

In Loving Memory of

A portrait of a man, Louis Lenny Slappy, wearing a dark suit, a white shirt, and a red tie. He has a small floral boutonniere on his lapel. The background of the portrait is a scenic view of a bridge over a river, with trees in autumn foliage.

Louis Lenny Slappy

Sunrise
December 28, 1956

Sunset
December 26, 2016

Service

Tuesday, January 10, 2017 - 11:00 a.m.

Whigham Funeral Home

580 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Newark, New Jersey

Obituary

Louis Lenny Slappy was born in Newark, New Jersey on December 28, 1956 into the family of Hershel and Lula Slappy. After the unfortunate passing of his mother when he was merely 9 years old, he continued living with his incredibly loving maternal grandmother Clara Snead, older brother Wayne and sister, Jeri. He attended Dayton Street Elementary School, matriculated to South Side High School (now known as Malcom X. Shabazz HS) and graduated in 1974.

After graduating from Essex County College, while working alongside his cousin, David Snead as members of the Teamsters Union, Louis served Twin Counties Grocers, assessing inventory and packing goods for delivery until the company dissolved. Undaunted by the layoff, the Teamsters made it possible for him to garner the training needed to become an electrical contractor and gain membership in the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Union (IBEW). In 1978, he met Darlene Ivey and began a relationship that lasted until 1989. That loving union led to the birth of their daughter, Clintonia Lynette Slappy in 1983.

Soon he began promoting insurance opportunities for Prime America -- a venture that forged a thirst for entrepreneurship. That quest led him to dabble into communications, basic carpentry and eventually establish a company based in Willingboro, NJ, purchasing, renovating, renting and reselling homes. Upon moving to Washington, DC, burgeoned by the desire to maintain contact with relatives who were beginning to disperse along the Eastern seaboard, Louis and David began organizing family reunions for the Snead, Carter, Rainey and Walker branches in Virginia and Philadelphia.

After visiting California during the winter of 2004, he decided to reestablish himself in Los Angeles, and thus the chance to reconnect with his older brother the following year. Here he met and married Damaris Sobers and was given his beloved son, Trevor Louis Slappy. An added bonus to that bond was the opportunity to assist Damaris in raising her daughter, Devinn Alexis Foster. Louis became a born again Christian, was baptized in 1996 and became a devoted church member with his daughter Clintonia by his side. He was a member of The Cathedral Second Baptist Church in Perth Amboy, NJ under the guidance of Bishop Donald Hillard Jr. as well as Faith Inspirational Baptist Church in Compton, CA under the guidance of Pastor Rafer Owens. Inspired by the book "Kingdom Man" (The book by Tony Evans), he joined men's groups which further transformed him into a remarkable Christian. Faith in God led to a diligent work ethic, an undaunted desire to support his family, membership in the IBEW. His faith has led him to many friendships and connections which have helped him flourish Focus Point Communications into a dynamic force in the Los Angeles market -- the company he helmed until his recent transition on Monday, December 26, 2016.

Along with both loving parents, aunts uncles and other relatives, Louis was preceded in death by his late brother-in-law, Brian Frazier, as well as his sister, Jeri Johnson and brother, Steven Johnson. In addition to Damaris Slappy, Trevor Slappy, Devinn Foster, Darlene Ivey and Clintonia Slappy, he is survived by siblings Vanessa Frazier, Bruce Johnson, Wayne Slappy and his wife Marlene; stepmother, Sarah Prince; aunts, Elaine Jefferies and Ruth Slappy; uncles, Louis Snead and Richard Slappy; numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, colleagues, fellow union members, employees and dear friends.

Today we celebrate Louis Slappy, man of God, devoted father, husband, brother, friend, uncle and entrepreneur.

Order of Service

Processional

Scripture Reading
Old Testament - Tanisha Frazier
New Testament - Sara Prince

Prayer - Minister Vanessa Frazier

Solo - Veronica Dawkins

Poem - Wayne Slappy

Obituary & Acknowledgments - Clintonia Slappy

Remarks (2 minutes) - Family and Friends

Video Presentation

Solo - Veronica Dawkins

Eulogy - Minister Vanessa Frazier

Recessional

Interment

Rosehill Cemetery
Linden, New Jersey

*Repast: Juke Joint Soul House
7-9 1st Avenue
Bloomfield, NJ 07003*



Acknowledgement

The family wishes to express their sincere thanks and appreciation for all acts of kindness and expressions of sympathy that was shown to them during this time of bereavement.

Professional Services by:
Whigham Funeral Home

580 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Newark, New Jersey 07102
973-622-6872

Carolyn Whigham, Director



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