

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF
John Francis Thomas

AUGUST 2, 1964 - DECEMBER 17, 2022



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2022

VIEWING: 9:00 am - 11:00 am

FUNERAL SERVICE: 11:00 am

MT SINAI BAPTIST CHURCH

241-45 Gates Avenue • Brooklyn NY 11238

Rev. DaQuan W. Williamson, Pastor

Elder David E. Sayles, Musician

Obituary

John Francis Thomas, son of Leah Thomas and the late Martin Richmond was born on August 2, 1964, in Hermitage, St. Patricks', on the beautiful Spice Island of Grenada. In 1976 at the age of twelve he immigrated with his family to St. Croix, US Virgin Islands. Sad to leave his doting grandmother, the late Lucy Thomas. Two years later the family moved to New York City and set up residence in Flushing, Queens with our late uncle, Mitchel Thomas for better opportunities.

At an early age, John had a love of learning and was a very disciplined student. He excelled in school at Rachel Carson I.S. 237 in Flushing. He later got accepted at Brooklyn Technical High School and would travel two hours each way from Queens to Brooklyn as he was always dedicated to his studies. He was an avid swimmer and weightlifter in high school and enjoyed classical rock. He had a diverse group of friends and was very friendly and personable. He later went on to college at The Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn majoring in Mechanical Engineering.

John held various operational positions at Swingline Corporation, Traulsen Refrigeration, Apple & Eve and most recently at The Ulano Corporation, a leader in the printing and graphic arts industry, he spent over 30 years at Ulano. One of his favorite things to do while at Apple and Eve, was to bring home new apple juice formulas. His young niece Jasmin would test the product and give him feedback to bring back to his office before the apple juice went to market. He was a caring and dedicated uncle.

While working at Ulano Corporation John was blessed to meet and become an honorary son to Jean Pike Brown ("Aunte Jeane"). In 2003 Aunte Jeane introduced John to a beautiful young lady, Kerri T. Payne, whom she knew from Wayside Baptist Church. Aunte Jeane felt John & Kerri would complement and balance each other. John and Kerri met, and were later married on November 28, 2003, in 2009, they welcomed and dedicated their son Jonathan R. Thomas at Wayside.

John served as a Deacon & Trustee for eight years at Wayside Baptist Church. John and the family were faithful attendees at every Sunday service and provided fellowship to sister churches. They also gave communion to the sick and shut in. John's dedication to helping fellow congregants in need was admirable and appreciated by all.

John was a dedicated family man. He was a loving husband and doting father. John always made sure his family was safe and secure. The family spent many nights watching John's favorite five-star movie picks. The weekends were left for family game nights of Monopoly, Domino's and Jenga, (which Jonathan usually won). He fondly spent time with his mom Leah on most Sundays. He enjoyed her meals his favorite meal was any type of soup she made.

John LOVED tennis, he was an avid tennis player and would often try and recruit us to play with him on weekends growing up. He often instructed his younger sister Dee, "we are not playing softball, concentrate on hitting the ball." Those lessons were short lived. You could not tear him away from a tennis match on television.

John was someone who would always give a helping hand when needed, his life will forever be cherished by his wife Kerri; son Jonathan; mom Leah; siblings Danny (Perry) and wife Sando, Jacinta (Dee), and Joshua. His nieces Jasmin, Alanah, Ashari, Camille, Paisley, and Kayla. Nephew Chaiyo and wife Lexie. A host of extended family in New York; Aunts, Uncles, Cousins, half siblings, and dear friends in Grenada, Pennsylvania, Canada, Chicago, Maryland, Virginia, California, and Texas.

John was in the care of his mom Leah, wife Kerri and brother Josh, until the very end, we owe them a world of thanks for their never-ending dedication. His memory will always be cherished, and we will continue to love him always. We thank God for the time we were able to share with him.

The family extend our sincere thanks to the numerous health care professionals at the Long Island Jewish Forrest Hills Hospital and outpatient services for their care. God riches blessings to everyone today and in the coming year.

Order of Service

Hymn of Praise Elder David E. Sayles

Scriptures:

Old Testament - Job 19:25-27.2..... Erick Perry

New Testament - 1 Thessalonians: 4 13-18 Jean Pike Brown

Prayer Of Comfort

Reflections

Musical Selection

Acknowledgement of Condolences

Obituary Jasmin Palmer

Musical Selection

Eulogy Rev. DaQuan W. Williamson, Pastor

Recessional

Musical Postlude

Interment

LINDEN HILL METHODIST CEMETERY
323 Woodward Avenue • Ridgewood NY 11385

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!

Acknowledgement

The family of **John Francis Thomas** acknowledges with great appreciation all acts of kindness, sympathy and love extended to us during this time of bereavement.

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