patti McCartney. The years of memories we shared will forever be cherished.



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**Joe Ann Cayson** - October 21, 2016 at 08:36 AM



“ So sorry for your loss. I remember taking night classes with him at ICC. He was a thoughtful young man. May your memories sustain you in the days to come.



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**Evelyn Tate-Clayton** - October 20, 2016 at 09:39 PM