



Francis "Vanny" Sulvania Sharps

FEB 15, 1941 - DEC 14, 2024



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Francis "Vanny" Sylvania Sharps

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Francis Sylvania Sharps, age 83 Known to most as "Vanny" and to some as "Slim", peacefully departed this earthly life to receive his crown of glory while under the care of the staff at Luminis Health AAMC on December 14, 2024. He was our hero. A devoted husband, a great dad, and an awesome pop-pop to his grandson Marquis. Francis was born to the late Mary Catherine Mackell and Thomas Columbia Sharps.

Francis joined the army shortly after graduating from Wiley H. Bates High School, the first and only school for Black children in Anne Arundel County at the time. As a youngster, he stayed at his grandfather's side working on the farm. In 1960, Francis met the love of his life, Helen who he married on August 1, 1964, which they recently had a 60th wedding anniversary this past August 1, 2024.

Francis was a hard-working man who was determined to provide for his wife and family. After serving two years in the army, "Vanny" worked for GE in Schenectady, NY where he lived for some years with his wife Helen and his daughter Cheryl before moving to Maryland where he became employed for the United States Naval Academy as Chief Electrician, dedicating 30 years for service before retiring in 1998. He also worked at Geengolds Men's Clothing Store "back in the day", as well as cleaning a few of the First Federal Savings & Loan Banks in the evenings. After retirement, he worked at Home Depot because he wasn't used to being idle. "Vanny was Known for his jokes, his stories, and his wisdom. And the 4th of July cookouts were "off the chain" with family coming from everywhere!

He was preceded in death by his mother Mary Catherine Johnson (Leon Johnson - Stepfather), Thomas Columbia Sharps (Father), Joyce Brown (Sister), Marshall Johnson (Brother), Jennet Jones (Sister), Leon Johnson (Brother), and Charolette Sharps (Sister).

He leaves to cherish his memories, his loving and devoted wife Helen L. Sharps, 4 children, Cheryl D. Thomas, Curtis Sharps, Doral D. Sharps and Markeeta L. Carr, 3 bonus daughters,



Obituary

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Cheryl D. Coleman-Strong, Wanda L. Coleman and Janeen Tasker, 1 granddaughter, Shalonda Sharps, 4 grandsons, Derrin M. Brown, Marquis S. Carr, Derrick R. Brown, DeMario L. Brown, 3 bonus grandchildren, Jayita N. Williams, Kevin T. Matthews, and Lori J. Cook, 12 great-grandchildren, 1 daughter-in-law, Cordless Sharps, 5 sisters, Vivian Dorsey, Geraldine Poole (Richard Poole), Belinda Weldon (Col. Christopher Weldon), Linda Robinson and Nancy Russ, 1 brother, MacArthur Johnson, 5 sister-in-laws, Constance N. Whales, Gail R. A. Randall-Wilson, Rose M. Anderson, Phillis Thomas and Shirl Johnson, 1 Brother -n-law Gene Randall, 1 special cousin, Delores R. Mooney, devoted friends William (Bill) Garrett and "The Breakfast Buddies" and a host of other relatives and friends.



Events

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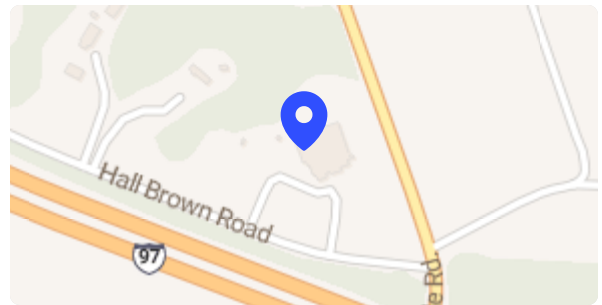
Viewing

- Wednesday**, January 8, 2025
- 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM ET
- First Christian Church of Annapolis**
1800 Hall Brown Road, Annapolis MD 21401



Funeral Service

- Wednesday**, January 8, 2025
- 11:00 AM - 12:45 PM ET
- First Christian Church of Annapolis**
1800 Hall Brown Road, Annapolis MD 21401

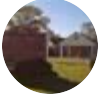




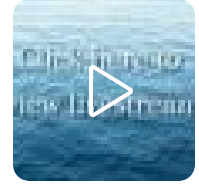
Tribute Wall

Francis "Vanny" Sylvania Sharps

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Lasting Tributes shared a **Webcast Video**.



January 4 at 3:50 AM



Priscilla Mitchell posted:

Hello, Sharps family. My apologies for this late tribute and my sincere condolences for your loss. My name is Priscilla Mitchell. My late husband, Bill, would call Mr. Sharps for our electrical projects - extra outlets, ceiling fan installations and lots of little things around the house. What a lovely man he was. (They were actually both lovely men!) I had cause to go through some old business cards today - and there among them was Francis "Vanny" Sharps: "Electrician" "Free estimates". I kept his card after Bill passed, knowing I might need an electrician someday! I often wondered how Mr. Sharps was doing. Now I know that Bill can give him a shout if he needs him. Bill always said that a sorrow shared is halved and a joy shared is doubled. I share your sorrow - and am thankful for the joy of knowing Mr. Sharps. - Priscilla Mitchell, Annapolis, MD

August 22 at 4:05 PM



Wanda Mackell posted:

I am so sorry to just find out of your passing. Just proves you need to keep up with family. I know that you are in a better place. I know that Daddy along with all the family members met you at the heavenly gates. Untll we meet again. Love, Wanda

February 26 at 8:11 AM



Rosemary Adams posted:

Helen and family so sorry for your loss Vanny was a very special person he was so nice and polite he was very well respected. He will be missed by all. My prayers are with you and your family. Love Rosemary Adams

January 1 at 4:39 PM



Tribute Wall

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NW

Nancy Williams lit a candle in honor of Francis "Vanny".

I am so sorry to hear of your loss. Mr. Sharps was one of the nicest people. So willing to help with any electrical problem. He was a businessman with great integrity and pride in his work. I enjoyed his warm and friendly demeanor and great sense of humor. He will be missed by all that had the pleasure of meeting him. Heaven is his home now. May his memory sustain you through this period of getting adjusted to his absence here on earth.

December 28 at 11:34 AM



CJ

Cathy Jones lit a candle in honor of Francis "Vanny".

Prayers to the family. Cathy Jones

December 28 at 8:37 AM



WB

Wanda Belt posted:

Sending condolences and prayers to Ms Helen and family.

December 28 at 5:56 AM

LG

Linda Simms-Grady posted:

Heartfelt condolences to Helen and family Linda Simms-Grady

December 22 at 9:04 AM

DW

Doris Wright posted:

Deepest Sympathy to Helen and Family!!! As a member of the class of 1958 our Heart Felt Condolences go out to the Family ad pray each and everyone of will Walk by Faith and not by sight!!! Peace and Blessings Family!!! Doris Wright class of 1958

December 19 at 11:16 PM

BB

Barbara Booze lit a candle in honor of Francis "Vanny".

December 19 at 1:48 PM





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MT

Mr@ Mrs Arthur J Thomas lit a candle in honor of Francis "Vanny".

December 19 at 2:46 AM



TW

Theresheia Williams posted:

May Vinny rest in peace. Sending prayers to the Sharp family. From Elizabeth Rice Turner, Tershia, Sharon and Mikey.

December 18 at 12:15 PM

CJ

Charles E. James Sr. lit a candle in honor of Francis "Vanny".

Sincere and heartfelt condolences to Helen and the family. Vannie you are now resting in Paradise with the angels and ancestors. Until we meet again my friend Rest Easy.Elder Charles E James Sr.

December 18 at 5:29 AM



BB

Brenda Brown lit a candle in honor of Francis "Vanny".

Brenda Brown lit a candle in memory of Francis "Vanny" Sharps

December 17 at 9:17 PM

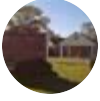




Media

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Lasting Tributes shared a **Webcast Video**.

January 4 at 3:50 AM





Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Francis "Vanny" by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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