

In Loving Memory of

A portrait of an elderly African American man with glasses, wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and dark tie. He is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile. The background is a soft-focus image of a waterfall cascading down a rocky ledge in a lush, green forest.

Ira Rivers

Sunrise: May 30, 1937

Sunset: November 14, 2016

Service

Tuesday, November 22, 2016 - 6:00 p.m.

UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.

2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY 10027

Rev. Dr. Eric B. Turner, Officiating

Rev. David Jenkins, Organist

Obituary

Ira Rivers went to the Lord, Monday evening at 6:25 PM on November 14, 2016. He was born on May 30, 1937 in Harlem Hospital to the late James Rivers and Nettie Rivers. He was raised in Harlem where he played in neighborhood stickball tournaments and could always be found on the playground playing skelly's with his childhood friends. At the age of 18, he received his High School Diploma from Manhattan High School of Aviation Trades.

Ira was a hardworking man and always kept himself busy to stay out of trouble and make an honest buck. In 1961 at the age of 24, Ira was drafted to The United States Armed Forces. He spent six years in the Army as a police officer; during his time in the Army he traveled all over the world. On June 30, 1967, he received an honorable discharged due to an accident while on duty.

Ira then returned to Harlem where he worked for Printing Specialties and Paper Products Company for 41 years. In 1988, he was blessed with his one and only child, Kevin D. Rivers with Laura Allen. Ira was also a member of the Original Five Social Club, the Old Timers Club, as well as the 117th Street Block Association. He helped raise money to support summer camps, block parties, cook outs and bus rides. He was a true stand-up guy.

Ira was a strong man who believed that you worked for things you believed in and hard work pays off.

He leaves to mourn: his one and only son, Kevin Rivers; sisters, Alberta Rivers, Jennie Armstrong and Hattie Aikens; and a host of nephews, nieces, cousins and friends. He joins his late mother, Nettie Rivers; father, James Rivers; and three brothers, James, Stanley and Walter Rivers.

Order of Service

Processional

Selection

Scripture Readings

Prayer

Selection

Acknowledgements

Remarks

Obituary

Selection

Eulogy

Committal

Viewing

Recessional

Interment

*Calverton National Cemetery
Calverton, New York*

The Master Called

*I'm sorry I had to leave you.
My loved ones, oh so dear.
But you see, the Master called me,
His voice was very clear!
I had made my reservation
A heaven bound ticket for one,
And I knew that He would call me
When He felt my work was done.
I know that your hearts are heavy
Because I have gone away,
But when the Master called me,
I knew that I could not stay.
Yes, I'm sorry I had to leave you
My loved ones, oh so dear,
But, you see, the Master called me
And, now I'm resting here.
Yes, I've crossed on over to glory
And to you all I say
Just stay in the hands of Jesus
And we'll meet again someday.*

Acknowledgement

*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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