



Mr. Burford Elonzo Evans

JUL 20, 1931 - DEC 7, 2023



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Mr. Burford Elonzo Evans

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Burford Elonzo Evans was born in Golinda, Texas on July 20, 1931. He was the son of Mose and Lou Versie Evans. Mose had been the son of a slave and Lou Versie's parents were immigrants from Mexico. He and his sister Yvonne, or Maggie as she was called, grew up very poor, as most black folks were in that time in the South. His parents taught him to work hard and when the opportunity presented itself, he joined the Air Force. He was not allowed to fly because he was too young! He lied about his age when he joined but was able to serve five years before being honorably discharged in 1955.

He met Alice Marie O'Banion and wisely married her in August 1956! He began his job at the VA Hospital right away and they started a family. In the years that followed, they had three(3) beautiful daughters, Monica, Michelle and Marsha.

Burford had always been an artist! He had drawn and sketched since he as a boy but when he was 25, while in the Air Force, he stole away to sit on steps of the Sorbonne, a prestigious Art School in France. He drew the attention of the artists and teachers there and learned more about his craft. When he returned to the States, although he worked a regular job, he created beautiful paintings and sketched at night and on the weekends. Soon he began having Art Exhibitions in Hotel Ballrooms with his wife and children helping to hang and label the art! He gained notoriety from these exhibitions and was later asked to create works for Universities, Associations, celebrated individuals and Art Galleries! He has been recognized all over the world for his brilliant works. Most notably the W. E. B. Dubois series. He was active in Civil Rights and used his art to illustrate the plight of the black men and women of his Era.

He is preceded in death by his beautiful wife Alice and his daughter Marsha. He is survived by his daughters Michelle and Monica, two grandchildren Alicia and Alexa, three great granddaughters, Yuvi, Yara and Yael, his sister Yvonne, Nieces Beryl, Vicki and Janelle, Nephews Charles, Bruce, Reginald and Jerrod.




Events


Mr. Burford Elonzo Evans

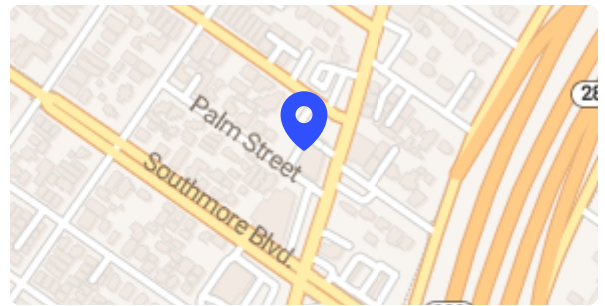
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Memorial Service

 **Friday**, December 15, 2023

 11:00 AM CT

 **Mabrie Memorial Mortuary**
5000 Almeda Road, Houston TX 77004





Tribute Wall

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DW

Denise Rhodes-Webb shared 5 photos to the **Tribute Wall** album.

Unfortunately, I just found out Mr. Burford passed away about a week ago. Stunned is more the word! We own one original and a couple numbered pieces. One piece in particular—Lady Overlooking Her Garden, as we call it—was the only item in our formal living room for over a year!! New home at the time. We matched the furniture to the painting! 😊. He was tickled about that. Enjoy your rest, sir—well done.



January 15 at 7:34 AM

FF

Frank Fraley April 20 at 6:02 AM

I just learned of the passing of our friend Burford Evans. I first met Burford at the VA Hospital in Houston in 1977. He was a character! I bought a piece of his art at that time of two men playing dominoes. I bought five more pieces to adorn my Courtroom in 2019 when I was elected District Court Judge in Ft. Bend County. Rest in peace my friend! You're one of a kind. See you in Heaven one day.

JM

J.R. Mack shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

To the family of Mr. Burford Evans (Mr. B is what I called him), I just found out today he made his transition a little over a year ago, and I am truly sorry for your loss. Mr. B did a commissioned piece in "Realistic" technique for me back in 2008 titled "Lovers", that still receives high praises by all who view it. I am really sadden because he wanted to paint me by myself, but I traveled a lot with my job and never made the time to do it. The world has suffered a great artistic loss. May you rest in peace and love Mr. B!



December 21 at 5:23 AM

AW

Alvia Wardlaw posted:

We have lost a truly creative spirit. The art of Burford Evans has served to document the history and administrations of Texas Southern University for decades. His portrait of Mack Hannah in Hannah Hall is a tribute to his talent which captured the dynamism and vision of Mr. Hannah. I am grateful that Burford Evans chose to make Houston his base in the art world. We are all the richer for it. My thoughts and prayers go out to his family and his many many friends and fellow artists. Alvia J Wardlaw

December 15 at 5:57 AM



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Ruby Bell posted:

Sincere condolences to the family. I am so very sorry for your loss. May God provide the necessary peace and comfort to your family and friends during this difficult time. Please remember these words of encouragement from the Bible: "Jesus plainly told her: "I am the resurrection and the life. He that exercises faith in me, even though he dies, will come to life." — John 11:20-25.

December 9 at 6:07 AM



Keith And Tricia Romans December 11 at 10:37 AM

Please accept our sincere condolences. We are keeping you and your family in our prayers



Media

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December 21 at 5:23 AM





Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Burford by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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