

In Loving Memory of



Freddie Redd, Jr.

Sunrise
June 10, 1954

Sunset
March 25, 2015

Service

Thursday, April 2, 2015 - 10:00 a.m.

LAGREE BAPTIST CHURCH

362 W. 125th Street • New York, NY

Obituary

Freddie Redd, Jr. of Harlem, NY humbly surrendered his life into the hands of God and reunited with his loving wife on March 25, 2015 at 1:31pm after fighting a good fight. He was born on June 10, 1954 to Freddie Redd, Sr. and the late Ethel J. Harrison Tarver.

Freddie attended Public School 90 and Frederick Douglas Academy Junior High School in Harlem, NY. It was at this early stage of life that he developed a passion for reading and became a jazz aficionado, desiring to be a musician like his dad. After graduating from Haaren High School, he completed courses at a technical school to become a pharmacy technician. In his young adult years, he caught the eye and attention of many young ladies and since declared himself “a ladies’ man.” Soon after, he fathered two beautiful children, Freddie Kenny and Stephanie Redd. In his late thirties, Freddie met the absolute love of his life, the late Phyllis Eleanor Barber Gross-Redd, married her on June 17, 1994 and cared for her son, Kenneth Gross, Jr., as his own. Before her death, Freddie and Phyllis celebrated their twentieth wedding anniversary.

Freddie Redd, Jr. actively worked as a Pharmacy Technician in Harlem Hospital’s Pharmacy Department, where he was well loved and respected, from August 1986 to the ending of 2013, before taking a family leave of absence to care for his ailing wife. For over thirty years, Freddie would be caught in the hallways of Harlem Hospital with a book in his hands and glued to his face. He also participated in many of its talent shows sharing his gift of music with his friends and fellow co-workers. Although Freddie read the Bible faithfully, it was not until New Year’s of 2014 that he was baptized and attended First Corinthians Baptist Church with his wife.

Freddie truly loved listening to Smokey Robinson and making music; he taught himself to play piano and would close himself in the guest room of his apartment to make countless songs to sing to his beloved Phyllis. His many hobbies included reading, bicycle riding, listening to jazz and R&B music on his computer and dressing “sharp.”

Preceded in death by his loving wife, Phyllis Gross Redd, his grandparents, John and Loretta Lamb, his mother, Ethel Harrison-Tarver, his uncle, Joseph Harrison, his aunt, Eloise Miller (DeeDee) and his sister, Stephanie Redd. Freddie leaves to cherish his memory: his father, Freddie Redd, Sr.; his stepfather, Charles Tarver, Sr.; his three children, Freddy Kenny, Stephanie Redd and Kenneth Gross, Jr.; his grandchildren, Freddie Jr., Jasmine and Jayla Kenny, Jaxon Powell, Phyllis, Kenneth, Ka’mel, Kahdir, Khadijah and Kaseem Gross; his sister and brother-in-law, Susan Redd Rivers and Henry Rivers; his brother, Charles Tarver, Jr.; his brother and sister-in-law, Lance Ricky Tarver and Beverly Tarver, his sister and brother-in-law, Constance Tarver and Vincent Van Morris, his brothers-in-law, Calvin Barber and Baron Barber, his sisters-in-law, Linda Barber Turner and Vanessa Barber; his nieces and nephews, Leslie Clarke, Shawn and Walter White, Henry and Jerrel Redd, Andrea Covin, Ciara Tarver, Brittany Tarver, Jamal and Selena Ali, Keanna and Le’amber Green, Dr. Melissa Barber, Anthony Barber, Brandi Barber, Candice Barber, Bria Turner, Nia Turner and Bryce Turner; and a host of aunts, uncles, great nieces and nephews, cousins and best friends.

We, his family and friends will always hold our memories of him dear to our hearts.

Order of Worship

Processional“Ribbon In The Sky”

Song of Declaration“Our God Is Awesome”

Scripture Readings

Old Testament: Psalms 62:7

New Testament: Revelations 3:20

Prayer of Comfort

Songs of Comfort..... “Keep Your Head Up To The Sky”
“More Than I Can Bear”

Acknowledgement of Resolutions

Reflections..... Gregory Berkely
Mr. Larry Harrington
Dr. Melissa Barber

Poem..... “Black Love, Unconditional”

ObituaryFreddie Kenny

Song of Celebration..... “It’s Not Over, When God Is In It”

Eulogy.....Reverend Stephanie T. Ward
Chaplin-Heart to Heart Bereavement Ministries

Recessional“Behold The Lamb Of God”

Interment

Rosehill Cemetery

Linden, New Jersey

I'm Free

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free/I'm following the path God laid for me/Took His hands when I heard him call/I turned my back and left it all/ I could not stay another day/ To laugh, to love, to work or play/Tasks left undone must stay that way/ I found that peace at the close of the day/ If my parting has left a void/Then fill it with remembered joy/A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss/Oh yes these things I too will miss/Be not burdened with times of sorrow/ I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow/ My life has been filled; and savored much/Good friends, good times, love once touched/Perhaps my time seems all too brief/Don't lengthen it now with undue grief/Lift your heart and share with me/God wanted me now/He set me free.

Black Love, Unconditional

Have you ever tasted love/Unconditional?/You know/The kind God sends?/Chocolate Mahogany/Sun Kissed/ Deep gut wrenched laughter /Balanced by gentle tears of Joy/Love/Or that real gangsta /Hard-core, fierce/Die hard, cut throat /Tongue lash/Unconditional Covenant/Test of time/Love /I did... and she loved me/She loved me/She loved/Me/And I worshiped the ground she walked on/Preparing happily ever after/I discovered REAL LOVE/In the face of death/Human Immunodeficiency Virus/ REAL UNCONDITIONAL/ Covenant Love/ She chose me/ Defended our Covenant/ Said 'I Do,'/Even if you don't/ She said/"I Do even if You don't"/And she loved me.../She Loved me/Loved/Me/And, oh, how Love loved me/And I worshiped the ground/Meeting her feet /I had nothing but a promise/To treat her like a queen/ My Queen/ Until death did us part/And I did because/She loved me and/ Chose me/ Stayed faithfully/Love never strayed/ Even when intimacy/Became frustrated/Barriers built but/Love stayed/When I was hard headed/Love stayed/When jealousy came/Love stayed/When outside noise came to speculate/Threatened to separate/Love stayed/Love stayed.../But Love.../Kind, Gentle/Not selfish/Patience Prevailed/Sunshine sustenance on gray days/Taught me to live life/Love saw pass my fears/And inadequacies/Gave me courage/Love, I mean GOD/Real Love/Saved itself just for me/Took me to paradise for just a moment/Showed me suffering/And my cross to gain her all over again/But, Brilliant/Love/Devised a plan to/Free me and/Heal me/Redeem me and deliver me/To release me again/All at the same time/Black Love, Unconditional/Was my story.../Our story/Because she loved me/She loved me/She loved/Me/And as I worshiped the/Ground that met her feet/I Loved Love in return.

Melissa Barber

Acknowledgement

The family wishes to express their deep appreciation and sincere thanks for your kindness, expressions of love and concern shown during their time of bereavement. We would like to extend a special thanks to Mr. Larry Harrington, Harlem Hospital Staff of the AICU, 13th and 14th floors, Social Worker, Ms. Jackie Roberts and all other caregivers for the wonderful, diligent and sacrificial love and care they gave to Freddie during his illness; Mr. Jones and Ms. Jackie Andrades of the Bronx Specialty Care Center; Ms. Gail Walker and the IFCO/Pastors for Peace staff for the flexible work schedule that helped Melissa to handle all of Freddie's affairs; and last but not at all least, Ms. Hinnah Farooqi and the Harlem Hospital Pharmacy Department for the many years of dedication, love, and financial support that you gave to Freddie in the best and worst of times. We can never repay you all or say thank you enough.

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