

In Loving Memory of



**William Staggars, Jr.**

*Sunrise*  
July 5, 1950

*Sunset*  
September 6, 2014

Service

Saturday, September 13, 2014 - 2:00 p.m.

**UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.**

2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY 10027

**Rev. Lee Arrington, Officiating**

# Obituary

**William Alfonso Staggers, Jr.** affectionately known as “**Billy**,” was born July 5, 1950 and made his transition on September 6, 2014 at his home in New York City.

Billy was one of four children born to the late William Staggers, Sr. and Peggy Lathan. He graduated from Hughes High School and spent most of his life as a resident of New York City except for the time he spent serving his country in Vietnam.

Billy served two years in the United States Army and was honorably discharged in 1970. He retired from the U.S. Army Reserve Unit and proudly served as a member of the historical 369<sup>th</sup> Regiment, for many years. After more than 30 years with, what is now Verizon Wireless, Billy retired from full time employment in 2005.

Billy was the beloved husband, partner, provider and protector of Khyrra Johnson Staggers. They were married for more than 20 years and shared more than 35 years of friendship.

Through his quiet strength and generosity, Billy touched the lives of many people and will forever be remembered as the devoted brother of Van K. Staggers and Rhoda C. Staggers-Hart. His brothers, Kenneth G. Staggers and Keir D. Staggers, preceded him in death.

His stepdaughters, Karen, Tyeaesis (Ty) and Khyrra, will cherish the stability, love and security he provided and the quiet strength he consistently displayed. His beloved nephews include Ivey, Van Jr., William, Dontae and beloved nieces, Lavenia, Jetaun, Jade and Tanaisha and sister-in-law, Monique Kemp-Staggers.

Billy was also treasured by grandchildren, Tameka Carter, Gavin Faber, Marcellus Faber, Justus Boone, Shaquanna Thurmond, Khila Evans and Rashard Evans and remembered by a host of great and great-great nieces and nephews who will all miss his love and conviction. Countless family members, friends and colleagues who were blessed to know and love him will miss him.

Billy enjoyed listening to classic jazz and was proud of his extensive collection of albums from Coltrane, Davis, Monk, Gillespie and Parker – the artist he called, “true jazz masters.” He delighted in the ability to share stories about the recordings and artists and was meticulous in his music collection and in every aspect of his life. His family lovingly teased him about his record keeping, organizational skills and the absolute attention he paid to “even the smallest detail.”

He was also proud of his collection of firearms and was a licensed firearm safety instructor and trainer at Westside Rifle and Pistol Range in New York City. Billy had extensive training in the safe and proper use of firearms and was a strong advocate of training and education. He loved to share his knowledge and expertise about weaponry with students, fellow instructors and anyone who would listen! He was a proud, card-carrying, lifetime member of the National Rifle Association and supported constitutional rights around this issue. His tremendous strength and presence will be greatly missed by all those he touched.

# Order of Service

**Processional**

**Selection**

**Scripture Readings**

**Prayer**

**Selection**

**Acknowledgements**

**Remarks**

**Obituary**

**Selection**

**Eulogy**

**Committal**

**Viewing**

**Recessional**

Final Disposition  
Oxford Hills Crematory  
Chester, New York

# Broken Chain

We little knew that morning that  
God was going to call your name.

In life we loved you dearly,  
in death we do the same.

It broke our hearts to lose you,  
you did not go alone;

for part of us went with you  
the day God called you home.

You left us peaceful memories,  
your love is still our guide,  
and though we cannot see you,  
you are always by our side.

Our family chain is broken  
and nothing seems the same,  
but as God calls us one by one,  
the chain will link again.

Author: *Ron Tranmer*

## Acknowledgement

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

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*Clifford V. James, President & CEO*

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*"Your Loved Ones Deserve The Best - Unity"*