



*To Loving
Memory
of*



Richard Nelson Young

Sunrise: December 5, 1942

Sunset: October 24, 2017



Obituary

Our beloved Richard Nelson Young, age 74, peacefully passed away here in New York on Tuesday, October 24th, 2017, 11:18 pm, at The New York Presbyterian Hospital.

Richard was born on December 5th, 1942 to his parents, Helen M. Young and James Blackman. Richard attended primary school P.S. 119 on 134th Street, graduated from Frederick Douglass Junior High School here in Harlem and then graduated from DeWitt Clinton High School in the Bronx. While at Clinton High School, Richard participated in several school service organizations, including G.O., Hall Patrol, etc. Richard then attended Bronx Community College.

Richard had a very diverse work history and experiences. After high school he spent several years as a messenger in midtown Manhattan. He worked at the U. S. Post Office for a few years. He then worked at New York Telephone as a telephone services repairman. After leaving New York Telephone, Richard went to work for MCI Telecommunications, as a telecommunication technician.

During his lifetime Richard developed many hobbies and pastime activities. He enjoyed collecting unusual coins over the years. He also enjoyed improving his natural drawing talents and photography skills. He was actually in the forefront of modern day "selfies", by using a tripod to take shots of himself in various locations around the city. He particularly loved being outdoors, visiting many of the public parks here in Harlem, the Bronx, and Brooklyn.

Richard also developed an intense interest in audio technology. This was aligned with his passionate love of music. It didn't matter if it was classical, early jazz, gospel, R&B, etc. He was so dedicated to the fine art of studying musical compositions that he became an expert in recognizing the composer and identifying the correct name of a piece of music after only hearing a few bars of the composition. Such a masterful ear he developed. Richard would attend musical concerts wherever or whenever he could.

Richard also loved going to the movie theaters back in the day, such as The Thalia, The Apollo, RKO Alhambra, The Loews on 125th Street. He thoroughly enjoyed foreign films. His intellect was such that he was able to capture the essence of the film with or without subtitles.

Richard enjoyed science fiction films, so much so, that as an adult he would tune into certain radio programs such as "Coast to Coast", WBAI, WQXR, etc. As a child he loved to listen to the old radio programs, the Shadow, The Inner Sanctum, Jack Benny Show, comedies and mysteries, all loved by his mother and grandmother back in the day. As an adult, Masterpiece Theatre, PBS programming, British soap operas, as well as American soaps peeked his interest. Oh, can't forget the judge shows. He loved, loved, loved Judge Judy; 4pm weekdays—a highlight of his day! He could recount episode after episode and then he would get a kick out of Judge Judy's bailiff. Such fun for Richard.

And to go grocery shopping, WOW! What a joyful excursion! Costco!!! What fun! Richard must have whipped up some delicious meals, recipes, back in the day...cause he sure knew how to "doctor up" precooked meals to give them more flavor!

And plants! Did he ever love his plants, going to garden nurseries, or any store which sold plants was a treat! He would care for those plants with such love and tenderness. In fact, this time of the year, Fall; was his favorite... leaves going through their transformation, he looked so forward to autumn.

Richard truly loved traveling. If he ever had an opportunity to again travel to Montreal, Canada or San Francisco (for Dungeness crabs), he would have gone in a heartbeat! He loved water, the beach, oceans, seas, rivers, didn't matter. As family and friends traveled the world he enjoyed receiving photos, posts, letters from their destinations.

Later in life, he developed an interest in learning certain Spanish words and phrases; using them in conversations and correspondence with friends and family. He also had a knack for using, occasionally, other "expressive, colorful" words in conversations. With that magical glint in his eyes, he would leave one to smile and say, "hmmmm, Richard, be nice!" He was, is, so witty with that touch of "dry humor". Hola, Adios!

Over the years Richard developed an intense interest in Natural Healing and Homeopathy. To such an extent, he used his vast knowledge to "preach" and literally give a sermon to friends and family regarding the benefits of including natural supplements into their lives. He would "lecture" us on how to read food labels for their nutritional factors. What to look for, organic of course; and what to avoid, genetically altered products. The need to eat less red meat, more fish, vegetables, and to carefully watch the sugar content in fruit.

He was, is, such a master with words that he would, no matter how much, as we would later find out - how much pain, anguish he was in, and for so long, he would tell you something clever at the moment and you would burst out laughing!

Richard was, is, so eloquent and articulate in expressing himself—a tribute to his mom who raised her sons with conviction to treat others with dignity and humanity. Such a polite, unselfish, compassionate man was, is, Richard. Always a kind word of encouragement to ease your day. Being the healer he was, he put others first and himself last. Richard was so gifted, able to make a way out of no way.

Richard is survived by: his brother: Stephen (Willa) and family; his cousins, Geraldann (William) and children, Lyllyan (Bruce) and family, Linda (David) and children, and Gregory and children; and a host of friends.

Service

Sunday, November 5, 2017 - 4:00 p.m.

UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.

2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY 10027

Rev. Dr. Sidney Hargrave, Officiating

LaTasha Jordan, Soloist

Order of Service

Processional

Selection

Scripture Readings

Prayer

Selection

Acknowledgements

Remarks

Obituary

Selection

Eulogy

Committal

Viewing

Recessional

Interment

Mt. Hope Cemetery

Hastings-on-Hudson, New York

God Called Your Name So Softly

*God called your name so softly,
that only you could hear
And no one heard the footsteps
Of angels drawing near.
It broke our hearts to lose you, but you did not go alone,
For part of us went with you,
the day God called you home.
You're always close beside us, in everything we do,
You were our greatest treasure, God's gift to us was you.
We will always remember that way you looked,
the way you talked and smiled,
The little things you said and did
to make our lives worthwhile.
Each time we look at your picture,
you seem to smile and say,
Don't be sad but courage take
and love each other for my sake.
Just a prayer from the family to you,
just a memory fond and true,
In our hearts you will stay forever
because we thought the world of you.*

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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