

# *Celebrating The Life of* *Maurice Lacey*



*Sunrise*  
*October 9, 1984*

*Sunset*  
*April 20, 2020*



*Service*

Tuesday, April 28, 2020  
Pamplico, South Carolina



# Obituary

Maurice Andre Lacey, Jr. was the second child of four born to the proud parentage of Maurice and Theresa Lacey, Sr. on October 9, 1984 in Queens, New York. Andre or Scooter as he was affectionately called by family and friends departed his earthly life on Monday, April 20, 2020 at 5:44 a.m. at Long Island Jewish Medical Center Northwell as a result of Covid-19.

In the earlier years Andre developed a great love for basketball. He played basketball in school and in the community. Whenever you saw him, he had a basketball in his hands and he was always ready to impress with his tricks and special skills. He also had a love for video games which he spent countless hours playing with his Nana and friends. He attended St. John A.M.E. Church as a child where he sang on the choir and was an usher. He was later baptized at Community Baptist Church.

In the late 1990's and early 2000's, Andre began to spend an abundant amount of time branching out from South Jamaica which was his home. He attended Walter Francis Bishop Elementary School (P.S. 160) where he met his childhood friends; friends he would continue to see through his life's journey. He attended Catherine Count Basie (JHS 72) for junior high school. During this particular time in his life, he would spend countless hours in the park shooting three pointers and pull-up jump shots with his mouth open. Sometimes he did this alone, other times with childhood friends and the "Almighty Force Basketball League" in Ajax Park. Andre attended August Martin High School, graduating with the class of 2002. It is during his high school years that he began to develop a deeper understanding of how to balance life. While in high school, he worked for the Greater Ridgewood Youth Council where he learned and developed superior work ethics as he shadowed his father in the after-school program. Andre assisted the participants of the program with sports and recreation year-round. Immediately following high school, he briefly attended Selma College in Selma, Alabama on a basketball scholarship but returned home to New York to be closer to family and friends. Upon his return, he immediately reconnected with the Greater Ridgewood Youth Council. He learned to love and build bonds that will never be forgotten in I.S. 93. His host of friends in the Ridgewood Community will always remember him for his laughter, way with the ladies, and his basketball skills.

In 2004 while working for the Greater Ridgewood Youth Council, Andre met Michelle Aquino. Andre and Michelle were joined together in Holy Matrimony in the presence of close family members on February 17, 2006. On June 18, 2006, ironically which happened to be Father's Day, Andre and Michelle presented the world with their matchless perfection as illustrated by the birth of their son Maurice Andre Lacey, III, affectionately known as "Trey." Although Andre and Michelle's marriage ended in divorce, he remained committed to his family, most importantly his son, Trey. He reared his son from 2007 until the time of his untimely and unfortunate demise. Trey was the light of Andre's life and was his motivation in all he aspired to do. Often times when attempting to reach Andre by phone he was somewhere with Trey at a basketball game, playing video games, traveling, or just spending quality time around the house. We all knew that he loved his son more than anything that has ever walked this planet. His last words to his family were to look out for Tre; a request we will spend the rest of our lives fulfilling. Andre pursued a career with New York City Department of Corrections in January of 2006. He graduated from the academy at the very top of his class. He was initially assigned to AMKC (C-95) on Rikers Island where he served faithfully for 16 months before being transferred to Queens' Detention Center (QDC) in September of 2008 where he served the remainder of his career. While Andre wore a blue shirt as a part of his uniform, it was not uncommon for him to perform white shirt duties and make supervisory decisions. All ranks respected his vast knowledge and commitment to his job. He was one of the brightest the Department of Corrections has ever seen as evidenced by his many accolades for superior service. Everyone in QDC and throughout the Department of Corrections referred to him as an encyclopedia or book of knowledge. If no one else knew the answer, Officer Lacey knew the answer. He was the go to person for individuals of all ranks. Whether good or bad, he also performed his job duties with a smile on his face. His last date of work was April 3, 2020. He did not know at the time, that he would never again return to the place he loved so much. He was proud to be an officer. Immediately upon his assignment to the Queen's Detention Center he met Lisa Pascascio. They began dating in March of 2009. On June 29, 2018, Andre asked Lisa to join him in Holy Matrimony. While he passed before the day of his wedding, he spent 11 wonderful and exciting years with Lisa and together they raised their children and grandchildren while traveling and enjoying the fruits of their labors. It was sometimes hard to keep up with them and Andre wouldn't have had it any other way. Andre and Lisa travelled to many exotic places around the world and though they enjoyed concerts and social gatherings, they much preferred to be surrounded by family where love was always in much greater abundance.

While it is understood that Trey was the most important person in his life, Andre had a great sense of family. He had a very special relationship with his family members and was known amongst his siblings as a "mama's boy," which was further illustrated by our mother's persistent to never start Thanksgiving dinner until he arrived, no matter how late it was. He enjoyed spending time with family at bar-b-cues, eating lobsters as well as other seafood, and cooking steaks on the grill. Andre was the mediator amongst his siblings, he had a way of always being able to smooth things out and make everyone feel good. His relationship with each of his siblings was unique and genuine. Andre also had a very special relationship with his nephews and nieces. It was not uncommon for his nephews to spend time at his house or confide in him about their most personal circumstances. He always had an open-door policy. His only exception was to not interrupt him during a basketball game, particularly if Kobe Bryant was on the court. He had a very thorough love for basketball and he coached his son and nephews in the sport. He was very charismatic and articulate. If you needed him, he was always there, willing to offer a helping hand. A gentle giant in his own respect. His smile was contagious and he always kept things real. He didn't believe in pretending or perpetrating and he accepted everyone for who they were. Andre was very protective and had a way of protecting those he knew and loved, whether he wanted to do it or not. At the age of 15, after the death of his best friend's mother, he snuck his best friend Vinny into the house and hid him from his parents for weeks. Vinny ultimately stayed with the family for years until he could get on his feet. This was just like Andre. Always being there for friends and family when they needed him most. He never allowed his emotions to supersede his better judgement even when faced with some of life's most difficult circumstances. He was thoughtful and genuine in his beliefs to make things right.

Andre was deeply saddened by the deaths of his grandma Dot, grandfather Bob, and great-grandmothers Allean Robinson and Leah Jane Pompey. Left to cherish his memories and honor his legacy are: his son, Maurice Andre "Tre" Lacey, III of the home; parents, Maurice and Theresa Lacey; maternal grand-parents, Andrew and Ora Lean "Betty" Wilson of Pamplico, South Carolina; siblings, Dr. Tamiqia T. "Tee-Gee" Simon (Fulton Woodbury) of Florence, South Carolina, Tesha Lacey (Kriesha Pierre) of Jamaica, New York, and Michael Lacey (Nateesha Carolina) of Valley Stream, New York; a special cousin that was more like a sister, Shana Williams of Laurel, Maryland; a cousin reared in the home, Marcus Bartell of Bronx, New York; fiancée Lisa Pascascio of the home; Nieces, Tamazia Simon of Orangeburg, South Carolina and Milani Lacey of Jamaica, New York; nephews, Paul "P.J." Simon, Jr. of Florence, South Carolina, and Michael Antoine "Mike-Mike" Lacey, Jr. of Port St. Lucie, Florida; 2 Uncles, George Gregory (Adelia) Wilson of Elmont, New York and Whitney Ricardo "Ricky" (Helena) McFarland of Long Island, New York, Anthony Monroe of Brooklyn, New York; Aunts, Tracey (Randy) Williams of Jamaica, New York, Tammy (Lucien) Hodge of Valley Stream, New York; Aurelia Strickland of St. Albans, New York, Xenia (Reynaldo) Beckford of Costa Rica, and Traci Strickland of New York, New York; mother of his son, Michelle Aquino of Brooklyn, New York; Great-aunts, Gracie Allen (James) Porter of Nashville, Tennessee and Ann Pompey of Florence, South Carolina; Great-uncle, Calvin Ernest "Pig" (Georgia) Robinson of Pamplico, South Carolina; great-great aunts, Ethel Bruce of Brooklyn New York and Susie Timmons of Pamplico, South Carolina as well a host of cousins and friends.



To a SON, FATHER & FRIEND  
We thought of you with love today.  
But that is nothing new.  
We thought about you yesterday.  
And days before that too.  
We think of you in silence.  
We often speak your name.  
Now all we have is memories.  
And your picture in a frame.  
Your memory is our keepsake.  
With which we'll never part.  
God has you in his keeping.  
We have you in our heart.

### *Acknowledgements*

The family would like to express sincere thanks and appreciation to all our friends for their well wishes, words of comfort, prayers and other acts of kindness during this time of sorrow.

*Funeral Arrangements Entrusted To*  
**Perfect Peace Funeral Homes Inc.**

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