



Jesse N. McDade

November 7, 1936 - July 27, 2009

Dr. Jesse N. McDade-Bey, was born in Knoxville, Tennessee, on November 7, 1936 to the late Reverend Jesse McDade and his wife Mame Jones. Jesse served in the Air Force and was honorably discharged in 1954. After completing his military service, he graduated from Clark College in Atlanta, Georgia, then went on to earn his doctorate in philosophy from Boston University in 1971. In 1972, he became the first black professor to head the African-American Studies Department of Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island. He subsequently headed African-American Studies at the University of California at Riverside and the University of Massachusetts at Boston. In what would prove to be the start of the longest and most cherished chapter of his tenured service as an educator, Dr. McDade came to the campus of Morgan State University in 1974, where he remained on the faculty until his retirement in 1999. As a member of the philosophy department and while teaching full time at Morgan, he also taught part-time at Sojourner Douglass College of Baltimore and the University of the District of Columbia (UDC), participated in the Lorton Prison Graduate Program and with the UDC based Pan African Student Union Association. An ardent community activist, Jesse also hosted radio talk shows, "The Drum" on WEAA and "The Spear" at WPFW. After a long illness with care from his family for several years, Dr. Jesse Nathaniel McDade-Bey died peacefully Monday, July 27, 2009 at 8:15a.m. At Joseph Ritchie Hospice in Baltimore, Maryland with his family at his bedside. He will be missed and fondly remembered by his children;

daughters, Terrye, Jere and son Jesse McDade, Jr. (Vonita), and their mother Jenevieve, daughter Jessie McDade (Oliver) and her mother Janet; daughter Mika and son Malik, and their mother Carolyn, daughter, Nataka and son Jamari and their mother Peggy, grandsons, David, Billy (Nyasha), Michael, Brock, Daquan, and Julian, and granddaughters, Randy, Kamiah (Julian) and Shamala as well as his six great grandchildren.

Tribute Wall



“ *Jesse N. McDade*

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ *I learned a lot from him when he was on WPFW. I miss him dearly*

Kwaesi - December 29, 2021 at 10:51 AM



My spiritual road to ancient and present pride ...was inspired by listening to his talk show at Morgan state university..w E A A

Manuel Owings - May 01, 2022 at 10:17 AM



I used to anxiously wait for his radio broadcast and just enjoyed learning from him. His knowledge of linguistics was so impression.

Carl B Skinner - December 04, 2022 at 12:23 AM



“ *Dr. McDade Bey was one of the best university professors that I had ever had to grace the halls of a university. He made his students think, read, and judge with precise criticism. I had the opportunity to take his Philosophy class one very hot summer in the 1980's at Morgan State University. And I loved every session of that semester. His WEAA talk show was a great hit of mine, as well. One of the best professors of Morgan State University. Dr. McDade Bey will be missed.*

Morgan State Graduate, 1989 - November 19, 2019 at 09:00 PM



CS

A great thinker and philosopher. I was in medical school in the late 80's and 90's, and I used to listen to his radio show on WPFW, called, "The Spear"! He helped awaken me, to the knowledge of who I am today. Rest in POWER big brother!

Christopher Simmons - November 01, 2025 at 06:43 PM



“*Death is something that we will never get use to because it is not natural. In fact, God's Word refers to it as our 'enemy'. May you take comfort in knowing that very soon, our loving Heavenly Father Jehovah promises us that he will by means of his son Christ Jesus, 'bring the last enemy death to nothing' (1Corinthians 15:26). What a wonderful day that will be!##imported-begin##Kevin Jackson##imported-end##*

July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM