

In Loving Memory of



Bernard James

Sunrise
February 5, 1946

Sunset
March 5, 2021

Monday, March 22, 2021 - 10am

UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.

2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY 10027

Obituary

Bernard James was born in Harlem, New York on February 5, 1946 to his mother, Eleanor Harding and his father, William H. James. He was one of 5 children.

Bernard went on to serve in the United States Army as a field artillerist until 1968, and later graduated from City College of New York in 1976.

During his professional career, Bernard worked for various construction and engineering firms and served as an Architectural Draftsman, a Civil Engineering Surveyor, a Civil Engineering Bridge Inspector, and a Hydrographic Engineer.

Bernard began his Civil Service career with the City of New York, in 1988 at the NYC Department of Transportation (DOT). He later transferred to the NYC Department of Design and Construction (DDC) where he worked in the Infrastructure Division as an Assistant Civil Engineer. After that, he worked in DDC's Executive Office, as a professional and technical photographer, until his retirement in 2011. Bernard proudly worked for the City of New York for a total of 23 years.

In addition to his engineering career, Bernard was a brilliant photographer and received various accolades and recognition for his photography of city buildings, and landmarks, as well as for his photographic work for other New York Institutions like the Amsterdam News and the US Open.

In his personal life, Bernard was a proud father, an avid reader and a lover of knowledge, people, and his family. He remained a member of the Nation of Islam, Mosque No. 7, in Harlem since 1970 and was an incredible asset to his community. Ever dedicated to improving the lives of others and creating opportunities for youth; Bernard served as a mentor and volunteer math and science tutor, introducing many children to the Abacus, which he had mastered as a skilled mathematician. In addition to his community interests, Bernard was a lover of music, an aspiring pianist, and a life-long learner. He began taking piano lessons shortly before retiring and took great pleasure in his weekly lessons.

Bernard was diagnosed with Cancer in 2020 and fought a gallant fight until God called him home on March 5, 2021. He is survived by his daughter, Fareedah James, of Salt Lake City, Utah, and his three loving sisters, Sylvia Robertson, who was by his side to the end, Sharon Mack, and Andria Hawkins. He also leaves behind several nieces and nephews, and a host of friends and extended family members who he loved dearly.

Bernard was a people person, with great empathy and he was well respected. He was giving, he was caring, and he was honest. He always spoke his mind and kept his word. He was a shining example of the goodness in this world, and he will remain an inspiration to his family, his friends, and his colleagues.

Bernard James touched countless lives during his remarkable time on Earth and he will continue to do so in spirit. The light he brought to this world will shine as we remember Bernard, and the powerful legacy he left behind. He will be missed.

Order of Service

Processional

Selection

Scripture Readings

Prayer

Selection

Acknowledgements

Remarks

Obituary

Selection

Eulogy

Committal

Viewing

Recessional

INTERMENT:
Calverton National Cemetery
Calverton, 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 his call,
I turned my back and left it all.

I could not stay another day,
To laugh, to love, to work, to play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way,
I've 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,
Ah 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 savoured 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.

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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