



*In Loving
Memory
of*

Joseph P. Bogain

Sunrise: July 28, 1960

Sunset: September 29, 2019

Service

Saturday, October 12, 2019 - 10:00 a.m.

UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.

2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY 10027

Obituary

Joseph Bogain was born on July 28, 1960 at Bronx Lebanon Hospital in the Bronx, New York. He was born to Edward Bogain, Sr. and Lee Ruth Bogain as the youngest of their four children. Two of his siblings preceded him in transitioning, his eldest brother, Edward Bogain and eldest sister, Karen Hill. Joseph is survived by his third born sister, Nena Ansari.

Joseph being a child of the 60's and a member of a musically talented family enjoyed plenty of music and dancing in the Hitchmon household. Dance offs were routine where Joseph competed with his cousin Efreem Pittman for financial rewards.

P.S. 91 was Joseph's elementary school where he did exceptionally well, then went on to graduate from Dewitt Clinton High School; and he eventually accepted a full scholarship to Southern Connecticut State College as a member of their gymnastics team. Being a gymnast provided Joseph with the opportunity to travel and compete with other gymnasts; earning several trophies and medals. After college Joseph had the dancing bug and found himself studying under the guidance of the Alvin Ailey repertoire then moving on to eventually being one of the principle dancers with Jelon Vieira and his company "Dance Brazil" where Joseph's gymnastic talents came alive during the Capoeira performances.

While working at Lincoln Center, Joseph choreographed his co-workers in a rendition of "Thriller" that won and carried notable acclaim amongst spectators and staff alike. During those times Joseph was introduced to the legendary club, "The Paradise Garage" and 84 King Street became his home away from home. He loved wearing his dark shades and his famous wrestling suits. Joseph formed family like bonds with so many people along the way.

Those bonds lasted throughout his lifetime. His stomping grounds were places like the club Shelter, The Limelight, The Nickel Bar, Club Zanzibar, Murphy's, Better Days, Fire Island, Central Parks fountain, and if it was a spot with good club music, then Joseph was there.

Joseph held several jobs but once he entered the hotel trades he knew that hospitality was his calling. Having worked at the Plaza Hotel until its demise, Joseph went on to work at the Ritz Carlton on New York's Central Park which afforded him the opportunity to provide hospitality to some well known celebrities and share humorous exchanges that made his career so exciting. Initially after a brief illness, Joseph pushed himself to return to work because he loved his job and his wonderful family of co-workers.

Joseph really loved his Ritz Carlton family. Joseph being a person who never settled even in his 50's decided to train to compete as a mixed martial artist and was diligently in the gym with his trainer David Orsini and often showing the rest of us what Mai Tai training involved. And it was very rigorous, but Joseph loved it as well as he loved dancing, gymnastics, wrestling, roller skating, bike riding and was a physical power house.

During vacations family and friends would get a kick out of seeing people admire Joseph's physique which if you knew him was always on display. He worked hard

and it showed. No matter where Joseph traveled he made lasting acquaintances with people. Joseph being the Leo that he was, loved nice things, a comfortable environment and happy people. Joseph encouraged and assisted his friends whenever possible, which accounts for so much of the love he receives in return.

In late 2018, Joseph was diagnosed with cancer and went for treatment and was in remission. Approximately one year later the cancer returned and although Joseph was treated again this time around the cancer was resistant to treatment. He fought very hard to recover, but the cancer destroyed his total health and he succumbed to it on Sunday, September 29th, 2019. Some people never get to experience what a friend is and Joseph was blessed with having several true friends and they all brought his heart great joy.

Joseph leaves us in the physical body but will remain forever in our spiritual presence. Joseph lived a happy life and would want for his loved ones and friends to be in a good spirit each time they remember him.

Joseph leaves his sister, Nena Ansari; nieces, Kwamina Hill and Alexandria Hill; nephews, Nathaniel Dixon, Ibrahim Shamsiddeen, Charles Hill, Muhammad Rasul, Matthew Hill and Khalif Frederick; cousins, Saadia Pittman and Efrem Pittman, Robin Edwards, John Hitchmon, Jr., Kamili Hitchmon, Desiree Houghton, Cheryl Williams; and a host of aunts, uncles, grand nieces and nephews.

Order of Service

Processional

Selection

Scripture Readings

Prayer

Selection

Acknowledgements

Remarks

Obituary

Selection

Eulogy

Committal

Viewing

Recessional

Interment

Mt. Rest Cemetery

Butler, New Jersey

Psalm 23

The Lord is My Shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; He leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul. He leadeth me in the path of righteousness for His name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies. Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.



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.

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, President & CEO
www.unityfuneralchapels.com
email: unityfc@aol.com



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