

**Honoring Motor Vehicle Operator Gerald “Gerry” Buchanan Sr., NYPD**

By: Keith Kerman



On January 25, 2020, NYPD sadly said goodbye to Motor Vehicle Operator Gerald Buchanan, Sr. Gerald, affectionately known as “Gerry,” joined the NYPD in 1990 as a tow truck operator. He was assigned to the NYPD auto pound and later transferred to fleet services where he was assigned to NYPD Shop 3. Gerry’s love of driving was evident. In a previous interview for the newsletter he said: “I like the challenge, when you go out, every job is different.”

Gerry embraced any type of assignment from parades, public disturbances, and crime scenes of every type. Gerry excelled in his position and helped others as well, serving as an instructor for commercial driver licenses for incumbent personnel and new hires. Gerry was proud of his students, having a 90% passing rate over the last 12 years. Gerry was loved by commissioners, directors, supervisors, and peers alike.



Gerry was born in Roanoke, Alabama and his family later relocated to Queens, New York. Gerry attended John Bowne High School and joined the U.S. Army. While serving in the U.S. Army, Gerald worked as an aircraft repairman maintaining and repairing U.S. Army helicopters.

In 1992, Gerry joined Pilgrim Church, where he became an ordained deacon and was later elevated to president of the Deacon Board. Gerry carried out many functions within the

church including treasurer, head of security, and bus driver. Gerry took great pride in serving his church.

Gerry loved spending time with his wife Betty, of 31 years, and their four children, Randolph, Surrena, Jeanna and Gerald Jr. He enjoyed relaxing at home and watching his favorite sports teams like the NY Knicks, NY Giants, and Alabama Crimson Tide.

NYC Fleet and NYPD Fleet Services would like to extend our condolences to his wife and his children and thank them for Gerry's 30 years of dedicated service to our great city. He will be missed and remembered by all for his heartfelt greeting, "GRACE AND PEACE."



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