

In Loving Memory of



Joshua "Pop" Rice

Sunrise: January 3, 1960 - Sunset: January 2, 2022

Wednesday, January 12, 2022 - 5:30 PM

UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.

2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY 10027

Obituary



Joshua Rice was the fifth child born to Ellis Rice, Sr, and Estelle Rice, on January 3rd, 1960. He was also the second child of the Rice family born in New York City. Joshua was affectionately nicknamed “Pop” because he looked just like his grandfather, Pop Turner. The name fit him so well that everyone called him by it until he was given another fitting nickname; Bucket.

Pop attended New York City Public schools located in the Bronx, NY, and was a construction worker for a period of time in the eighties.

Pop was well known in his community and everyone had love for him. He was funny, had a great sense of humor, and could keep you laughing. Pop was respectable, especially to his elders. Whenever an elder in the neighborhood called on Pop for help, he would help them.

Even though Pop didn't keep traditional working hours or a traditional job, everyone who knew him, or ever saw him on the street could recognize that Pop was a hustler. He would perform all types of odd jobs for people throughout Patterson and the surrounding areas. He was a delivery man, a store runner, a parking spot holder, and a bag carrier, but his most notable hustle was washing cars. Pop and his trusty bucket would wash your car day or night and the price was always right. People saw him so much with that bucket that they started calling him just that- Bucket.

Pop was a product and victim of his environment so much so that God said enough and called him home on January 2nd, 2022, at the age of 61.

He has been spiritually reunited with his father Ellis Rice, Sr (deceased) brother Darnell Dowd (deceased) and leaves behind his mother, Estelle, daughter Natasha, sisters Hattie, Flossie, Gladis, and adopted sister Tihesha; brothers Stanley, Daniel Sr, Willie, Ellis Jr, Dennis Sr, and Michael Sr. and a host of nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins, and extended family and friends to cherish memories of him.

Order of Service

Opening Remarks.....Pastor Francis

1st Musical Selection.....Crystal Fleet
“Take Me To the King”

Scripture..... Pastor Francis
Old Testament- Psalms 23
New Testament- Ecclesiastes 3 verses 1-4

Prayer of Comfort.....Deacon Robert Turner

Acknowledgments.....Joye Rice

Reading of Obituary..... Deacon Anna Brown Turner

Eulogy..... Pastor Francis

2nd Musical Selection..... Crystal Fleet
“His Eyes Is On the Sparrow”

Benediction..... Pastor Francis

Final Viewing and Closing Celebration Song“Goin’ Up Yonder”

Interment:
Rosemount Memorial Park
Elizabeth, New Jersey



If Tears Could Build a Stairway

If tears could build a stairway
And memories were a lane
We would walk right up to heaven
And bring you back again
No farewell words were spoken
No time to say goodbye
You were gone before we knew it
And only God knows why
Our hearts still ache in sadness
And secret tears still flow
What it meant to lose you
No one can ever know
But now we know you want us
To mourn for you no more
To remember all the happy times
Life still has much in store
Since you'll never be forgotten
We pledge to you today
A hallowed place within our hearts
Is where you'll always stay
-Author unknown

Acknowledgement

The Rice Family would like to thank everyone for their heartfelt prayers, condolences, visits, calls, texts, and positive thoughts. Your kind words and outpouring of love are greatly appreciated during this time of bereavement. Love is Love.

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