

Gerard M. Woodley

Sunrise: May 6, 1970 Sunset: June 23, 2016

<u>Service</u> Wednesday, July 6, 2016 - 11:00 a.m.

MT. BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH 698 Courtlandt Avenue • Bronx, NY 10451 *Rev. Dr. Gloria Bradshaw, Officiating*

<u>Obituary</u>

Gerard M. Woodley was born in Harlem Hospital, New York City, New York on May 6, 1970 to his father, Benjamin F. Woodley and his mother, LaVerne Black. He was preceded in death by his paternal grandmother, Vera Woodley Holmes and maternal grandfather, Thomas B. Black, Sr.

Gerard received his public school education at P.S. 100 in Manhattan and J.H.S. 136 (co-ed at the time), and after junior high he attended A. Phillip Randolph Campus High School. He also attended New Community Adult Center in New Jersey for plumbing and electrical engineering. He received his GED in 2015. He went to be employed at the campus high school. He took a two day/ten hour class where he received his Osha card for construction sites.

His Christian education began at an early age when he attended Abyssinian Baptist Church Sunday School. He was baptized at the age of six. His maternal grandparents, Thomas and Florence Black, along with his mother, LaVerne Black made sure he was present at Sunday School services along with his brother, uncle and cousins.

Gerard was an avid reader, supernaturals and mysteries were at the top of his list. He loved going to the movies. He also enjoyed today's fashions and going out in general. Boxing was his all-time favorite. He believed in being physically fit. He respected and excepted his son's life.

His little cousins, nephews and nieces were always glad to see him because they knew he would take them out for treats. He missed a few years of their lives, so he wanted to make up for it by spoiling them. Whatever time he was missing from seeing them made him more appreciative of them.

He was quiet, sensitive and always believe that "cleanliness was next to Godliness." He might have gone astray, but he found his way back to his original teachings. (Proverbs 22:6) "Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it."

Gerard is survived by: his father, Benjamin F. Woodley; mother, LaVerne Black; grandmother, Mrs. Florence Black; brothers, Thomas C. Riley (Pat) and Dave ("Show Time"); half-sister, Tonia Cunningham and her twins, Takai Toneish and Ariel Alaysia; son, Dorian B. Woodley (Corinne Gillard); aunts, Geraldine Williams of NYC, Florence Allen of FL and Joyce Black of SC; uncle, Thomas B. Black, Jr. of NYC, (Kim, Nakyai and Kayla); cousins, Ronald Williams, Ajene' Allen, Antaeus Allen, Lawrence Black, Amber Black, Sydney Black, Uriah Black, Messiah Black, Jaeden Allen, Xzavier Allen, Alexsandro Wingard and Silas Allen; nephews, Cameron Riley, Isaiah Riley, Mylez Riley and Ray-Ray; nieces, Dakota Riley and Cam'Ryn Riley; special friends, Travis and Brian ("Bop"); and a host of cousins, family and friends.

We will truly miss you Gerard.

<u>Order of Service</u>

Processional

Hymn of Comfort "Amazing Grace"

Scripture Readings Luke 36:36 Matthew 3:16, 17

Prayer of Consolation Rev. Dr. Gloria Bradshaw

Selection MBBC Voices of Bethel

Remarks (Two Minutes Please)

Acknowledgements/Cards

Reading of Obituary

Selection

Eulogy Rev. Dr. Gloria Bradshaw

Final Viewing

Benediction

Recessional

<u>Interment</u>

Kensico Cemetery Valhalla, New York

My Dearest Gerard,

You've been gone too long; and now you're gone forever. What went wrong? Why is this happening? Help me to understand.

My son, my life, a fine young man.

Again, blood of ours have been spilled. The value of your life has been taken and killed. They stole your soul, and left us with this hole—in our hearts forever!

Oh, "G" (Gerard), how can this be—how can we bring back the memories of the time? We pray for no more harm—Dad's there with open arms; keeping you for us, so we can bear the loss of your touch.

Stay smooth "G"— You were a wonder in our world.

Our undying love for you, Mom "My Sweetheart"

<u>Acknowledgement</u>

The family acknowledges with deep appreciation all acts of kindness extended to them during this bereavement hour. May God bless you for all your thoughtfulness and concern.

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