

In Loving Memory of



James William Batts, Jr.

Sunrise: February 13, 1968

Sunset: November 24, 2019

Service

Monday, December 2, 2019 - 6:00 p.m.

SECOND CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

503 Glenmore Avenue • Brooklyn, NY 11207

Pastor Ronnie Felder, Officiating

Joeworn Martin, Organist

Obituary

James William Batts, Jr. was born on February 13, 1968 in Brooklyn, New York, he passed away on November 24th, 2019 at Brookdale Hospital located in Brooklyn, New York at the age of 51 years old. He is preceded in death by his parents James and Mary Louise Rowson and eldest sister, Yvonne Sowe. James received his formal education through the New York City Public School system, graduating from East New York Vocational High School. During his early year of studies he participated and completed a work study program at Interfaith Hospital. Immediately following high school he took a job at Doremus Marketing & Advertising Company in the mailroom where he began to thrive professionally and moved up the ranks into a more self-fulfilling career. After over a decade of service he officially resigned from the company and relocated to Pennsylvania to begin the next chapter of his life. James resided in Pennsylvania for over 20 years, working in the retail industry, quickly flourishing and becoming a skilled sales associate/manager. Outside of work he devoted his time to nurturing and co-parenting his children Javon Batts and Starlene Milan. Several years later after settling in Pennsylvania, James had met and fell in love with Laura Rathfon and out of this relationship they welcomed two daughters, Leila and Jayla Batts.

In January 2017, James had made a selfless decision to return to New York City to assist with and oversee the care of his ailing mother. One week after his arrival he was faced with the sudden and untimely passing of his eldest sister Yvonne Sowe on February 3, 2017. With Yvonne's absence his presence in the home was very impactful and comforting to his grieving mother. James was blessed to have cherished a little over a year with caring for his mother before her passing on August 15, 2018. Following her passing James took a job at the Altrium Rehabilitation Center in November 2018 where he worked up until his unforeseen passing. During his short time of employment there James grew the respect and admiration of his co-workers and managers. His commanding presence, leadership style and the passion he displayed while doing his work did not go unnoticed by the patients whom he serviced and his co-workers that worked alongside of him.

James will always be remembered for his love of family, resilience, humor, not to mention his love for life. When he lived he lived big, if you were in need financially, emotionally or just needed a good party he was definitely your go to person. He never turned anyone down especially if you were his family or friends or even sometimes a foe James was there for you. James proudest attributes were his children the sun rose and set upon them. When speaking about his children, James always spoke compassionately about how much he loved and valued his children.

James William Batts Jr. is survived by his four children Jevon Batts, Starlene Milan, Leila and Jayla Batts, brother Anthony L. Batts and Tiesha L. Batts (Wakeforest, NC), two sisters, Bernadette Lee (Brooklyn, NY), Cynthia and David Mentus (Utica, New York), nieces and nephews, Peter and Cassandra Abraham (Utica, NY) children Sean, Jermaine, Mariah, Brooklyn and Grayson, Anthony Batts (Brooklyn, NY) daughter Araya, Quintarra Lee (Brooklyn, NY) son Levi Albright, Quinniya Lee (Brooklyn, NY) children Saniya and Denim, Andre Batts (Virginia) son Aiden, David Mentus Jr. (Utica, NY) daughter London, Kwesi Nisbett (Brooklyn, NY), Taire Mentus (Utica, NY), Dionte and Dionna Batts (Wakeforest, NC), a host of aunts, uncles, cousins, family and friends. This program would not be completed without mentioning his most valued and cherished friends John, Norma, Steve, Abraham and Mitch. James was a loyal, devoted and compassionate fan of the New York Yankees and San Francisco 49ers.

Although gone to soon, you have now moved on through the natural circle of life, you will never be forgotten. Your memory will live on in the hearts of your family and friends forever. May your soul Rest In Peace knowing that you were truly loved. We love you James...

Order of Service

Processional

Selection.....Pastor Tyrone Flowers

Scripture Readings.....Ray Robinson

Old Testament.....Psalm 17: 1 - 8

New Testament.....2 Corinthians 5: 4 - 9

Prayer.....Ray Robinson

Selection.....Pastor Tyrone Flowers

Acknowledgements.....Gisele Faison

Remarks.....John Maddox
Steve AKA Gator

Reflections (3 minutes).....Family & Friends

Obituary.....Shameeka Hayes

The Charge to Family and Friends.....Alicia Robinson

Sermonic Solo.....Pastor Jerri Robinson

Eulogy.....Pastor Ronnie Felder

Committal

Viewing

Repast immediately following service in the dining room downstairs

Inurment

*Oxford Hills Crematory
Chester, New York*

I'm Free

*Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free
I'm following the path God laid for me
I took his hand 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 day.*

*If my parting has left a void,
Then fill it up 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's been full, I savored much.*

*Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.
Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your heart and share with me,
God wanted me now, He set me free!*

-author unknown

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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