



## Gary Earl Cantrell

October 21, 1942 - April 26, 2021

Gary Earl Cantrell went home to be with the Lord on April 26, 2021. He was born on October 21, 1942. He graduated from Travelers Rest High School and Furman University. He had a Master's Degree in Music Education. He served in the Navy with the Armed Forces School of Music in Norfolk, Virginia. He retired from Adelphi University in New York, NY after 45 years of service. His passion was in music, education, travel and photography. He is survived by a beloved aunt, Canetchlee C. Huff. He is predeceased by his parents, Lanec E. Cantrell and Gladys B. Cantrell. A graveside service will be held Friday, May 28, 2021 at 3:00pm at Sky Point Church, formerly Ebenezer Baptist Church.

# Cemetery Details

## **Ebenezer Baptist Church Cemetery**

28 Ebenezer Church Road  
Travelers Rest, SC 29690

# Previous Events

## **Graveside Service**

**MAY 28.** 3:00 PM (ET)

Ebenezer Baptist Church Cemetery  
28 Ebenezer Church Road  
Travelers Rest, SC 29690

# Tribute Wall

SH

“ *Beloved Gary.  
I still have my copy of "Penguins in the Dust". Your poems are such  
gems, poignant echoes in an uncertain world. We miss you.  
RIP, great poet.*

*Suzy Hart*

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**Suzy Hart** - December 25, 2025 at 09:50 AM

GT

“ *Growing up at Ebenezer Baptist Church was filled with memories of  
excellent music. Gary as Organist, and Lamar as Pianist, set a very  
high bar for me as I later became the Organist myself. Gary was  
always so supportive of me. I am still an Organist today, and have  
often told others of the example Gary set for me! The family and  
Gary's friends will be in my thoughts and prayers.*

*Gregg Duncan Tomlinson*

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**Gregg Duncan Tomlinson** - May 23, 2021 at 06:31 PM

PF

“ Gary was a very talented musician and was my first piano accompanist when I went to Travelers Rest High School to teach Choral Music. We lost touch through the years but it was always a pleasure to hear from him through Harriet and Lamar McCarrell. I am a member of the Greenville Chorale and on one of his later visits to Travelers Rest I invited him to a performance of the Chorale at the Peace Center. It was a pleasant reunion and he thoroughly enjoyed the concert.

*I grieve the loss of Gary along with his family and friends. You are in my prayers.*

*Patricia Summey Hunt Fisher*

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**Patricia Fisher** - May 21, 2021 at 02:37 PM

DH

*I grew up with Gary at Ebenezer Baptist and remember him as being the organist along with Lamar McCarrell on the piano during most of my teenage years. They were both just a few years ahead of me, and it seemed their music complemented each other. The church was very blessed to have such young talented musicians. I had lost touch, but knew he was in NY following his dream. May God be with the family,*

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**Doris Duncan Howell** - May 23, 2021 at 06:22 PM

JG

*So sad to hear of Gary's passing. I was very young when I first began hearing the beautiful music of Ebenezer Baptist Church. Gary was an extremely talented musician. As organist, paired with Lamar McCarrell on the piano, we worshipped God with the highest quality of music. Many, many years later, Gary was sweet and kind to graciously come home from NY to play for my wedding. He was a fine man that came from fine parents! He is missed by many! May God bless the family.*

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**Jackie Gibson** - May 28, 2021 at 02:00 PM

RH

*I was heartbroken to read this today. Gary was a cousin to my first husband, Larry Babb. They were more than cousins but also best friends. Gary was one of the most talented musicians I have known. Rest In Peace sweet friend. You will certainly be missed.*

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**Ruth Hollingsworth** - May 29, 2021 at 04:56 PM

LE

*I came across this by accident. Gary and I worked together many years ago and he was, at that time, a dear friend. We lost touch after I got married but I remember him fondly and all the fun we used to have.*

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**Leslie** - September 06, 2025 at 12:37 PM