



## Anthony Rene' Curtis

August 9, 1963 - July 5, 2023

ANTHONY RENE CURTIS, aka “Bleek da Poet,” was born on August 9, 1963. He passed into eternity on July 5, 2023 after a long illness. He was the son of Leatrice and Alan R. Curtis. He was a member of the Episcopal Church of St. Mary the Virgin, where he was baptized and confirmed.

Anthony attended Baltimore City public schools and graduated from Baltimore City College High School. He also attended Towson University and Lincoln Technical Institute. He was employed at Record Masters, T. Rowe Price, Baltimore City Dept. of Social Services, Catholic Charities and as a Computer Tech at Apple and a Computer Instructor at Enoch Pratt Free Library. He accomplished many things in spite of his battle with chronic life-threatening illnesses.

Anthony was a very jovial person who everyone loved. He loved sports, especially basketball and football. He was a poet who authored a book of his original poems. He founded the spoken word group, Positiv Chainge, which showcased many talented artists. He was an MC at Notre Maison in Baltimore and many other venues in Maryland, Philadelphia, Washington D.C., New York and Virginia.

Anthony was very intelligent, well read and loved to converse and

debate on many topics. He was devoted. He loved R&B and jazz music, dance and quality films and TV shows, particularly those about African American life and history. His favorite director was Spike Lee. His favorite music group was Earth, Wind and Fire; and his favorite jazz artist was Wynton Marsalis.

He is survived by: his mother, Leatrice Curtis; a host of cousins, including Andrew Coplin (Jacqueline), Teresa Loker, Linda Matthews, Tonia Johnson; Aunt Yvonne Harvey and godmother, Frances "Bunny" Gordon; and many other relatives and dear friends including Jeff Lee, James Bowser, Troy Glenn and Brian Hicks. He was like a big brother to Thomas and Jameka Coplin

# Cemetery Details

## Arbutus

1101 Sulphur Spring Rd.  
Baltimore, MD 21227

# Previous Events

## Public Viewing

JUL 14. 3:30 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Home - West  
4300 Wabash Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21215

## Wake

JUL 15. 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

The Church of St. Mary the Virgin  
3121 Walbrook Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21216

## Funeral Mass

JUL 15. 11:00 AM (ET)

The Church of St. Mary the Virgin  
3121 Walbrook Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21216



# Tribute Wall

FK

“ I am so devastated hearing this unfortunate news. Bleek (or Bleek Diddy, as I lovingly called him), was a stalwart in the local poetry scene at one point during the Golden Age of Baltimore spoken word. From performing to promoting to organizing and supporting, and much more, he was one of the gate keepers of the culture. Personally, he and I would talk periodically about health issues, music and the state of the scene. It is important that we recognize/honor him in some formal way. I pray that his soul is at peace and that his family and others realize the integral part he played in cultivating a thriving scene. He will not be forgotten. Ashé.



#jobwelldone

*Fred Keene, Mic Life Magazine*

---

**Fred Keene** - July 15, 2023 at 02:19 AM

MF

“ Minister Paul J. Flood lit a candle in memory of Anthony Rene' Curtis



---

**Minister Paul J. Flood** - July 14, 2023 at 10:26 PM

LW

“ Bleek was one of the first persons to encourage me, not to worry about what others poets are doing or how they sound, 'just be you sis'. I am so sad to hear this💔

---

**Lisa Williams** - July 14, 2023 at 07:45 PM



“ We the March Family and Staff wish to extend our deepest and heartfelt sympathy in the passing of your loved one. Our prayers go out to you and your family in your time of loss. We know and understand that you have received many expressions of love and we will continue to lift you up in prayer. May the memories you cherish of brighter and happier days help to ease your sorrow and comfort you always.

---

**March Funeral Homes** - July 06, 2023 at 04:49 PM

BR

*I remember Bleek introducing me to Jackie @ Notre Maison. He was an ardent supporter of my poetry. I remember his stories about Tupac, Carmelo, and Nicole Ari Parker and others of renown. He was a special unique person*

---

**Brenardo** - July 08, 2023 at 07:44 AM

OC

*BCC C/O 82.....RIPower brother!*

*I actually met AC in 1980 when he was working at Douglas a.k.a Crazy Gumps records downtown Baltimore on Lexington St and Park Ave. He said you're in 9th grade at City, I'm in the 11th. I still have the Chic Believer LP and the very first album he gave me Level 42 Pursuit of Accidents*

*He used to call me his little brother and I would call him my brother from another mother.*

*AC was a wealth of knowledge and very resourceful. It seems like whatever situation you were in he would have a positive solution for you.*

*Mom, stay strong . Your son doesn't have to suffer anymore*

---

**Oscar Curtis** - July 08, 2023 at 12:32 PM

VB

*Leatrice, I was stunned and sadden to learn of Tony's passing. God will give you the strength you need during this time. You have my prayers.*

---

**Violet Baxter** - July 10, 2023 at 10:57 PM

FM

*Bleek was unpretentious. You would never guess the genius he possess unless you converse with him. Such a bright and shining star. He had a way with words and his dry wit is what I remember most. I am sadden by his lost. Prayers to Leatrice and his network.*

---

**Frances Muldrow** - July 13, 2023 at 05:35 AM