

In Loving Memory of



Efron Cherry

Sunrise
April 29, 1959

Sunset
March 21, 2017

Service
Saturday, April 1, 2017 - 6:00 p.m.

Obituary

Efron Cherry was born April 29, 1959, in Brooklyn, New York, son of the late James and Hurley J. Cherry.

He began his education in the New York public school system attending PS 149, IS 292 and Thomas Jefferson High School. He later received his General Education Diploma.

As a young man, he loved to play football. He was also an avid chess player until his vision became impaired. He was a lover of music and enjoyed singing and dancing.

He had a strong work ethic and entrepreneurial spirit. He would always say “God Bless the Child that has his own”. In his youth, he began shining shoes on 42nd Street, New York. He later worked as a salesman, DJ, and in construction. He designed and sold t-shirts, tote-bags and sweatshirts bearing his slogans and designs.

Efron is survived by thirteen children: Lynee, Rashia, Shareece (mother, Madeline Fields); Darshone, Khadijah, Nataysha, Shatie, Auntay, Efron Dennis Jr. (mother, Claudia Bethea); Kaleth, Iron, Malik and Malaysia (mother, Tanya Johnson). He was also instrumental in raising William (Jay), Ronald, Tameka and Gina, along with many other nieces and nephews.

He always stressed the importance of keeping his children together and with the help of their mothers he gracefully accomplished that goal. Efron was very concerned with social issues including community violence. So much so, that he became an activist speaking on the sidewalks or any other venue that presented itself concerning the injustices in our communities of color. He would speak to young men about their life-choices, endeavoring to let them know that there is a better way.

He worked with several non-profit organizations and various public schools to address social injustices and non-violence. He spent many hours at the Art Gallery on Lewis Avenue and Macon Street interpreting art into poetry.

Fondly known by many as the street educator, poet, and philosopher, he welcomed the challenge to make others think outside the box. He would ask the question “what is the greatest gift given to mankind by the Creator?” Then he would wait a few seconds for an answer and say “air”. He would then give that hearty chuckle and say “just breathe”.

Although he did not attend church on a regular basis, he expressed a belief in God. He believed that God had a plan for his life. Every time he would go into the hospital and come home, he would say, thank God, I’m still here.

On Tuesday, March 21, 2017, Efron kissed this old world goodbye.

He leaves to cherish his memory his thirteen children; one son-in-law, Duane Delk; one daughter-in-law, Marie Flor Bethea; nineteen grandchildren; one great grandson, Ayden Fields; eight siblings, Elaine Parker, Gloria Parker, Rita Diaz, Sharmaine Cherry, Sandy Cherry-Friscia, Ronnie Turner, Ivan Cherry and Iris Cherry; three brothers-in-law, Clifford Parker, Luis Diaz and John Friscia; two aunts, Janice McDonald and Evangeline Stokes as well as a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Submitted in love, the family.

Order of Service

Officiating	Pastor Ivory Dorsey
The Processional	Clergy and Family
Scripture - Psalm 23	Tonya Richardson Rice
Prayer of Comfort	Reverend Charles Rice
Solo - “Jesus I Love Calling Your Name”	Khadijah Bethea
Reflections	Please limit to 2 minutes
The Obituary	Evangelist Mary Wiggins
Solo - “Forever With You”	Sharmaine McKie
The Eulogy	Mrs. Elaine Parker (Sister)
The Benediction	Minister
The Recessional	Clergy and Family
The Organ Postlude	Mrs. Tiffany Mallard-Cherifi

*Repast will be held after the services at 2302
Strauss Street, Brooklyn, NY- between Newport
and Lott Avenue*

Don't Cry For Me

Don't cry for me
I will be okay
Heaven is my home now
And this is where I'll stay
Don't cry for me
I'm where I belong
I want you to be happy and try to stay strong
Don't cry for me
It was just my time
But I will see you someday
On the other side
Don't cry for me
I am not alone
The angels are with me
To welcome me home
Don't cry for me
For I have no fear
All my pain is gone
And Jesus took my tears
Don't cry for me
This is not the end
I'll be waiting here for you
When we meet again

Acknowledgements

The family would like to express their deep appreciation and sincere thanks for all acts of kindness shown to them during their time of bereavement.

Services Entrusted To:

Terry Watson Funeral Director

TERRYWATSONFD@OPTIMUM.NET

Brooklyn, New York

