Celebrating the Life & Legacy

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John G. Tillman, Sr.

Sunrise March 12, 1965 Sunset October 30, 2017



Service:

Wednesday, November 8, 2017 - 12:00 Noon

THE CANAAN BAPTIST CHURCH

535 East 22nd Street
Paterson, New Jersey
Rev. Eric Riggins, Officiating



Reflections of



John Gregory Tillman, Sr. "Greg-Till" was born on March 12, 1965 to Daisy Lee Tillman and Raymond Boone. John passed away peacefully on October 30, 2017 at St. Joseph' Regional Medical Center in Paterson, NJ surrounded by family and friends.

Greg as he is affectionately known to his family moved to Paterson, NJ when he was five years old. John grew up in 5th Avenue Projects where he had many friends. John graduated from PS#18 in 1979.

John had a BIG LOVE for basketball and was a HUGE Cowboys FAN!! Everyone always said "That John Tillman can jump out the gym." He played basketball all day with his friends in 5th Avenue playground as well as Montgomery Park, Glen Rock, Nash Park, and Maywood.

Till as he was affectionately known as by his friends formed a lifetime friendship with Eric, Leonard, Abe, Pete, Jerome, MO, Ray, Jimmy, Tank, Bob, Dwayne, Will Al, Harley and many many more.

John went to high school at Passaic County Tech where he played varsity basketball all four years and earned a scholarship to Bryant College in Rhode Island. It was at Passaic County Tech, where he met his childhood sweetheart and the love of his life for thirty-five years, Debra Kennedy. John and Debra wed on May 5, 1989 and had three children:Justin John, Jr. (TJ) and Cierra.

John worked for ADM Custom Metal Fabrication for twenty-eight years where he formed a great friendship with his boss Drew Mihal and all of the guys in the shop.

John was preceded in death by his mother, Daisy Lee Tillman, grandparents, John and Anna Peguese, mother-inlaw, Charlene Kennedy, brother-in-law, Marcellers Kennedy (Corkey), aunt, Wincy Drakeford, uncles, John Tillman, Sr., Samuel Tillman, Lee Alexander Tillman, James Drakeford, Sandy Fields and Roy Bowman.

Surviving are his wife, Debra Tillman; children, Justin John Tillman (Natasha), John Gregory Tillman, Jr. (TJ), Cierra Shereen Tillman and Jahmir Ramos; PaPa to Amare John Tillman, Jiana Shereen Tillman, Aleena Jade Tillman, Nativa Bennett, Jenavis Marte, Kay'Joir Franklin, Amaya Preston, Ra'Ouan Alston, Mikaela Preston, Michael Preston; mother-in-law, Thelma Barfield; grandmother-in-law, Melba Mills; brothers-in-law, Henry Hinton III (Mac) and Michael Preston, Sr.; sisters-in-law, Onyell Hingleton, Danon Burwick, and Yvonne Preston; godfather to Michael Preston, Jr., Shaquanda Preston, Markeece Preston and Shakayla Howie; like a father to Dimitry Hinton and Talia Perry; aunts, Janice Mae Fields, Anna Pearl Bowman and Carolyn Tillman; cousins, Pamela, Robert, Rodney, Sandy (JR), Tonya, Torry, Michelle, Sharae, Dwayne, Terrance, Brian and Janae, several nieces, nephews, great aunts, great uncles, cousins, friends and co-workers.



Order of Service

Prelude

Processional

Selection

Scripture Reading
Old Testament
New Testament

Prayer of Comfort

Selection

Acknowledgements & Remarks

Words of Encouragements
Pastor Jakeem Bowman
Minister Brandon Tillman

Reflections of Life

Selection

Words of Comfort Rev. Eric Riggins

Recessional

Interment

George Washington Memorial Park 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

Pallbearers:

Justin Tillman

John Tillman Jr.

Michael Preston Jr.

Michael Preston Sr.

Henry Hinton III

<u>Acknowledgement</u>

The family of the late John G. Tillman, Sr. wishes to acknowledge with deep appreciation the many expressions of love, concern and kindness shown to their family during this hour of bereavement. May God Bless and Keep You!

Professional Services Provided By CARNIE P. BRAGG FUNERAL HOMES, INC.

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