

*Dolphins*

*Celebration  
of Life  
for*



*William Thomas Lawrence, Jr.*

**Sunrise**

January 26, 1961

**Sunset**

August 15, 2016

**Monday, August 22, 2016 - 7:00 p.m.**

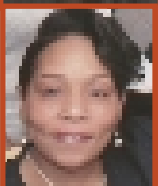
**SEMINARY BAPTIST CHURCH**

**193 Haledon Avenue**

**Paterson, New Jersey**

*Rev. Alfred Steele, Officiating*

*Scott Cumberbatch, Organist*



## Reflections of Life



On Monday August 15, 2016, as the sun began to rise, our Heavenly Father sent one of his Angels to bring home another Angel, our beloved William.

**William Thomas Lawrence Jr.** was born on January 26, 1961 to the late Mary Hughes and William Thomas Lawrence Sr. in Manhattan New York. William was the second oldest child and the oldest of five boys. All of his siblings and relatives loved him dearly because of his bright smile, sense of humor, and his ability to cook.

William was affectionately known as “Brutee or Bill”. His family relocated to Paterson New Jersey during the fall of 1969. William attended Paterson Public School #6 and Martin Luther King Jr. Upon graduating from the eighth grade, William went on to Eastside High School, the home of the “The Mighty Ghosts.” During his years at Eastside High School he became a member of the Eastside High School Marching Band 100, where he played the tuba extremely well under the great leadership of William Pete Nelson.

On June 18, 1983 Brutee married his childhood friend and sweet heart Patricia Ann Carmichael. Their union produced their loving daughter Colette, who will forever be their pride and joy. If you knew Brutee you would catch him DJ’ing house parties on Graham Ave. Brutee had a love for bowling and he bowled very well. Over the years, he joined several leagues and he received many awards from Brunswick Lanes in Fairlawn, New Jersey. His love for bowling was shared with Colette and he would often talk about how he taught her how to bowl at a young age. One thing Brutee and his brothers had in common was the love



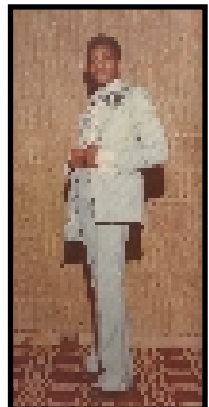


for sports especially football. They would often have heated but friendly disputes about which team was going to the Super Bowl and he would always say “Miami baby.” As a true ride or die fan of the Miami Dolphins he fell in love with the City of Miami which would lead to him becoming a fan of the Miami Heat.

William was a devoted worker for the Division of Children and Families as an office repairer. When William decided to relocate to Washington D.C. he became a bus driver for New World Bus Company where he traveled all over the United States. He was also a bus driver for D.C.’s Public School System. Upon moving back to Paterson, he returned to work at the Division of Children and Families until his health began to fail him as a car- coordinator in Morristown, New Jersey. William spent his last days surrounded by family who loved him dearly.

William was predeceased by his wife Patricia Lawrence, his mother Mary Hughes, his father William Lawrence Sr., his grandparents, his aunt Ora Person and his uncle James Person.

William’s “Brutee” memories will be cherished by his loving family: his loving daughter Colette Drakeford, son in law Jahmel Drakeford, his loving granddaughter Amirah, his loving mother-in-law Jannie Carmichael, a step-son Isaiah Muhammad. His sister Nancy (Russell) Collington and his four brothers, Sylvester Lawrence, Paul Steven (Gwen) Lawrence, Demterious Lawrence and Thomas Lawrence all of Paterson NJ. Three nephews, Shurod, Russell Jr., and Joshua and three nieces, Jasmine, Chantel, and Jessica. One godson Henry Robison Jr. Lifelong friends who are like brothers James Godbolt, Henry Robinson and Michael Greene and a host of many cousins, relatives, friends, and coworkers.



# Order of Service

Pastor Thomas P. Farrar- Officiant  
Pastor of Gilmore Memorial

Organ Prelude

Processional

Hymn of Comfort.....“O’ Magnify The Lord”

Scriptures

Old Testament - Psalm 121

New Testament- John 14:1-7....Russell Collington Sr.

Prayer of Comfort.....Pastor Warren McDowell  
(Prophetic Church of God)

Solo..... Jamel Capers

Remarks.....Family and Friends  
(2 minutes)

Choral Selection

Acknowledgements/Reflection of Life...Marcella Ash

Solo.....Felisha Farrar

Word of life Proclaimed..... Rev. Alfred E. Steele  
Pastor of Seminary Baptist Church

Final Viewing

Recessional

**Interment**  
*Tuesday August 23, 2016*  
George Washington Cemetery  
Paramus, New Jersey

## *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!

-author unknown

## *Acknowledgement*

The family of the Late **William Thomas Lawrence Jr.** wishes to acknowledge with their deepest appreciation, the many expressions of love and act of kindness shown to their family during this time of bereavement. To Pastor Alfred Steele and Lady Carolyn Steele and the Seminary Baptist church thank you for opening up the doors of the church to our family we love you all.

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