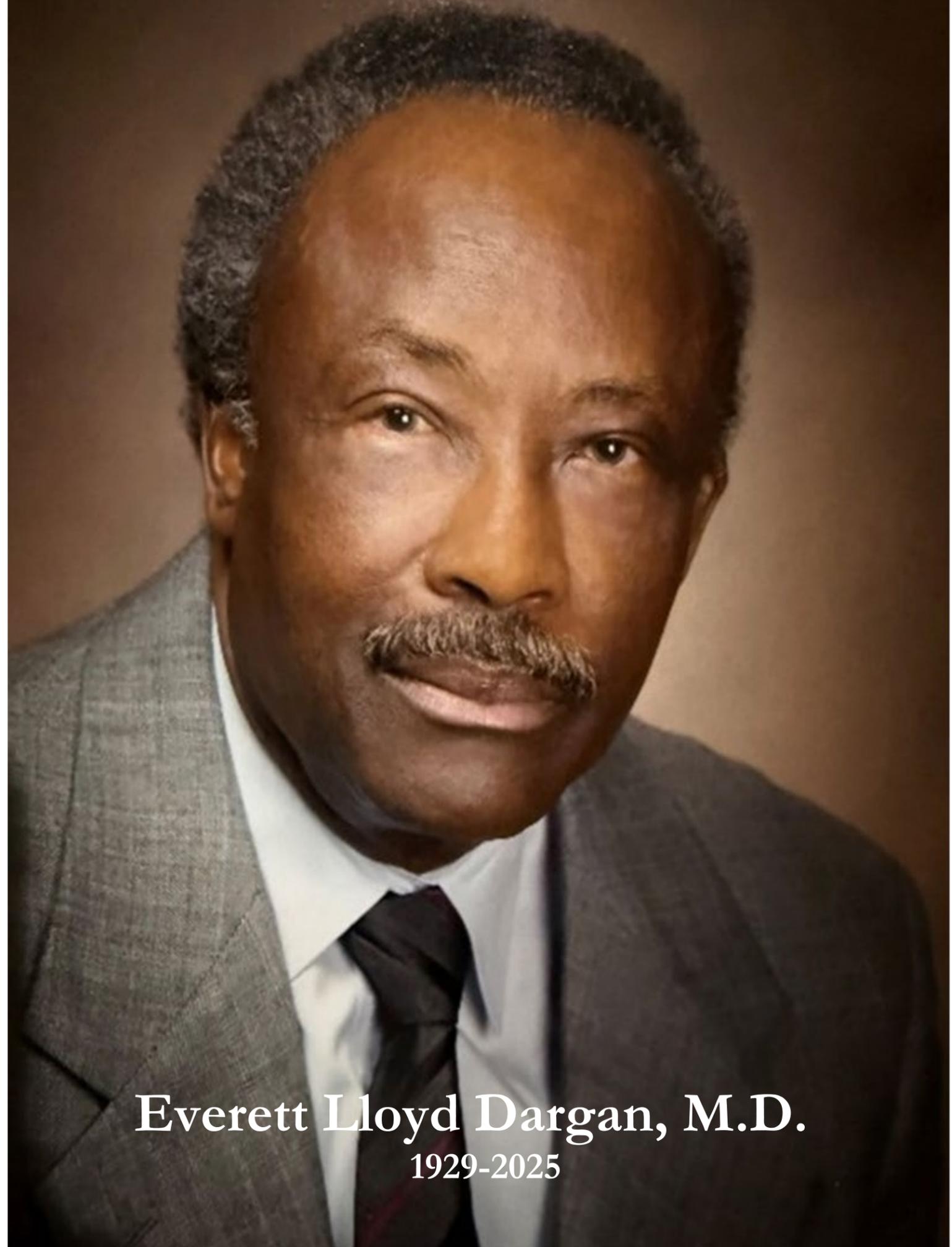


**Special thanks and blessings to those who made this wonderful service possible (and who shared their gifts with our father during his lifetime):**

Our participants in the service  
The Trustees, Deacons, and Members of Zion Baptist Church  
Deacon Franklin Moore  
Mrs. Doretha Thompson  
Mr. John Dixon, Vice Chair, Board of Trustees of Zion Baptist Church  
Ms. O'Landra Nowell, Church Secretary, Zion Baptist Church  
Leevy's Funeral Home and Mr. I.S. Leevy Johnson, Director  
University of South Carolina School of Medicine

**And special thanks to the following organizations, beloved by our father:**

Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity of the Boulé  
Savannah Chapter of The National Association of Guardsmen, Inc.  
Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.  
Columbia Chapter of The Links, Inc. (Connecting Link)



**Everett Lloyd Dargan, M.D.**  
1929-2025

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*Services Entrusted To:*

**Leevy's**  
Chris Leevy Johnson  
-Managing Director-

SIGN THE ONLINE REGISTRY:



Leverette A. Williams, II  
-General Manager-

# A Service of Remembrance

Saturday, June 14, 2025 – 11:00 a.m.

Zion Baptist Church

801 Washington Street

Columbia, South Carolina



Prelude.....Reverend Byron Dixon, Organist  
Welcome and Opening Prayer.....Reverend Dr. James Palmer, Jr.  
Opening Hymn.....“How Great Thou Art”  
First Reading.....Psalm 23:1-6.....Mr. Landon Dargan Phelps  
Second Reading.....John 14:1-3.....Ms. Morgan Dargan Phelps  
Resolution of the Church.....Mr. John Dixon  
Community Tribute.....“The Life of the Servant Leader”.....Dr. Bobby Donaldson  
Remarks.....Ms. Catherine Dargan  
Hymn..... “Amazing Grace”.....Ms. Alicia Graham, Soloist  
Poetic Reading.....*Reflections Eulogy*.....Ms. Jennifer Dargan  
Reflections:  
Letter from Louis Sullivan, M.D.....Ms. Shanta Sullivan  
Letter from Senator Cory Booker.....Mr. Addison Dargan Phelps  
Letter from Congressman James Clyburn.....Mr. Peter Phelps  
Partner.....Dr. Gerald Wilson  
University of South Carolina.....Dr. Gerald Harmon, Interim Dean, School of Medicine  
Friend.....Mr. I.S. Leevy Johnson  
The Lord’s Prayer.....Reverend Dr. James Palmer, Jr.  
Family Closing.....The Dargan Family  
Postlude .....Reverend Byron Dixon, Organist

## Acknowledgements and Expressions of Gratitude

Whether you were with us today in person or in spirit, thank you for joining us in remembrance and celebration of a most joyful and loving spirit, Everett Lloyd Dargan. Your acts of kindness and expressions of love have given us great comfort and strength, and we are deeply grateful for your thoughtfulness.

We thank Zion Baptist Church for this beautiful service as well as the wonderful caregivers who gave Everett comfort in the final years of his life. He passed away surrounded by family and knowing that he was very well loved.

We will forever remember your every kindness.

With warmest gratitude,  
The family of the late Everett Lloyd Dargan, M.D.

## Reflections Eulogy

*Written by Delores Poyner Hendricks, Sister-in-Law (deceased)*

When I complete my time amid you  
As we all must do someday,  
You should not mourn for long my absence  
If you'll recall what I now say.

Surely you'll miss my voice, my presence  
But anguish eases as time goes by  
Memories dim, but become more cherished  
When you accept the reasons why.

Perhaps you'll find some comfort knowing  
Just how rich my life has been.  
I'm prepared for my final quiescence  
With a sureness that's genuine.

How I've loved the years I was given  
And my family, oh, so much!  
Loyal friends, devoted supporters  
Who never failed to stay in touch.

I get so full when I remember  
That I've had what many seek.  
To feel love, give love, receive love-  
A lifetime search of the rich and meek.

Such contentment- a feeling of wholeness  
When I recall experiences past  
All weren't pleasant, but that's part of living  
And the good times couldn't be surpassed.

I'm certain I've made accomplishments  
Made full use of the time I had,  
I tried to put all in whatever I did  
To stay involved somehow made me glad.

So you see, there's no need to feel sorrow.  
'Cause I'm resting and I'm truly at peace.  
I'll be waiting to greet you on the other side  
When your work on this earth has ceased.

~Peace and Love~

## A Tribute to Life Well Lived

**Everett L. Dargan, M.D.**

Everett Lloyd Dargan, M.D., passed away peacefully in hospice at Sibley Memorial Hospital in Washington, DC, on April 1, 2025, following a protracted illness. He was 95. A native of Columbia, South Carolina, he led an inspiring life of remarkable achievement and grace as a scholar, surgeon, sportsman, gentleman, public servant, husband, father, mentor, and friend to many.

Born on July 30, 1929, in the Waverly neighborhood of Columbia to Annie Dargan and Thomas Dargan, Sr., Everett was the third son in a loving family of six. His older brothers, Thomas, Jr. and Julian, who preceded him in death, were his heroes. He spoke often of their military service and scholarly achievements. Like their parents, the boys, together with their beloved sister, Goldia, were raised in an era of extraordinary hardship, which instilled in them a foundation of faith, an ethic of hard work and service to others, and a deep commitment to education. The family were devoted members of Zion Baptist Church, where Dargan eventually served as a trustee.

As a youth during the Great Depression, Dargan helped support his family by shining shoes, delivering newspapers, waiting tables, and working summers on his uncles' family farm. The future surgeon emerged with a fierce inner sense of resolve and deep compassion for those in need.

At age 15, sponsored by a Pepsi-Cola Company scholarship, Dargan entered Morehouse College in Atlanta. He later transferred to the University of Buffalo in New York and graduated with honors with a B.A. in biology. He was admitted to Howard University College of Medicine in Washington, DC, where he was inducted into the Kappa Pi Honors Society and received his M.D. with high honors in 1953.

Dargan trained in general surgery at Albert Einstein College of Medicine, becoming chief resident of the surgical program. He interrupted his residency to serve in the US Air Force during the Korean War, rising to the rank of captain and commander of the 3910th USAF Hospital at RAF Base Mildenhall and RAF Base Lakenheath in the UK.

Following his service, he became an associate professor of surgery at Einstein. During rare breaks, Dargan explored the island of Martha's Vineyard, off the coast of Massachusetts, with friends from Morehouse and military service. Martha's Vineyard became a favored haven to which Dargan would return throughout his life with his wife, children, grandchildren, and legions of family and friends. He took enjoyment from fishing at Wasque, as well as patiently teaching the children in his life how to fish, and convincing reluctant ones to grow vegetable gardens.

Dargan returned to Columbia in 1961 to practice and to assist with his mother's cancer treatment. Back in New York in 1964, Dargan, by then an attending surgeon at Lincoln Hospital, met Carol Poyner, a registered nurse and flight attendant, also working at Lincoln. They married in 1965, and later moved to Boston, where Dargan completed his surgical specialization and board certifications in thoracic surgery and vascular surgery at Boston University Medical Center. Returning to New York, he became director of surgery at Lincoln and later at Sydenham Hospitals, where he also advocated for indigent patient care and quality medical care for veterans. In addition, he practiced surgery at the Hospital for Joint Diseases (now NYU Langone Orthopedic Hospital), following a fellowship in special surgeries of the hand.

In 1978, Dargan returned to Columbia for the remainder of his career, first joining the private medical practice of Cyril Spann, MD, and then joining in partnership with Gerald A Wilson, MD, to form Midlands Surgical Associates, PA, a private surgical practice. His wife, Carol, worked alongside him and his partners as a nurse and office manager in the practice. In 1979, he joined the faculty of the University of South Carolina as an associate clinical professor of surgery, serving until his retirement from active practice in 2004. He remained dedicated to serving his fellow veterans with excellent medical care, practicing at Dorn Veterans Medical Center for decades. Together with Drs. Gerald and Dennis Wilson, Dargan was also a founding member of Physicians' Health Plan of South Carolina, a network of providers committed to serving Medicaid recipients.

Dargan was the first African American surgeon to serve as chief of surgery and then chief of staff at Richland Memorial Hospital (now Prisma Health). A lifelong scholar, he was honored by the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society in 1996 for his distinguished career of leadership in medicine. He continued training fellow surgeons, presenting research findings and delivering papers at medical conferences in Africa and throughout the United States, often at meetings of the American College of Surgeons, where he became a Fellow, and for the National Medical Association. After retirement from his surgical practice in 2004, Dargan worked for the South Carolina Board of Medical Examiners for nearly a decade.

In 2005, the University of South Carolina School of Medicine established a scholarship in Dargan's name to support the education of physicians committed to practicing in underserved communities. Also in 2005, Governor Mark Sanford recognized Dargan with the Order of the Palmetto, the highest civilian honor for the State of South Carolina, and The Honorable James E. Clyburn delivered a Congressional tribute to

Dargan in the U.S. House of Representatives. In 2020, the University of South Carolina honored Dargan with the Dean's Distinguished Service Award as a Friend of the School of Medicine. In 2021, he was honored as one of the University's inaugural Luminary Leaders in Medicine and Science.

Wherever Dargan's lengthy and distinguished medical career took him, he was renowned for his knowledgeable, professional, and kind relationships with his patients. He was a practitioner who also offered his patients holistic and nutritional advice, a lot of which he learned from his parents, both of whom grew up on rural farms, and particularly from his dietician mother.

Dargan was a devoted father and husband. He and his wife loved spending as much time as possible with their grandchildren. Together, they enjoyed dancing, gardening, visiting museum exhibitions, and spending free days on Martha's Vineyard or in South Carolina's Lowcountry on Hilton Head Island.

In a final act of service, Dargan donated his body to the Department of Anatomy at Howard University College of Medicine, to aid in the training of future medical professionals.

Dargan was preceded in death by his parents Annie and Thomas Dargan, Sr., and his two older brothers, Thomas, Jr. and Julian Dargan.

In addition to his loving wife of nearly 60 years, Dargan is survived by two daughters and a son-in-law: Jennifer Dargan, Catherine Dargan and Peter Phelps; three grandchildren, Addison Dargan Phelps, Morgan Dargan Phelps, and Landon Dargan Phelps; his sister and brother-in-law, Goldia Dargan Hodgdon and John Hodgdon; a host of nephews, nieces, cousins, sisters-in-law, brothers-in-law, many friends, as well as legions of patients, and loved ones from his life of compassion, mentorship, generosity, and public service. He will be dearly missed.

Those who wish to honor his memory consider making a donation to the Everett L. Dargan, MD, Scholarship Fund at the University of South Carolina (<https://donate.sc.edu/AG/sfp/gpln/everett-l-dargan-scholarship-endowment-fund>), or simply encourage the young people in their lives to dream big, work hard, and help others.