

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF

ELROY

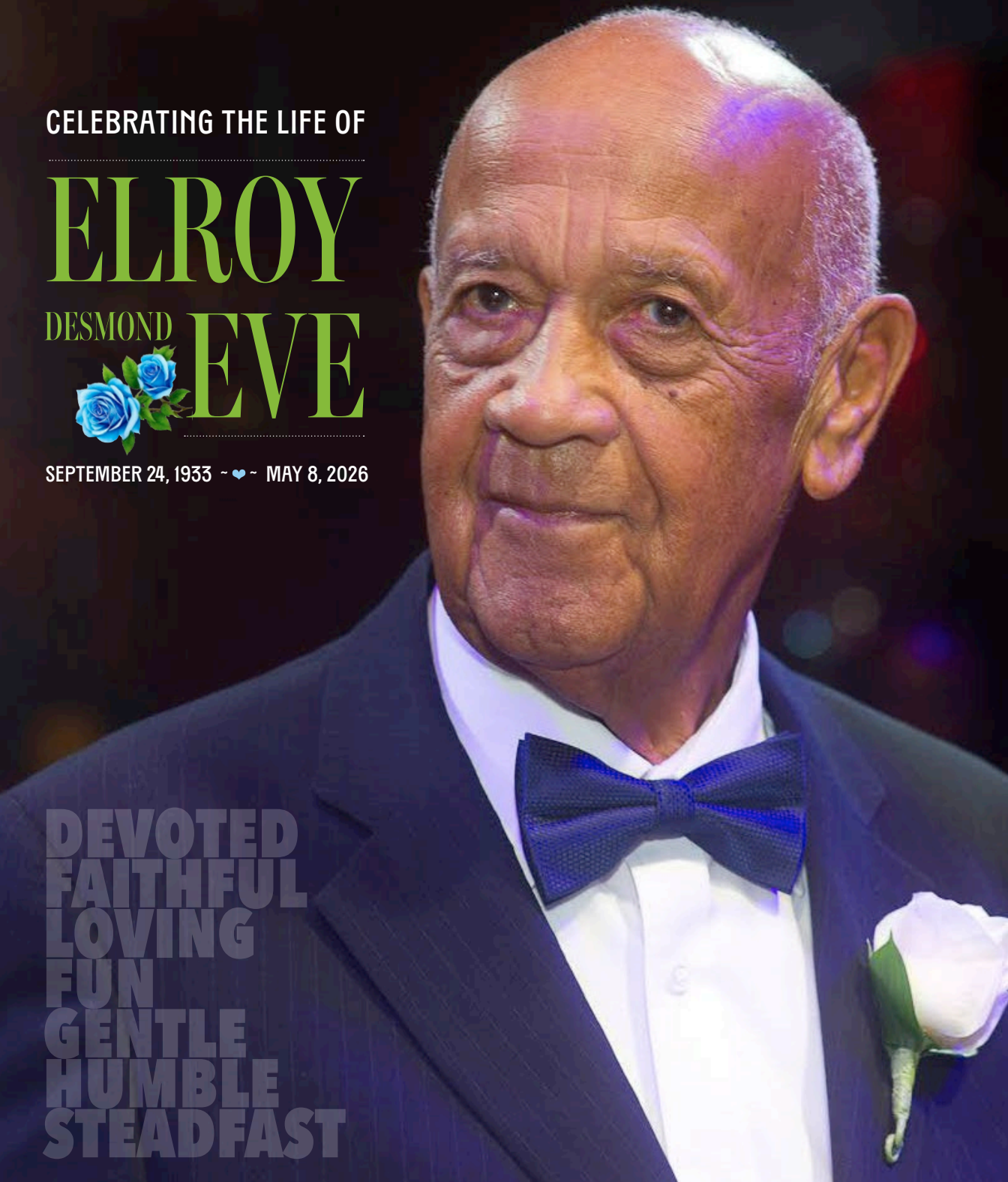
DESMOND

EVE



SEPTEMBER 24, 1933 ~ ♥ ~ MAY 8, 2026

DEVOTED
FAITHFUL
LOVING
FUN
GENTLE
HUMBLE
STEADFAST



CELEBRATION OF LIFE SERVICE IN MEMORY OF
ELROY DESMOND EVE

SEPTEMBER 24, 1933 - ♡ - MAY 8, 2026



BETHEL A.M.E. CHURCH, HAMILTON PARISH | WEDNESDAY, 20 MAY 2026 | 2:00PM
PRESIDING: REV. RUTH VANLOWE SMITH, *Pastor* | MUSICIAN SEAN TUCKER

ORDER OF SERVICE



SERVICE
LIVESTREAM

Processional..... Clergy and Family
Welcome & Opening Prayer..... Rev. Lorne Bean
Opening Hymn..... *Blessed Assurance*
Scripture Reading (OT) Psalm 23..... Netanya Eve (*Granddaughter*)
Scripture Reading (NT) John 14:1-6, Philippians 4:7-8..... Josiah Eve (*Grandson*)
Words of Comfort..... Craig Outerbridge (*Son-in-law*)
Musical Selection..... Pastor Mark Hall (*Family Friend*)
Personal Tributes..... Andrea Harris (*Niece*)
Netanya and Josiah Eve (*Grandchildren*)
Reading of Tributes..... Robyn Eve (*Daughter-in-law*)
Resolution..... Gereen Albouy (*Family Friend*)
Musical Selection on the Saw..... Gary Bean (*Family Friend*)
Obituary..... Deon Eve (*Son*)
Musical Selection..... Annette Eve-Outerbridge (*Daughter*)
Eulogy..... Rev. Ruth VanLowe Smith
Closing Prayer..... Rev. Ruth VanLowe Smith
Closing Hymn..... *It is Well with my Soul*
Benediction..... Rev. Ruth VanLowe Smith
Recessional..... *Hallelujah Chorus*

INTERMENT

ST. JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, PEMBROKE PARISH



HYMNS



BLESSED ASSURANCE

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
O, what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.

REFRAIN

This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long;
this is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight,
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
Angels descending, bring from above
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

[REFRAIN]

Perfect submission, all is at rest,
I in my Savior am happy and blest;
Watching and waiting, looking above,
Filled with His goodness, lost in His love.

[REFRAIN]

IT IS WELL WITH MY SOUL

When peace like a river attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,
"It is well, it is well with my soul."

REFRAIN

It is well with my soul;
It is well, it is well with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control:
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate,
And has shed his own blood for my soul.

[REFRAIN]

My sin oh, the bliss of this glorious thought!
My sin, not in part, but the whole,
Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more;
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

[REFRAIN]

O Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll;
The trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend;
Even so, it is well with my soul.

[REFRAIN]



PALLBEARERS

Jamal Matthews | Delmont Tucker | Josiah Eve | Wayne Powell | Mike Smith | Ade Brown

SPECIAL FRIENDS

Grace Swan | George Morton | Dr. Freda Kay Byron-Twyman | Derek Caines | Rev. Larry Smith
Bernard DeShields | Gereen Albouy | Larry Williams | Eric Whitter | Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Pimentel



OBITUARY

There are some people whose lives are not measured merely by years, accomplishments or possessions, but by the quiet and steady way they love others. Elroy Desmond Eve was one of those people.

Elroy went home to be with his Saviour on May 8, 2026 in his 93rd year. Born on September 24, 1933, in Pembroke, he was the youngest of five children, born to the late Helena Noricka (Pierpont) Eve, a homemaker and the late Alvin Manfred Eve, a tailor at Trimmingham's and later H.A. & E. Smith's.

His story began on Woodlands Road in Pembroke, in a Bermuda very different from the one we know today – a place of dirt roads, bicycles, hand-cut yards, and close-knit communities. Elroy's childhood was shaped early by responsibility. His mother suffered from a heart condition, so Elroy and his twin brother Leroy often took turns staying home to help care for her. As a result, he did not begin school until the age of seven. It was a sacrifice he never complained about. Caring for family was simply what you did.

As a boy, his days were filled with chores and discipline. He fed the chickens, collected eggs, put the chickens back into the coop at night, swept the yard, and cut the cherry and palm trees that grew around the family home. He walked to Loblein's Store on Court Street for groceries and learned early the value of hard work and responsibility.

Elroy loved life's simple pleasures: cricket, marbles, Chinese Checkers and cards, though he often had to sit and watch others play because it was once believed he too had a heart condition. One of his earliest memories was of his sister Lucille taking him and Leroy to Central School on a bicycle. As he crossed Dellwood on foot, neighbourhood boys teasingly called him "*white codfish*". Despite the challenges of those years, he carried within him a quiet determination that would define his entire life.

That determination became especially clear during his teenage years. At only 14 years old, Elroy would rise before dawn, often sleeping in his clothes so he could leave home quickly in the morning. By 4:15 a.m. he was already out collecting newspapers for delivery in Fairylands. After

completing his route around 6:15 a.m., he would climb onto his bicycle and pedal from Hamilton all the way to Sandys Secondary School, along mostly unpaved roads in the 1940s. It was exhausting work for a young boy, but education mattered.

Mathematics quickly became his favourite subject and long after leaving school, he still enjoyed solving problems. Decades later, he would use those skills to help his children solve difficult math equations – Deon loved math, Annette not so much. He had a sharp mind but never wore his intelligence proudly. Instead, he quietly used his gifts to help others.

His pursuit of education continued at Dominion Business College Limited, where on June 27, 1956, he obtained standing toward the Ontario Secondary School Graduation Diploma. The following year, on June 7, 1957, he graduated from the Radio College of Canada with a diploma in Radio and Television Technology.

Elroy would go on to dedicate nearly 40 years of loyal service to Pearman Watlington Company. He began as a radio repairman at a time when repairing equipment required patience, technical skill, and precision. As technology evolved, so did he – moving from radio repairs into television repairs and later into sales. Yet no matter what role he held, his character remained consistent.

Coworkers admired him not only for his knowledge but for his integrity. Performance reviews described him as someone who "*leads by example*", noting that all new staff were trained by him because of the respect others had for his work ethic and standards. Another review stated, "*He sets the standards for the rest of us.*" Perhaps the most telling observation was this: "*Accepting responsibility for errors is a rare quality these days. Elroy is the first to admit an error and correct it.*"

That humility would become one of the hallmarks of his life.

His niece, Judy Baumann, remembered another side of Elroy – the playful uncle who brought laughter wherever he went. She fondly recalled how Uncle Elroy would pile Deborah, Judy, Andrea, and Laverne into the car for drives around the island with all the windows rolled down. As they drove, he would enthusiastically call out to passing strangers, shouting cheerful greetings like, *“Hi Honey!”* and *“Hey Diddlely Bop!”* The children would burst into uncontrollable laughter, and the more they laughed, the more he continued. To them, their Uncle Elroy was pure fun.

On April 4, 1968, Elroy married M. Ianthia Gordon. Their love story had begun years earlier at the home of their mutual friend Alva. *“They hit it off almost immediately,”* as Ianthia fondly recalled. During their courtship, Elroy made it clear that he would not marry until he owned a home. And true to his word, he worked diligently until he had purchased one. Once married, he proudly brought his bride into the home where they would raise a family and build a future together. They remained married for 58 years.

Elroy was deeply devoted to his family. He was a loving husband, a steady father, and an adoring grandfather. He taught Ianthia, Annette and Deon all how to drive, patiently guiding them along the roads while often reminding them, *“Take your time on the road.”* Annette proudly states, *“I could parallel park before I could drive. I can still, to this day, get into the tightest of spaces because of daddy’s instruction.”*

His grandchildren knew him simply as *“Pa.”* To them, he was a source of comfort, fun, wisdom, and unconditional love. And frankly they had him wrapped around their little fingers. They eagerly anticipated Pa’s pancakes and listened with amusement to his stories. Together with Ianthia aka ‘Granny’, they lovingly cared for their grandchildren every Tuesday night for years, beginning when Netanya was just one year old and continuing well into their teens.

To his daughter-in-law Robyn, the word that best described him was ‘servant.’ She admired the way he served not only the Lord and the church, but his family as

well – often putting the needs and desires of his children and grandchildren before his own. From babysitting, school pickups, football practices to minor home repairs and outings, he was available whenever needed. Deon recalls dad helping mom with school projects, once even creating a replica of the Evening Light Church for one of her assignments. Elroy was always there.

Raised in the Anglican church, his father ensured all the children faithfully attended services at the Cathedral. White children in the morning and black children in the afternoon. Elroy’s spiritual walk deepened later in life. He often believed that simply being ‘a good person’ was enough, telling Ianthia, *“I don’t hurt anybody.”* But Ianthia lovingly reminded him that goodness alone was not the same as salvation.

Everything changed in the early 1980s under the ministry of Pastor J. Alton Thompson. After their friend Grace Swan invited the Eve family to a Women’s Day service at Bethel AME, Elroy and Ianthia began attending regularly and never left. For more than 40 years, Bethel has been their spiritual home. Elroy faithfully served as a Steward, Trustee, and member of the Male Voice Choir. His faith was not loud or boastful. Rather, it was visible in the consistency of his service, the gentleness of his spirit, and the way he treated others.

Elroy loved gardening—first growing flowers, and later vegetables, because *“you can’t eat flowers”* – carrying on a hobby he had once shared with his father. Annette fondly remembers him cutting a watermelon in half, giving her an entire half along with a spoon and saying, *“Don’t tell your mother about this. It’s our secret.”* To this day, she prefers to eat watermelon with a spoon. He treasured travelling on cruises throughout the Caribbean and Alaska, family vacations to New York City, train tours through Western Canada, and special trips to witness the Oberammergau Passion Play.

For approximately 15 years, he also joined the ‘Dawn Swimmers’, faithfully swimming at John Smith’s Bay at 6:00am all year ‘round. His niece Judy remembered his love of swimming where one unforgettable day, he surfaced from the water with a large jellyfish sitting on top



of his head. While Judy panicked and screamed, Elroy calmly slipped back beneath the water until the jellyfish gently floated away. It was such a perfect reflection of his temperament – calm, steady, and never easily rattled.

He loved storytelling and teasing. He often said, *"I used to cook for the governor"*. He could make this claim because during a school cooking class, the governor came to visit and tasted something he made. He would also offer little sayings that became part of family life: *"Cast not a cloak before May is out"* when we were underdressed in spring. *"Gimme a dollar for that"* when he did any small task for us. *"It will put hair on your chest"* when trying any questionable food item.

And perhaps most importantly, he loved people.

Elroy's life was never about drawing attention to himself. It was about quietly doing what was right. Loving faithfully. Serving consistently. Providing diligently. Forgiving quickly. And trusting God more deeply with each passing year.

In 2018, during their 50th anniversary vow renewal, Elroy shared these heartfelt words:

"Ianthia, I love you and will always love you. I have done my best to take care of and provide for you and our children. We will always keep the Lord as the centre of our marriage."

He leaves behind a legacy of kindness, humility, faithfulness, and steadfast love that will continue through his beloved wife Ianthia, his children, grandchildren, extended family, church family, and many friends whose lives were enriched by knowing him.

A good man. A faithful servant. A devoted husband and father. A cherished Pa.

"Well done, thou good and faithful servant."

~Matthew 25:23~

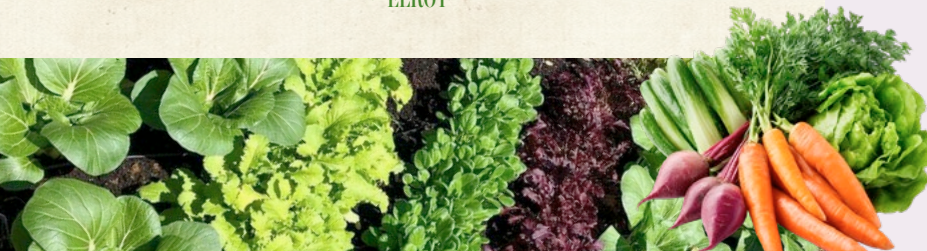
"You can't eat flowers"

- ELROY -



SEPTEMBER 24, 1933 - MAY 8, 2026

ELROY DESMOND EVE





**HUSBAND
FATHER
GRANDPA
BROTHER**



**GENEROUS
PATIENT
STEADY**

A Tribute to Pa



Netanya: Pa had a unique way of making his grandchildren feel like the centre of his world. We wouldn't want for anything when we were with him. If Granny said no, ask Pa. My mom told me recently that when Josiah was just 18 months old, she came home and found Pa feeding my brother potato chips. When my mom asked why, Pa just shrugged and said, "He asked for them." That was Pa in every situation. It didn't matter how old we got; he would slip us cough drops, Mentos, candies, and a few dollars every now and then—sometimes when we asked, but often when we didn't. His generosity and quiet habits followed us through every stage as we grew up.

Some of our fondest memories with him were the ordinary moments that, looking back now, meant everything. Tuesdays were the day that we went to Granny and Pa's after school. If the day was nice and the weather was good, Pa was in the backyard gardening, of course. We'd sit on the low wall bordering the garden, and we'd watch him dig up carrots, tomatoes, heads of lettuce, or whatever was in season. Every week he'd spread packets of seeds out on the kitchen table to show us what he'd bought from Aberfeldy, and we'd urge him to plant those next. Those afternoons felt simple at the time, but they became some of the clearest pictures of who Pa was—steady, patient, and always happiest when he was caring for the people around him.

Josiah: Every time we came to his house, I knew I'd find him in the garden, eager to teach me something new. I'll never forget the day his corn was finally ready, and he told me to shuck it immediately. As we were both sitting over the kitchen bin, pulling back husks together, he suddenly took a bite out of the corn—raw—which I had never even considered to be a possibility. It blew my mind, but he told me to do the same. I took one bite and loved it. Even now, whenever corn is fresh and sweet, I still take a bite out of it before cooking it. It's one of those small things that instantly brings me back to him. And honestly, if anyone hasn't tried it, you need to—it's great.

The routines we shared with Pa became traditions without us even realizing it. On Wednesday mornings after we'd slept over, while Granny was pleading with us to get out of bed, Pa had already returned from his swim. I'd walk out of our room, half awake, wondering who in their right mind gets up at the crack of dawn, around 5 a.m., to go





ERROY DESMOND EVE

SEPTEMBER 24, 1935 - MAY 8, 2026

swimming. It never made any sense to me, but he did it multiple times a week. By the time I was brushing my teeth and Netanya was putting on her uniform, Pa would already be back in the kitchen making his famous banana pancakes before school, and he'd even send a bag of them home with my mom when we left. Looking back now, it's amazing how many acts of love were woven into those little routines that we once took for granted.

Netanya: Most of the memories we've talked about are from when we were very young children, but some of the moments that stay with me most happened much more recently. Last year, while at Pa and Granny's house I noticed a watch that belonged to him. I really liked it and asked about it. Before I could think much of it, Granny said I should just take it, since it didn't fit his wrist properly anymore, kept slipping off and scratching the glass. I didn't think too deeply about it at the time; I just started wearing it regularly. It became something I looked at every day, a quiet reminder of family and support. Now, it carries a very different weight. I'm deeply grateful to have it, not just as a watch, but as something that reminds me, at every glance, of the man who never failed to bring a smile to my face and who could lift my mood instantly just by being himself.

Reflecting on these memories reminds me how naturally Pa cared for us in every season of life. I can't recall whether it was during my Christmas break or last summer, but I picked Pa up from daycare for the first time. Because the nurse didn't recognize me, I introduced myself as his granddaughter. She smiled and said how lovely it was that I had come for him. In that moment, I thought about all times he used to pick me up from school and how, years later, I was now the one doing the same for him. It's always a little bittersweet to reflect on how our roles changed and how love had always moved both ways, even as time changed everything.

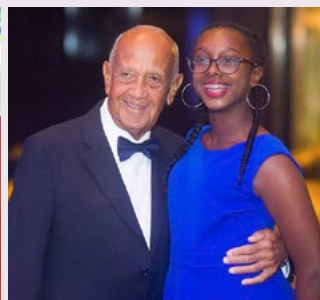
As we look back on all of these memories—both the big moments and the small everyday ones—we realize how much of who we are was shaped by Pa's love. His generosity, kindness, humour, and presence will stay with us in everything that we do, and we will always be grateful to have been loved by him.

"Thank you"



Netanya and Josiah Eve (grandchildren)

LOVING
HUMOUROUS
DEVOTED







🌿 A NOTE OF GRATITUDE 🌿

The family of **Elroy Desmond Eve** wishes to express our deepest thanks for the overwhelming outpouring of love we have received. Whether you joined us today, sent flowers, shared a kind word, or lifted us up in prayer, your presence has been a source of immense comfort.

We are especially grateful to those who went above and beyond to support us during this time:

Medical Care: The staff of Grace Rejuvenation Center and the dedicated team at King Edward VII Memorial Hospital for their years of care, particularly over the last six weeks.

Service & Ministry: Rev. Ruth VanLowe Smith, the Bethel Church family, and the media team for a beautiful service, and D.H. Augustus & Sons Funeral Home for their professional guidance.

Tributes: Allana Simons of ID Associates for the lovely memorial programs.

Community: Our wonderful neighbors, Bruce and Nelia Pimentel, for their constant support and physical presence throughout this difficult season.

Your kindness has sustained us. May God richly bless you all.

With love 
The Eve Family

