

Celebrating The Life of
In Loving Memory of



Keith D. Stephenson, Jr.

August 24, 1968 - December 20, 2021

SERVICE:

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2021 - 12:00 PM

CAGGIANO MEMORIAL HOME

62 Grove Street • Montclair, NJ 07042

Obituary

Keith Stephenson Jr., passed away unexpectedly on December 20, 2021, at Mountainside Hospital where he worked for thirty years. Keith was born at Mountainside Hospital, Montclair NJ on August 24, 1968. Growing up Keith was raised with godly values, he loved to cook, grill, and watch food network. He had an appreciation for music and enjoyed listening to R & B and Hip-Hop just to name a few. During Keith's formative years, he attended and graduated from Montclair High School in Montclair NJ. Thereafter, he started his career in 1985 at Mountainside Hospital as a Dietary Food Service Worker, and in 1990 he was transferred to Materials Management Department, as a Receiving Clerk.

Keith loved Disney World so much that in the year 2000, he married the love of his life Val and they had a beautiful and memorable Disney wedding. Over the years of their union Keith adored, cherished, and loved Val unconditionally. They created a beautiful and godly life together in Montclair, NJ and later relocated to Pennsylvania where they commuted to work for over sixteen years.

Some of the most profound and fond memories of Keith's daily commutes were: How he and wife Val experienced God's protection and travelling mercies from a deadly car accident, their daily prayers to God, and listening/singing uplifting gospel songs to strengthen them throughout their day. By God's grace, in 2005 Keith was transferred to the Maintenance Department at Mountainside as a General Maintenance Mechanic. He loved working together with his teammates and considered them as his "family." Throughout the thirty years of Keith's employment at Mountainside, he developed a diverse, respected, and loving friendships among his work family. Keith's brief life story is God's divine plan, purpose, and promises he ordained for his life. We may never understand the "why," but in due season, God will reveal Keith's purpose and presence in our lives. Most importantly, Keith was a man of God's heart, he believed Christ died for his sins and that God's grace kept him through the years, and that same amazing grace took him home.

Keith leaves behind his wife Valeria Coker-Stephenson, his father Keith Stephenson Sr., sister Dawn Perry, stepbrother William Cassie Jr., sister-in-law Jacquie Oliver, brother-in-law's, Gary Oliver, John A. Coker, aunt Lois Gierwanlaniec, nieces, nephews, cousin's, extended family: Aunt Marian Frunzi, Joe Frunzi, Linda & Ray Gugliemi, Patty A. Kenlan and the Smith family, Jenny & Ray Scott and Friends and Colleagues.

Order of Service

*Musical Selection.....	"Thank You Jesus"	Kim Burrel
Prayer/Words of Comfort	Reverend Dr. Ingrid Singh	
Psalter Selection	Psalm 23	
Obituary	Reverend Dr. Ingrid Singh	

Poem: When Tomorrow Starts Without Me

When tomorrow starts without me, and I'm not here to see, if the sun should rise and find your eyes all filled with tears for me. I wish you wouldn't cry, the way you did today; while thinking of the many things we did not get to say. I know how much you love me, as much as I loved you, each time that you think of me, I know you will miss me too. When tomorrow starts without me, please try to understand, that an angel came and called my name, and took me by the hand. The angel said my place was ready, in heaven far above, and that I would have to leave behind, all those I dearly love. But as I turned to walk away, a tear fell from my eye, for all my life, I'd always thought, I didn't want to die. I had so much to live for, so much left yet to do, it almost seemed impossible that I was leaving you. And when I thought of worldly things, I might miss come tomorrow, I thought of you, and when I did, my heart was filled with sorrow. But When I walked through Heaven's Gates, I felt so much at home, when GOD looked down and smiled at me, from his golden throne; He said This Is Eternity, and All I promised you. Today your life on earth is done, but here it starts a new. You have been so faithful, so trusting and so true. Though there were times you did some things, you knew you shouldn't do. But you have been forgiven, and now at last you're free. So, won't you come and take my hand, and share my life with me. So, when tomorrow starts without me, do not think we're apart, for every time you think of me, remember I'm right here in your heart!

***Family and Friends Reflection and Remarks**

A Letter to Keith..... Wife Valeria Coker-Stephenson

*Musical Selection..... "Love Don't Ever Say Goodbye"The Jones Girls

Serenity Prayer

God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change;
Courage to change the things I can; And wisdom to know the difference.
Living one day at a time; Enjoying one moment at a time;
Accepting hardships as the pathway to peace; Taking as He did,
This sinful world as it is, not as I would have it;
Trusting that He will make things right, if I surrender to His Will;
So that I may be reasonably happy in this life,
And supremely happy with Him, forever and ever in the next. Amen!

Scriptures

Old Testament

Micah 6:6-8

New Testament

John 14:1-3, 27

Message & Reflection

"God's Promises"

Prayer

Reverend Dr. Ingrid Singh

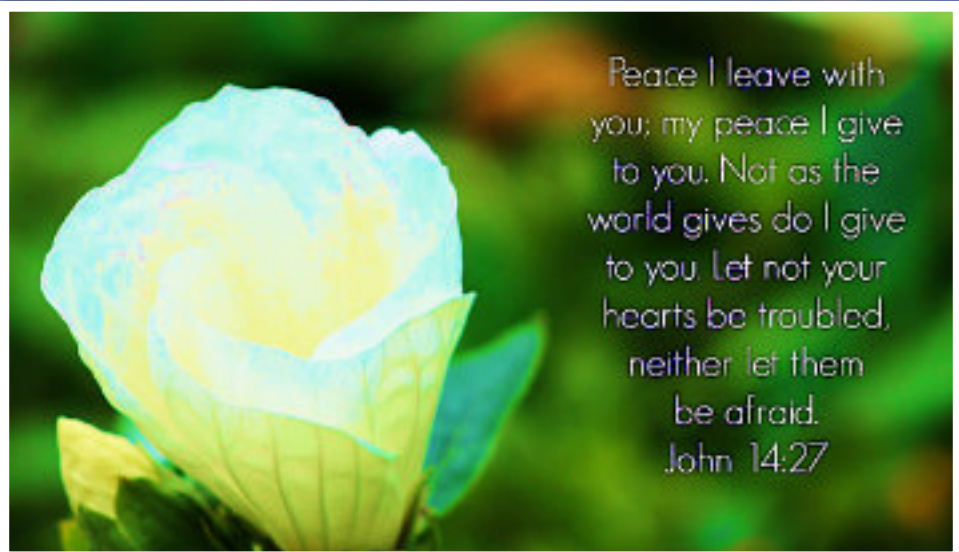
*Musical Selection.....

"The Best Is Yet To Come"

Patti LaBelle

Acknowledgement

Benediction



Peace I leave with
you; my peace I give
to you. Not as the
world gives do I give
to you. Let not your
hearts be troubled,
neither let them
be afraid.
John 14:27

Acknowledgement

The family of **Keith Stephenson** will remember and cherish your many expressions of love, sympathy and prayers so graciously extended. Thank you and may God Bless you.

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Caggiano Memorial



My Beloved Keith

I could not have been blessed with a better husband than you. When we married, you had taken our vows seriously, for better, for worse. God has blessed me to have shared space with a man that loves me to the moon and back. We had 30 years together, that is a blessing and I give thanks. I have not only been blessed by God, but divinely favored.



As we put the love of my life to rest today, we bury only his body, his spirit and his soul will live on through amazing memories, stories that are shared by many people that knew him. Keith has touched many lives and the love is visible in the eyes of our family and friends. The world is a better for the years my beloved Keith lived. For those who do not know, El Shaddai is another word for our Lord and Savior. I would like to thank my El Shaddai for allowing me those years with him. Keith, I will forever love until my last breath.

- Your Val



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