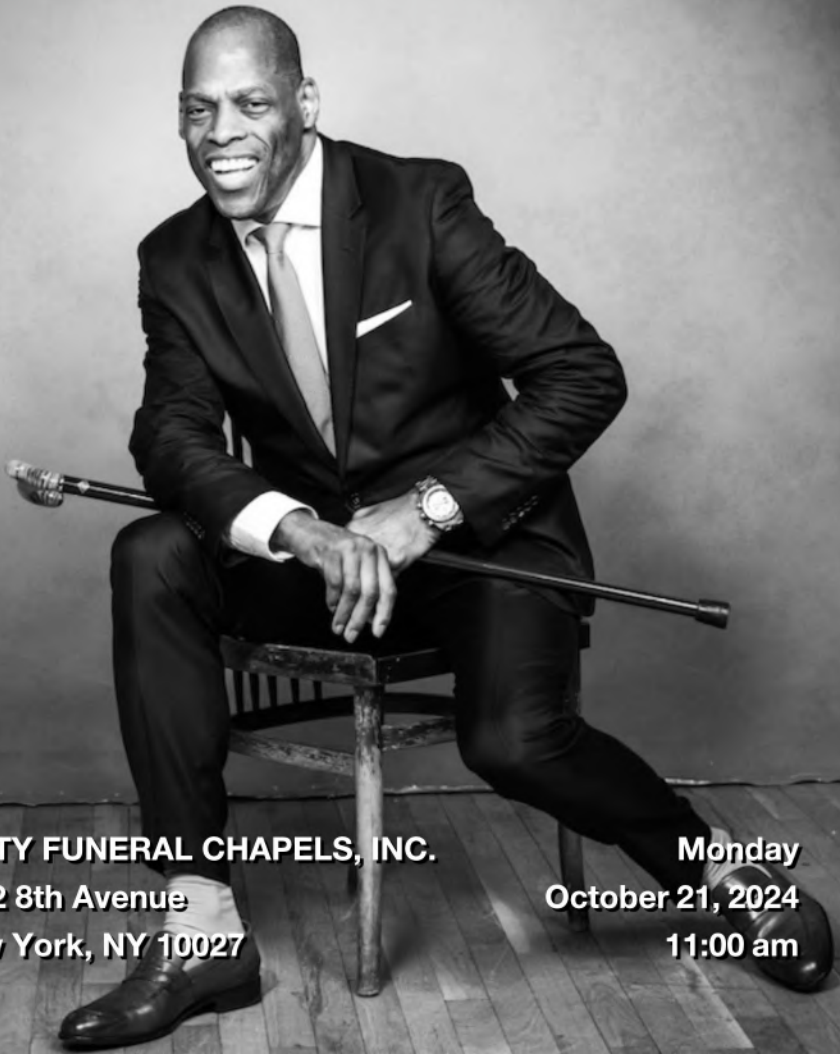


PLAYBILL®

Celebrating the Life of
Adrian Bailey

Sunrise: September 23, 1956 - Sunset: September 22, 2024



UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.
2352 8th Avenue
New York, NY 10027

Monday
October 21, 2024
11:00 am

A LIFE WELL LIVED

Adrian Bailey

Adrian Bailey, 67, Broadway legend of Harlem, New York, departed this life peacefully on Sunday, September 22, 2024 at a rehabilitation center in Manhattan. A native of Detroit, Adrian was born on September 23, 1956 to the late Louis Bailey II and Marchisness Bailey, who later married Frank Gibson Sr., whom Adrian considered to be his father. The second of five children, Adrian graduated from Osborn High School in 1974, completed one semester at Marygrove College in Detroit, then left to pursue his dreams of a career in the arts.

From an early age, Adrian possessed a passion for theatre. In high school, he loved to study music, sing in the choir and band, tap dance, and perform in plays.

Adrian's professional career spanned over three decades with 15 Broadway shows, tours, and appearances in TV and film. In 1976 he made his Broadway debut in *Your Arms Too Short to Box With God*, followed by *Sophisticated Ladies*, *My One and Only*, *Legs Diamond*, *Black and Blue*, *Prince of Central Park*, *Jelly's Last Jam*, *The Who's Tommy*, *Kiss of the Spider Woman*, *Smokey Joe's Café*, *The Wild Party*, *La Cage aux Folles*, and *Hot Feet*.

Acknowledged as a "Triple Threat" performer of enormous talent, beauty, intelligence, strength, and immaculate technique, Adrian was a five-time Gypsy Robe recipient, an homage presented to the show's ensemble member with the most Broadway chorus credits. The 2007-2008 Robe was dedicated to Adrian in *The Little Mermaid*, when he received the inaugural ACCA Spirit Award, in recognition of his exemplary work on Broadway.

In 2008, before a performance of *The Little Mermaid*, Adrian fell through the trap door of a set piece, 36 feet down to the stage. The career-ending accident caused severe injuries, requiring many surgeries and rehabilitation.

Adrian's resilience was imbued with stoicism, super strength, and an indomitable spirit. His friend Leonard Joseph helped to care for Adrian from 2018 until his last days.

A kind gentleman and generous soul, Adrian took pride in his LGBTQ community and chosen family. He will be remembered for his giant voice, gentle spirit, bright smile, sense of humor, stubborn opinions, political rants, baking skills, singing Facebook posts, and unwavering love for his mother and family. Predeceased by his parents Louis Bailey II, Marchisness Gibson and Frank Gibson, Sr., Adrian leaves behind to cherish his memory his siblings Louis Bailey III, Karl Bailey, Angela Robertson and Frank Gibson, Jr.; nieces and nephews Elijah, Isaiah, and Jeremiah Robertson; Temric Saxton, Jasmine and Justin Bailey; many friends and colleagues.

On October 17, 2024, all Broadway theatres dimmed their lights to salute Adrian's contributions to the American Musical – an unprecedented and historic honor for a member of the ensemble.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Musical Prelude Gary Mitchell, Jr.

Processional Bishop DeMone Seraphin & Family

Hymn of Comfort..... "We've Come This Far By Faith"

Scripture Reading

Old Testament Ecclesiastes 3:1-3
Virginia Woodruff

New Testament..... John 14:1-7
Lee Summers

Prayer Bishop DeMone Seraphin

Solo "Precious Lord, Take My Hand"
Lillias White

Acknowledgments & Obituary Melissa Haizlip

Act of Love Leonard Joseph

Reflections..... Family / Friends

Solo "Stand by Me"
Juson Williams

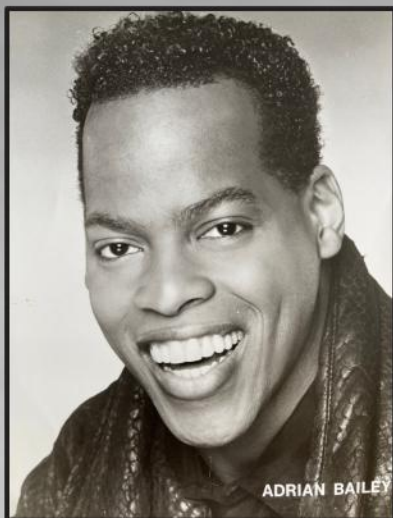
Tribute..... "Look What You've Done To Us, Adrian"
Denise Morgan

Eulogy CB Murray

Benediction Bishop DeMone Seraphin

Recessional

*Adrian
It's been a privilege to have known you
We were family, not just friends
And we will carry you in spirit
Until we meet up once again.*



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

*We wish to thank the nurses and medical teams
who cared for Adrian, and the countless individuals who have
expressed their condolences and held us in their thoughts and
prayers during this time of bereavement.
A larger homegoing celebration is planned for the spring of 2025.
More info to follow*

*For Electronic program please scan:
QR Code*

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