

*A Celebration of Life for*



*Shawn Gray*

Sunrise  
August 29, 1970

Sunset  
June 10, 2015

Saturday, June 20, 2015 - 3:00 p.m.

**CARNIE P. BRAGG FUNERAL HOME**

256 Rosa Parks Blvd.

Paterson, New Jersey

*Rev. Anthony Cureton, Officiating*



## Reflections of Life

**Shawn Gray**, 44, entered this world on August 29, 1970 at Barnett Memorial Hospital, Paterson, New Jersey. Mr. Gray was the youngest son of Mrs. Juanita Blair-Levels and Frederick Gray and was a longtime resident of Paterson, New Jersey.

Shawn attended the Paterson Public School system. He attended School No. 20 and Eastside High School in Paterson, NJ. As a young man he was very active in sports and enjoyed playing basketball on weekends. On any given Saturday in the summertime you could catch him playing a pickup game at School No. 13.

He began his employment at Clairol in Saddle Brook, New Jersey and soon realized that at the age of nineteen the midnight shifts were not for him. That's when he moved on to Nutile Produce in Paterson, New Jersey in 1989 and there he realized that this group also wasn't for him. In the mid 90's he began working at Westwood Chevrolet, where he was a loyal employee for over ten years. After the separation at Westwood, in 2002 he began working at Paramus Chevrolet in the Parts Department. Shawn continued his employment until the nerves in his hand were damaged and he could not continue working.

Shawn or "**Big Shawn**" as he was affectionately called was one of the funniest wholesome people you could ever meet. He was stubborn as a mule but he could always put a smile on your face. Shawn always had a smart comment for you and could keep the remarks coming; this was all a part of his charm. He enjoyed good entertainment and loved to watch sports, listen to his music and play cards. Shawn enjoyed good food and great company.

Shawn was a proud adoring father to his only child, his daughter, Shanèia D. Gray. Due to the close resemblance they were often called twins. Shawn spent quality time with Shanèia “Lil Shawn” during weekends at Fun ‘N Games, teaching her how to shoot hoops and keeping the boys away.

Shawn departed this life on Wednesday, June 10, 2015.

He is preceded in death by his mother, Juanita Blair-Levels and father, Frederick Gray.

His memory will live on: in his loving daughter, Shanèia D. Gray of Paterson, NJ; his step-father, William Levels of Rock Hill, SC; his brother, Maurice “Moe” Gray (Monique) of Bloomfield, NJ; two sisters, Frederica Jones of Birmingham, AL and Jeanette Elam of Charleston, SC; sister-in-law, Tammy Gray of Paterson, NJ; and best friends, AlTaree “Al” Hinson and Marion “Tee” Hinson; and a host of cousins, other family members and friends.



*Order of Service*

**Prelude**

**Processional**

**Selection**

**Scripture Reading**  
**Old Testament**  
**New Testament**

**Prayer of Comfort**

**Selection**

**Acknowledgements & Remarks**

**Reflections of Life**

**Selection**

**Eulogy**  
**Rev. Anthony Cureton**

**Recessional**

**Interment**

**East Ridgelawn Cemetery**  
**Clifton, New Jersey**

# *When Tomorrow Starts Without Me*

*When tomorrow starts without me, and I'm not there to see if the sun should rise and find your eyes, all filled with tears for me. I wish so much you wouldn't cry, the way you did today, while thinking of the many things, we didn't get to say. I know how much you love me, as much as I love you, and each time that you think of me, I know you'll miss me too. But when tomorrow starts without me, please try to understand that an angel came and called my name, and took me by the hand and said, "my place was ready, in heaven far above and that I'd have to leave behind, all those I dearly love." But when I walked through heaven's gates, I felt so much at home. When God looked down and smiled at me, from His great golden throne. He said "This is eternity, and all I've promised you." Today for life on earth is past, but here it starts anew. I promise no tomorrow, for today will always last. And since each day's the same way, there's no longing for the past. So when tomorrow starts without me, don't think we're far apart. For every time you think of me, I'm right here in your heart.*

*-Author unknown*

## *Acknowledgement*

*The family of the late **Shawn Gray** wishes to acknowledge with deep appreciation the many expressions of love, concern and kindness shown to their family during this hour of bereavement. May God Bless and Keep You!*

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