



Celebrating the Life and Graduation Day of
James H. Kerr III

Sunrise
December 26, 1958

Sunset
July 6, 2010

Saturday, July 10, 2010 - 6:00 p.m.

Unity Funeral Chapels, Inc.

2352 8th Avenue
New York, NY 10027

Rev. Edward R. Culvert, Officiating

Obituary

James Herbert Kerr III was granted wings July 6, 2010 at Calvary Hospital in Bronx, New York after a six-year struggle with cancer. His final days were spent surrounded by the family and friends Herb touched throughout his remarkable life.

Born in Cleveland, Ohio, on December 26, 1958 to James Herbert Kerr Jr. and Gayle Marie (Kiner) Kerr, James (better known as Herbie, later Herb and Pilao) was the eldest of four children. When his family moved to New York City in 1969, Herb was exposed to a world of artists in which he thrived. He attended PS9 Elementary, IS44 Middle, and graduated from Brandeis High School in 1976. Herb matriculated at Springfield College in Springfield, MA.

Herb met Cristina Maria Franco, a talented dancer from Spain, in 1982. The two were married in 1983 and blessed with two sons, Pilan Jose and Milo Dyami.

Whereas Herb's interests were vast, his true loves were gymnastics and martial arts. He studied different styles of martial arts until he was introduced to capoeira in which he became Contra-Mestre Pilao. He was the eldest student in the first class taught in the US under Mestre Jelon Vieira. Herb's dedication to his craft and obsessive drive for perfection were hallmarks of his personality. He was beautiful to watch perform – his joy in doing what he loved shined through.

Pilao spent thirty-plus years learning, playing, performing and teaching capoeira in the US and abroad. He was also a member of the Screen Actors Guild and was blessed to have a career as a stuntman and actor with credits that include *Rooftops* (1989), *Boomerang* (1992), *Extreme Measures* (1996), and *Pootie Tang* (2001) to name a few. Herb NEVER lost the "kid" in him; he enjoyed playing video games more than the average teen. He was an avid movie watcher and, for his family, boxing will never be the same – he shared his knowledge and love of the sport enthusiastically and freely. He was an exceptional, athletic, and truly talented artist.

Herb was briefly married to SamSam and later met and married Miho Muratsubaki on September 12, 2000. He often referred to Miho as "my angel". He enjoyed working in real estate and, together, Herb and Miho made several investments, which prompted their move to Philadelphia, PA where he resided until his illness brought him home to New York.

Herb leaves to cherish his memory: his loving wife, Miho Muratsubaki-Kerr; mother, Gayle M. Kerr; sons, Pilan Jose and Milo Dyami Kerr (Cristina); sisters, Paula M. Fontenette, Sherrie R. DeAnda, and Donna L. Kerr; nephews, Peter III, Amir J. DeAnda, and Kellyn James Edwards; nieces, Ceyra M. and Cytia M. Fontenette, and Ashely S. Kerr; grandsons, Shane D. and Jaden J. Kerr (Carolina Caro); grandmother, Rebecca Kerr; aunts and uncles, Irving B. & Beverly J. Kerr, Beverly L. Kerr, Donald & Florence Kiner, and Anthony Chisholm; cousins, Maricia D. Mitchell, Ricardo A. Kerr, April K. Acree-Knight, and Karyn M. Silkert; and a host of family, friends, and friends he cherished as family.

Order of Service

Opening Prayer

Song Selection

Ron Grant

Scripture Readings

Old Testament

New Testament

Acknowledgements

Jada DeAnda

Song Selection

Alyson Williams

Special Reading

Gayle Kerr

Remarks

Select Family & Friends

Obituary

Song Selection

Ron Grant

Closing Comments

Dedra N. Tate

Eulogy

Final Viewing

Final Disposition

Oxford Hills Crematory

Chester, New York

"Celebrating the Life & Graduation Day of James H. Kerr III"
immediately following at
DWYER CULTURAL CENTER
258 St. Nicholas Avenue
Entrance on 123rd Street

Special Capoeira performance and open podium sharing memories

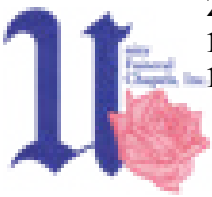


A Better Place

There's a place
 I've never seen
 beyond this world we know,
 A place I've only heard of
 but someday hope to go-
 It's not on any map,
 there are no roads
 to take me there,
 But it's a place of perfect peace
 where hearts are free from care.
 And though I understand
 some may be saddened
 when I leave,
 One day, we all will meet again-
 that's what I believe...
 When it's time to travel there,
 I think I'll wear a smile,
 I'll say good-bye to those I love,
 but only for a while,
 Knowing there are others
 who have traveled there alone,
 Who cannot wait to greet me
 and to whisper "welcome home".

Acknowledgement

*The family acknowledges with deep appreciation all acts of kindness extended to them during this bereavement hour.
 God bless you for all your thoughtfulness and concern.*



2352 8th Avenue • Manhattan, NY • (212) 666-8300
1406 Pitkin Avenue • Brooklyn, NY • (718) 774-1023
1018 Prospect Avenue • Bronx, NY • (718) 542-3833

Clifford V. James, V.P. & Gen. Mgr.
 www.unityfuneralchapels.com
 email: unityfc@aol.com

"Your Loved Ones Deserve The Best - Unity"