



A Celebration of Life for
James Donell Bates

Sunrise
June 14, 1955

Sunset
May 18, 2012

Service

Tuesday, May 22, 2012 - 12:00 Noon

UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.

2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY 10027

Obituary

James Donell Bates was born on June 14, 1955 in Harlem Hospital, New York to the late James and Magdalene Pruitt Bates of South Carolina. He was the third of five children born to this union. Family and close friends affectionately called him Donell.

James was educated in the public school system and graduated from DeWitt Clinton High School in the Bronx. He later received a Culinary Arts diploma from Florida State Culinary Arts Institute.

James' professional career included over twenty years as a lead chef and had worked in prestigious restaurants and resorts throughout the east coast. James loved to cook and bake. During the holidays the family looked forward to enjoying his culinary skills.

James served on the Abyssinian Baptist Church Block Association in Harlem. He served as secretary and assistant editor of their newsletter.

On Friday, May 18, 2012, God called James home. He leaves to celebrate his life: two sisters, Betty Bates Ludd, New York and Barbara Bates Powell of Syracuse, NY; one brother, Hallman Bates, New York. Preceding his death one sister the late Madelyn Maria Bates. He also leaves a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and two aunts.

Order of Service

Processional

Hymn “Blessed Assurance”

Prayer Reverend Albert Sutton, Jr.
Assistant Pastor, Friendly Baptist Church, Bronx, NY

Scripture Psalm 124

Obituary Reading

Selection

Eulogy Reverend Albert Sutton, Jr.
Assistant Pastor, Friendly Baptist Church, Bronx, NY

Benediction Reverend Albert Sutton, Jr.
Assistant Pastor, Friendly Baptist Church, Bronx, NY

Recessional

Interment

Mt. Rest Cemetery
Butler, New Jersey

Letting Go

God saw you getting tired. When a cure was not to be,
He closed His arms around you and whispered, "Come to Me".
In tears we saw you sinking. We watched you fade away.
Our hearts were almost broken, you fought so hard to stay.
But when we saw you sleeping so peacefully free from pain,
We could not wish you back to suffer so again.
So keep your arms around him Lord, and give him special care.
Make up for all he suffered and all that seemed unfair.

Acknowledgement

The family acknowledges the many kind and beautiful expressions of sympathy and all acts of love shown during this time of bereavement



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