



Rodney Everette Harper

July 2, 1950 - June 10, 2009

Rodney Everette Harper, son of the late Samuel Harper and Beatrice Harper Marshall, was born on July 2, 1950. He departed this life on Wednesday, June 10, 2009, after a brief illness. Rodney received his education in the Baltimore City Public School System, graduating from Dunbar High School in 1967. He went on to attend Coppin State College on a basketball scholarship. In 1967, Rodney worked as a Foreman Inspector at Bethlehem Steel. He served in the United States Air Force from 1973 until 1975, receiving an honorable discharge. Later in 1977, he became a Correctional Officer with the Maryland State Department of Corrections. Rodney's last position was held at the Chick Webb Recreation Center, as a lifeguard and a swimming instructor until he became ill. Rodney was an avid swimmer. He was also a very good basketball, tennis, and chess player. He was a kind, lovable, devoted, and sociable person, who always had an encouraging word for all whom he encountered. Rodney loved to talk. His brother-in-law always teased him stating, "You should have been a politician." Rodney was nicknamed "Hot Rod" by his father, due to his stylish attire. The name stuck with him, and many family and friends continued to address him as such. Rodney had one of the most gentle, kind, and giving souls that anyone could ever have, a trait that he received from his mother. Among his siblings, Rodney was known as "Mama's Boy". There was a special bond of love and respect between Rodney and "Mother", as she was affectionately called by him. He accepted Christ into his life early as a child and rededicated himself to the Lord in January 1996. He was a loyal and

dedicated member of the Saint Paul Baptist Church and was regular attendee at the 8:00am Sunday worship service, until his illness prevented him from attending. He was a loving and affectionate father who absolutely doted on his children. He often engaged them in intellectually stimulating conversations on a wide spectrum of subjects. He was an excellent provider, meeting all of his children's needs and many of their wants. Rodney leaves to mourn his transition into eternity; his six children, Roderica "Angel" Harper of Tucson, Arizona, Rodgina "Ronnie" {Patrick} Hopkins, Arnell (Elaine) Wilson, Ali {Cynthia} Harper, Khadija "Star" Harper-Teal, and Amaya Harper; his fifteen grandchildren and two great-grandchildren; his siblings, Clarence "Lonnie" (Diretha) Harper, Patricia Harper and Charlene (Lonnie) Harper-Fisher; his two uncles, Franklin (Frances) Green of Richmond, Virginia, and Frank (Linda) Harper, of Baltimore; his three aunts, Elizabeth Taylor of Richmond, Virginia, Virginia Bryant of Hartford, Connecticut and Sadie Wright of Mount Rainer, Maryland and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives, friends and associates.

Tribute Wall



“ Rodney Everette Harper

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ Please accept my sincere condolences for the loss of your dear loved one. The Bible teaches about a future time when those who have fallen asleep in death will live again by means of a resurrection to life on a paradise earth (John5:28-29, Psalm37:11,29). May the family and friends find comfort in God and the many wonderful promises found in his word the Bible because Titus 1:2 assures us that he cannot lie.##imported-begin##C. Murphy##imported-end##

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“ Death is something that we will never get use to because God's Word describes it as 'the last enemy.' May you find comfort in knowing that very soon our loving Heavenly Father Jehovah promises us that He will by means of His son Christ Jesus bring our 'enemy' to nothing.What a wonderful day that will be!##imported-begin##Kevin Jackson##imported-end##

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“It's hard to say what I feel or even want to say. I will always try to remember the times that made me smile or laugh because you could be very funny. I thank God for allowing you to be in my life because we were not just brother and sister we were friends and that was very special to me. Growing up you protected me and cared about what I was doing and protected me when I needed to be protected. Thank you! We have shared so much growing up. I remember when we lived on Broadway and we set up late one night and listen to the Muhammad Ali and Sonny Liston fight over the radio. That was the first fight that I had ever attended and that night I became a boxing fan, again Thank you! Every time I tell anyone about you putting the bleach in the colored clothes and none in the white I will laugh until I cry, or the time you were throwing rocks and got your front tooth cracked, or how we would play in the grave yard behind our house and you said that the green monster live there and came out at night, I really believed that story. Or how when ever I was getting a beaten for doing something wrong you would always save me because I would yell HELP ME RODNEY she's killing me, and you would run in the room and throw your arms around Mama and tell her to beat you instead how galant of you. Again thank you! I remember the black chick that you raised and Lonnie, and Pat's friend Nunnie closed your bird up in the door because she was scared and you cried because you had taken care of that bird for months. Or time you went away to the Catholic private school, or when you went into the Air Force. I miss you sooooo much, but I know that I will see you again. I find comfort in knowing that Mama has you in her care, I must believe that, I must it helps me to survive. This hurts, lossing a sibling is hard. I remember you and I talking about either one of us passing first and neither one of us wanting to have too be put in the place of missing the other person. I will keep you alive in my grandchildren eyes by speaking of the times that we shared as family, like you teaching my grandchildren how to swim a few years ago, and me too. Again thank you You're my brother and it's hard to imagine who I'd be without your influence in my life, without those thousand and one little things about you that made me so proud to say, you're my brother. You were my

brother the one who could always make me laugh, make me scream and make me a little bit wiser the next time. You were the brother that I looked up to and imitated on the dance floor. Oh how we could cut a rug on a dance floor, you taught me well as you practiced with me. I knew all of your hand turns and twist and steps, we would have all eyes on us at the street dances. I thank God for the good times that we shared. You were my brother and my friend, walking me to school, and protecting me when I needed to be protected, the long talks that we shared and you taking over the conversation because talking was one thing that you were indeed good at, and you knew what you were talking about. Know one could say my name like you did and I will forever miss hearing your voice. God bless you my brother, my friend. I will continue to turn to God for comfort and pray for peace for my spirit only God can and will see me through, God said it and I believe it that he shall wash all tears away. I pray that God will Bless you and Keep you for it is my prayer. Until we meet again. Miss You Much!!! I love you, your Sister Charlene##imported-begin##Charlene Harper-Fisher##imported-end##

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“ I will miss our talks that we shared as we sat in Mama Bea's yard, on the deck ,and our trips to the Lexington Market to listen to the entertainment, you turned me on to something really nice down town. I still say that you missed your calling because you really had the gift to gab. You should have been tha Mayor or a Politician, that was your calling and you were good at it. You taught me that it was okay to embrace another male, and I thank you for that lesson in life. So I will forever embrace our conversations and your memory. You were such a wise person that anyone that took the time to sit and talk with you gained something for life some type of lesson or something to make them wiser. You told me that you could not have picked a better brother-n-law and neither could I. I have learned that God places peolpe where they need to be in life and I thank him for our lives crossing. Until we have another conversation. Dance like David danced Peace my brother. Your Brother-n-law Lonnie Fisher God Bless###imported-begin##Lonnie B. Fisher##imported-end##

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“ God said, we would have great trials and tribulations, but he would not let us be tested beyond our ability to stand firm when we are put to the test. When we lose a love one words can never describe the pain the we feel. Only God understands the void that is left in our hearts. I still find it difficult to believe that you are gone. I will always cherish the loving memories that we had together. Especially all your nurturing acts of kindness. The countless times you would prepare meals for us, you would always create some good interesting dishes. I really enjoyed your deep dish poor mans' apple pie. When I think of you I picture you playing chess, as you would try to explain the game to me. And I also have the image of you going to play tennis with your tennis bag over your shoulder as you left the house. I will never forget all those intellectual conversations that you would have, as you would teach me one of life's many lessons. Thank you for giving me those precious memories. People always say how much I look like you and I will always remember what someone special told me. "Your father will always be with you, just look in the mirror and smile he'll be smiling back. You will always be in my heart! Your Daughter, Ronnie###imported-begin###Ronnie Hopkins###imported-end##

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“ I will praise the Lord at all times. I will constantly speak his praises. Psalm 34.1 "A Homegoing Tribute to Rodney Everette Harper"
When I first met you, Rodney nearly 30 years ago, I knew you were special, and I had something beautiful in store for me. Now after all these years of developing a sacred and sincere friendship in the following order friend, significant others, best friends, confidantes, prayer partners, and soul mates, now I know just how correct I was. Everyday with you meant a deepening of our friendship and understanding of each other. Laughing and rejoicing over the good times, facing the hard times, but knowing our caring friendship was stronger than any obstacles or difficulties. I admired you for all your natural abilities, especially in sports and your personal accomplishments, but most of all your love of God. Rodney, you were truly a child of God, and you knew absolutely, positively that you had to go through Jesus Christ, the son of God to be blessed by God to be accepted into the Kingdom of Heaven. During your illness you would sing the hymn "One Day at a Time" (Sweet Jesus, that's all I ask of You). When you finished singing the verses you would ask me, "Was that right Pat?" I would respond, "Yes, indeed." I knew you were trying to prepare me for your going home and you did it so eloquently. I do not know where you found the energy or time, but I do know when you set out to do something you did it right. Whether it was at work, at home, taking care of Pat (your oldest sister) during her illnesses, or other loved ones you always would bring your own unique style to everything you did. When we were together we often laughed at the endless stories you shared with me about growing up on the Eastside, attending Military School, high school days, college days (making the most points during a Coppin State College basketball game. You held that record for a long time, but somebody did eventually beat your points), and the service. I am so happy that God allowed me to have a best friend like you. You were down to earth to share just about anything with me and smart and wise enough to help guide me when I needed an attitude adjustment. Rodney you were a well mannered, easy going gentleman. You were a gentle man that followed your conscience, loved your faith in God and gave

endlessly and unconditionally to several communities in Baltimore. God has written an earthly book about you dear Rodney and the lives you touched. No one will take exactly the same path as you, meet the same people, or have a chance to show the love of God in your way. You were unique and so was your earthly stay here. Now that you have gone home to be with our Father, his son, Jesus Christ, your heavenly chapters are being written and documented with more good things than we can imagine. In celebration of your Homegoing to see the King, I can feel the presence of the Sweet Angels surrounding you. I know the Angels raised up your joyful spirit in Love and Glory when carrying your Blessed Soul Home to Heavenly Peace. Even in my sadness I find comfort in knowing the Angels must be smiling down on us because you are among them now. In closing, Rodney, this is not goodbye, because goodbye is so final. This is just so long because I know I will see you by and by again in that GREAT GETTING UP MORNING when everyday will be Sunday! Lovingly Submitted by, Patricia "Pat" Kidd Ryce BKA: Babygirl###imported-begin##Patricia Kidd Ryce###imported-end##

July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ Hello ! Harper's ! I would to send my sincere condolences to you all in your recent loss. From the remarks Rodney was every one person, and that is wonderful. In the resurrection in the near future, it will be great to met so many of all loves again, John 5:28. We will be able to see them in the Paradise free from sickness, pain and problems, etc. Our heavenly father cares so much about how you all fairing 1 Peter 5:7, and you all with his holy spirit will get through this time in your lives. May all the many ,many cherish and happy times shared together keep helping to supporting your lives onthe journey of ahead.###imported-begin##lillian Crosby###imported-end##

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