



Charles Thomas Dabney Jr.

March 10, 1963 - May 9, 2024

The Dash

There are two important dates
around the life that you live
that represent the days you're blessed
to laugh, to love, to live.

First is the date of birth
The following date (of death) read with tears
But what mattered most of all
Was the dash between those years.

For that dash represents all the time
That they spent alive on earth.
And now only those who loved them
Know what that little line is worth

What matters is how we live and love
And how we spend our dash.
--Linda Ellis, Poet

Our dearly beloved son, brother, nephew, cousin, and best friend Charles Thomas Dabney, Jr., affectionately called "C.T." was born, March 10, 1963, to

Vernice S. Dabney and the late Charles Thomas Dabney, Sr. Sadly, he passed away, unexpectedly, yet, peacefully in his sleep on May 8, 2024.

At an early age, Charles was baptized at Escobrook Baptist Church, which remained his “home” church throughout his life.

An avid learner, Charles began his educational trek at Hampton Institute in Hampton, Virginia, where he earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Business Management, achieving high honor as Magna Cum Laude. Charles continued his studies at Carnegie-Mellon University’s H. John Heinz III School of Public Policy and Management, where he was awarded his Master of Science degree in Public Policy and Management with a major in Environmental Planning in 1986. Charles completed his formal education journey in 1991, obtaining a Graduate Certificate in Housing Finance from the University of Maryland Graduate School of Public Affairs in College Park, Maryland.

Charles often was recognized as an “elder statesman” in community development circles. Driven by his passion for community development and empowering others, Charles held different roles with the Department of Public Housing and Community Development in Maryland, Washington, D.C., and, ultimately, with Miami-Dade County in Miami, FL. Charles’ prowess with grant writing and community outreach was highlighted in his role as Senior Program Officer of Real Estate and Lending at Local Initiatives Support Corporation-LISC. Until his untimely passing, Charles held one of his longest positions as Director of Real Estate Development at South Florida Community Land Trust (SFCLT) in Fort Lauderdale and Miami, FL.

Charles was a well-respected contributor and leader, known for his dedication to creating access to affordable housing and restoring/advancing communities. He, proudly, served on the boards of South Florida Community

Development Coalition, The Allapattah Collaborative Community Development Corporation and The Steering Committee of the Greater Miami Housing Alliance, each branding a mission to provide and preserve quality, sustainable, affordable housing for underserved populations in South Florida.

Charles was a gifted singer and his life was always filled with music and song. He also possessed a zest for exploring the world through travel and befriending many people while traveling. Charles' "dash" was, definitely, full, rich and full of love to and from friends and family. Charles' walk in life is proof that generosity and love had no bounds.

He leaves to cherish his memory, his mother, Vernice S. Dabney (Little Plymouth, VA); two younger brothers, Vertram Dabney (Richmond, VA) and Dyron Dabney (Richmond, IN); a godson, Niko Collins (Snow Hill, NC) and a host of dear aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

A funeral service will be held 11AM, Saturday, May 18, 2024, at First Baptist Church of Hockley, VA. A viewing will be held from 4pm-6pm, Friday May 17, 2024, at Vincent Funeral Home, West Point, VA.

Due to weather and signal strength, we are unable to livestream. We apologize for the inconvenience. We will post video at a later date.

Cemetery Details

Escobrook Baptist Church Cemetery

2430 Elsom Mascot Rd
Mattaponi, VA 23110

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 17. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Vincent Funeral Home, West Point Chapel
417 11th St
West Point, VA 23181
(804) 843-2550

Funeral Service

MAY 18. 11:00 AM (ET)

First Baptist Church of Hockley
2356 York River Rd
Shacklefords, VA 23156

Tribute Wall

CI

“ I met Charles the summer of 1995 while attending Howard University in Washington, D.C. In the spring of 1996 he opened up his home to me because I had been displaced from student housing. When we first met there was a hundred connection because he was a kind, smart, and thoughtful soul. I helped him relocate to Florida in January 1998 to begin a new chapter. As soon as we unloaded his belongings, Charles was ready for a stress relieving trip to the Dominican Republic. He treated me to my first out of tge country experience as a thank you in the move. I'm saddened by Charles's untimely departure from the living. He was a crown jewel in life. His counsel, love, and compassion remain forever in my thoughts and heart. My deepest sympathies to the Dabney family. I love you all. Charles Hardyway II

Charles Hardyway II - May 18, 2024 at 02:07 PM

JG

“ I send my condolences filled with peace & love to the Dabney family and friends. Today, Charles is pure Source & his grandiose soul now radiates the world with blissful goodness. Charles, I am honored to have shared the few laughs we did & those memories never cease to exist. Sending immense love to you.



Jesse Gonzalez - May 18, 2024 at 01:32 PM



“ 2 files added to the album Program of Services



Vincent Funeral Home - May 18, 2024 at 10:10 AM

RF

“ I first met Charles in 1984 at Carnegie Mellon University. We became instant friends. He was know to my kids ad Uncle Charlie, and we grieve as a family over the loss of our dear friend. I was fortunate and am forever grateful for being given the opportunity to call Charles my friend. I thank the Lord for letting Charles and I spend his last weekend on this Earth together, laughing, swimming, and have a wonderful time together. I will miss Charles. His infectious laugh, his amazing stories, his unwavering desire to make this planet a better place, one community at a time. Rest well Charles. Until we meet again.

Rick Fox - May 18, 2024 at 09:27 AM

KH

“ Karen Holmes lit a candle in memory of Charles Thomas Dabney Jr.



Karen Holmes - May 18, 2024 at 12:03 AM

LN

“ *Linda A. Brown Nick sent a virtual gift in memory of Charles Thomas Dabney Jr.*



Linda A. Brown Nick - May 17, 2024 at 10:21 PM

LN

*To Mrs. Vernice Dabney and family, I am so very sorry for your loss. My Aunt Constance and CT shared the same birthday, now they can celebrate together. Family, you are all in my prayers. Know that Our Father's Arms have got you! Family, lean on Him! You are all in my prayers.
Rest in Peace, CT!*

Linda A. Brown Nick - May 17, 2024 at 10:46 PM

SD

“ *In memory of my cousin Charles,*

Charles's vibrant laughter and infectious smile will forever be etched in my heart. His passion for travel, coupled with his love for genuine connections and meaningful conversations, defined the essence of who he was.



I fondly recall our adventures together, from the joyous wedding celebration we attended in Dominica to our cousins' getaway in Guadeloupe. Each journey was adorned with laughter, shared stories, and unforgettable memories I'll cherish forever.

Charles's zest for life and his unwavering compassion touched the lives of everyone around him. He leaves behind a legacy of kindness, adventure, and boundless enthusiasm that will continue to inspire me to explore the world with an open heart and curious spirit.

Rest in peace, dear cousin. You will be deeply missed, but your light will continue to shine brightly in our memories.

*With love,
Sharon*

SD - May 17, 2024 at 03:20 PM

RB

“ *My sincerest condolences to Mrs. Vernice, our devoted and loyal friend turned family, and to Vertram and Dyron. May your memories and God's grace keep you during this difficult time. With much empathy and love always. Robin White Bowles and family*



Robin White Bowles - May 16, 2024 at 10:38 PM

MH

My condolences to the family. Praying for your strength and comfort during this difficult time.

Marilyn Reed Huger - May 17, 2024 at 11:04 AM

KP

“ *My condolences to the Dabney Family*

Kevin Pfau - May 16, 2024 at 06:07 PM

RW

“ *Rose Byrd Washington lit a candle in memory of Charles Thomas Dabney Jr.*



Rose Byrd Washington - May 16, 2024 at 02:31 PM

AV

“ *On my last encounter with CT at the Food Lion in West Point, we enjoyed catching up on past years. He was surprise to see as I was him. CT was still the kind hearted CT. I am so sorry for the lost to the family and his community that he had in Florida. To the Dabney family, my condolences and prayers are with you during this time.*
Andrea Sampson Vick

Andrea Sampson Vick - May 16, 2024 at 11:35 AM



Sheila Jackson

Deepest sympathy to the family of CT, my childhood friend!
Sheila Jessie Jackson.

Sheila Jackson - May 16, 2024 at 12:28 PM

JB

“ Charles was a kind and tireless advocate in our community. I always enjoyed his time working together. He was always thoughtful, I will miss our conversations. He will be remembered with his smile and beautiful heart. Sending deep condolences to his family. May his light and work continue.

Jessica Browdy - May 16, 2024 at 08:12 AM

SH

“ Sending my love and condolences to the family. CT was a bright light in everyone's presence. May God cover you all with his grace, comfort and mercy. Love you all. ❤️



Sheena - May 15, 2024 at 10:41 PM

GH

“ I had the pleasure of knowing Charles for over twenty years. We worked together at LISC in which Charles was very passionate about changing the lives of the voiceless. He was a great colleague and friend. We spoke just two weeks ago and I was totally shocked about his passing. I send my sincere condolences to the Dabney family- He will definitely be missed. We will keep you all in our prayers.

Glenn Hudson

Glenn Hudson - May 15, 2024 at 05:16 PM

EM

“ I have only interacted with him once over email as part of work assignments and I distinctly remember Charles because he was so helpful to me and offered to have a phone call with me to talk about his work experiences last month. I deeply regret not having that phone call with him to thank him for the kindness and respect he gave me as a new Intern. Many condolences to Charles' loved ones.



Estrella Margarita Martin - May 15, 2024 at 04:51 PM

RB

“ To Ms. Dabney, Vertram, Darian and all of CT's family & friends, it is with heartfelt sympathy that I extend my condolences to you all. I share fond memories of CT from growing up in Little Plymouth, VA, school & church and he was always such a pleasant person to be around. You all are in my thoughts & prayers. R.I.P CT 🕊️📄💔



Rowena Jordan Byrd - May 15, 2024 at 04:38 PM

CL

“ Mr. Dabney was an amazing influence on my career as a community developer and I thank him for always encouraging me to be a Stand Out and not ever fall into a habit of trying to fit in. He was so right about me and I promise to honor his work in all that I accomplish in the field. _ Carla Mofura

Carla Patrine Latimer - May 15, 2024 at 03:37 PM

DD

“ I am so glad I was able to spend time with cousin CT last year. He came out to Albuquerque to support my family during the loss of my Mother and he was a ray of sunshine during a difficult time. We thoroughly enjoyed our time spent with him and it was a lasting memory. I know heaven has gained a joyful angel.

Darlene Dabney-Rencher - May 15, 2024 at 02:17 PM

BL

“ Mrs. Dabney CT was such a unique young man. He had a heart of gold that was, undoubtedly a testament of your love and care for him. He was a blessing in all of our lives, and words cannot describe how greatly we will miss him. Brenda Lee

Brenda D. Lee - May 15, 2024 at 01:48 PM

BS

“ Sending all of my love to the family. I absolutely loved CT's spirit. His smile, voice and laugh were always so infectious. You couldn't help but to be in a better mood, after interacting with him. I will always remember to live zestfully and joyfully, when I think of him. Love you, Family and bless you.

Briana Stanton - May 15, 2024 at 12:35 PM

IB

“ My Condolences to the Dabney family. I knew Charles through his mother and father going to school, he was younger than me.

Ivy Phillips Brodie

Ivy Phillips Brodie - May 15, 2024 at 06:15 AM

VM

“ My condolences and prayers to the Dabney Family! Charles and I were in Kindergarten together and would come to Mt. Nebo with his Mother. RIP my Friend and classmate until we meet again 🙏🕊️🙏



Vicky Maddox - May 14, 2024 at 03:54 PM

JV

“ My heartfelt condolences to Dabney Family

Jorge Villalobos - May 14, 2024 at 02:52 PM

Marty
Chapman

“ Charles and I were fierce competitors in High School public speaking contests in the 80's alternating finishing first and second. I remember him and those days fondly.

Marty Chapman - May 14, 2024 at 12:53 PM

CM

“ I fondly remember our youthful day in Washington DC when CT and his roommates would host fun gatherings at his house. He was a delightful person. Condolences to his family and friends. 🌹

Cynthia Martin - May 14, 2024 at 12:06 PM

TG

♥️ @ Cynthia

Tyrone S Goodwyn - May 14, 2024 at 01:40 PM

AF

“ *My condolences to the family*



Andrea Foy - May 14, 2024 at 10:16 AM

MM

“ *My condolences to the Dabney Family.*

Marilyn Morton - May 13, 2024 at 09:32 PM

RM

“ *RICHARD MORALES sent a virtual gift in memory of Charles Thomas Dabney Jr.*



RICHARD MORALES - May 13, 2024 at 09:09 PM

RM

Buenas tardes familia Dabney. De parte de la familia Morales Bonilla en Costa Rica expresamos nuestras más sinceras condolencias por la muerte de Charles Dabney. Un fuerte abrazo para Doña Vernice, Dyron y nuestro querido amigo Vertram. Qué Dios tenga en su santa gloria a Charles, quien en este momento está gozando de la vida eterna, paz a sus restos, serenidad y amor a su hermosa familia.

RICHARD MORALES - May 13, 2024 at 09:15 PM

AL

Father God In Heaven please comfort and heal the hearts of our whole family as your son Charles rest in your Heavenly peace until your son Jesus Christ comes back to wake up all the son's daughters who are resting in your Holy peace. Help the rest of our family lift up , and comfort each other with your loving and healing spirit! In Jesus Christ name I pray Amen.

Andereson Bj AJ Love - May 13, 2024 at 11:47 PM

RB

My deepest condolences to Vertram Dabney and his family. May God keep you strong in this time and rest in peace Charles. 🙏

Ramon Bisono - May 14, 2024 at 08:18 AM

SB

With deepest sympathy to the Dabney family. Charles will be missed. Rest in peace Charles.

Sandra Burrell - May 14, 2024 at 11:44 AM

TG

I was a part of Charles' "DC Crew". Wonderful memories of a good brotha.

Tyrone S Goodwyn - May 14, 2024 at 01:42 PM

MF

So appreciative of your loving kindness with summers in Miami. Such a generous spirt.

Monica Freeman - May 14, 2024 at 06:19 PM

JM

We are so sorry to hear of the passing of Mr. Dabney. He was such a sweet person with a wonderful kind spirit. He will be missed. Jessica and Sara - Evelyn Noel Accounting

Jessica Medeiros - May 15, 2024 at 02:50 PM

BH

CT was great, kind, intelligent and humble man. So glad I was able to call him my friend. Heaven has gained an angel. My sympathies to Mrs.Dabney, Vertram and Dyron. Love y'all.

Buck Hawes - May 18, 2024 at 10:56 AM