



## The Master Called

I'm sorry I had to leave you.  
 My loved ones, oh so dear.  
 But you see, the Master called me,  
 His voice was very clear!  
 I had made my reservation  
 A heaven bound ticket for one,  
 And I knew that He would call me  
 When He felt my work was done.  
 I know that your hearts are heavy  
 Because I have gone away,  
 But when the Master called me,  
 I knew that I could not stay.  
 Yes, I'm sorry I had to leave you  
 My loved ones, oh so dear,  
 But, you see, the Master called me  
 And, now I'm resting here.  
 Yes, I've crossed on over to glory  
 And to you all I say  
 Just stay in the hands of Jesus  
 And we'll meet again someday.  
 -Author unknown

## Acknowledgement

The family of the late **Nathaniel Stokes** 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

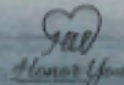
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## Celebration of Life for Nathaniel Stokes

Sunrise:  
May 16, 1961

Sunset:  
September 9, 2023

Wednesday, September 20, 2023 - 11:00 a.m.

### Canaan Baptist Church

535 E. 22nd Street, Paterson, New Jersey

Rev. Barry L. Graham, Officiating

Addarley Wilson, Organist

## Obituary

Nathaniel Stokes was born May 16, 1961 to Walter Lee Stokes and Willene (Harris) Stokes in Newark, New Jersey at Martland Medical Center. He attended the Newark Educational System and Weequahic High School.

As a teenager, he danced in a dance group, specializing in Modern and African dance. The group performed throughout the Tri-State area. Notably, Nathaniel was a track star and won many ribbons and trophies and also ran at The Penn State Relay's earning him several track scholarship offers. Instead he decided and joined the United States Marines Corps in 1979-1989. During his service years, Nathaniel received numerous medals and acclamation's including Good Conduct Medal, Good Conduct Medal 3 Stars, Rifle Marksman, Rifle Sharp Shooter, Rifle Expert, Pistol Sharp Shooter, Meritorious Master, Sea Service Development Ribbon and Field Radio Operator.

Nathaniel met and married Cynthia Coley (Stokes) of Paterson, NJ, fondly referred to as "the love of his life". She remained his devoted wife and lifelong partner until his death.

Nathaniel was preceded in death by his parents; Walter Lee and Willene Stokes, brother; Walter Lee Stokes Jr., maternal grandparents; Joe and Eva Mae Harris, paternal grandparents; James Walter and Jesse Mills Stokes, father-in-law; James R. Coley, brother-in-law; Ronnie P. Coley and nephew; Peter Pope.

Nathaniel transitioned this life on Saturday, September 9, 2023.

He leaves to cherish his memory, his wife; Cynthia Coley-Stokes, one sister; Naomi Stokes Wesson, one brother; Joseph C. Stokes (Elizabeth), eight children, grandchildren/great grandchildren noted:

Toshamala Stokes Meadows (Sherard), of Richmond, VA

grands/great grands: Derrick Meadows; Dominique Meadows; Aiden Meadows; Ava Meadows; Avery Meadows and (deceased) Deonte Meadows.

Erin Parsons (Kenyatta) of Paterson, NJ grands: Kajian Parsons; Kenya Parsons and Kenzie Parsons.

Kenya Coley (Omar) of Elmwood Park, NJ, grands: Tyion Coley and Kyla Coley

LaTosha Karina Woodard (Aaron) of Bethlehem, PA, grands/great grands: Kareem Al-Taria Woods; U'zziel Anthony Woods; Cartier Toshamalla Woods; U'zziel R. Woods Jr.; Jasper T. Woods; Keanu G. Woods.

Hinton Coley of Paterson, NJ, grands: Haneef Coley; Harmoni Coley and Celeste Coley.

Nathaniel Stokes Jr. of Richmond, VA, grand/great grand: Anita Johnson and Jah-loni Stokes.

Eumanel Stokes of Paterson, NJ, grand: Mande Stokes.

Jamey Coley (Annette Nieves Coley) Ian Campos and Jace Coley of Rocky Mount, NC.

mother-in-law; Mildred Bertha Coley of Paterson, NJ, sister-in-law; Rose Coley-Brown (Gene; Shayne) of Paterson, NJ, three brothers-in-law; Bernard Hill (Lenann, deceased) and James Coley both of Paterson, NJ and Jerome Coley (Denise) of Delaware and a host of nieces and nephews, life long friends; Kira Robinson, Garvin Smith, George Smith and Gary Vickers, all other relatives and friends, military veteran friends; Mike, Charles, Lacy, Andrew, Leroy, Anthony, Benji, Mack and the veteran's of VBV

## Order of Service

Processional

Selection

Scripture Readings  
Old Testament  
New Testament

Prayer of Comfort

Presentation  
Congress Woman Alma S. Adams, Ph.D  
12<sup>th</sup> Congressional District of North Carolina

Selection

Special Remarks  
Naomi Stokes Wesson  
Tammy Hill

Acknowledgements  
Amanda Ellis

Obituary  
Rose Coley-Brown

Selection  
Bernard Hill

Words of Comfort  
Pastor Barry L. Graham

Recessional

Interment  
Brigadier General William C.  
Doyle Veterans Cemetery  
350 Provinceline Road  
Wrightstown, New Jersey

*Repast*  
Christopher Hope Community Center  
80 Temple Street, Paterson, NJ