



Rudolph James Redd, Jr.

January 3, 1953 - February 18, 2025

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI Anne Arundel County): (<https://namiaac.org/get-involved/donate/>)

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away;

behold, all things have become new.”

(2 Corinthians 5:17 NKJV)

RUDOLPH JAMES REDD, JR., affectionately known as “Rudy,” passed away peacefully on February 18, 2025, after sustaining a recent brain injury and battling cancer for nearly two years. Born on January 3, 1953, in Baltimore, MD, he grew up much loved by his parents, Mary Camper Redd and Rudolph James Redd, Sr., and his younger sister, Teresa.

Rudy was a man of great talent and passion. At Friends School of Baltimore, he distinguished himself as a math whiz and lacrosse goalie. At Friends, he also met now-famous birder Peter Kaestner, who instilled in him a lifelong passion for birdwatching. Indeed, neighbors used to complain about Rudy racing through their yards, trampling everything in his path, in hot pursuit of a bird he had sighted. However, Rudy’s greatest talent was musical. Although it was almost impossible to convince him to do homework for his piano teacher

when he was young, he became a gifted musician, skilled at playing the piano, organ, and especially the electric bass guitar. Inspired by his idols Jimi Hendrix, Jaco Pastorius, and Stanley Clarke, he spent hours singing, writing lyrics, and testing the limits of his instrument. With his lifelong friend, Peter Acosta, he co-founded the Peter Pelican Band and played with that band and others in countless nightclubs in Baltimore City, Baltimore County, and Anne Arundel County. He also played with the Catonsville Community College Ensemble while taking courses in composition theory and bass guitar at the Community College of Baltimore County.

Unfortunately, in his teens, Rudy was diagnosed with a mental illness that disrupted his life and kept him from fulfilling many of his dreams. However, as he would proudly tell you, with the help of his family, a support group, and, above all, God, he turned his life around. He learned how to do much of the wiring for stereo, P.A., and alarm systems for his father's business, Redd's Sounds, and became his father's right-hand man. Having asked his mother during his dark days to become the guardian for his son, Tavon, he tried his best to help her with Tavon's rearing. Finally, when his father and mother were ailing in their eighties, he ran errands for them, chauffeured them to doctors' appointments, and helped them with chores. When they passed away, he did the same for his aunt, Ellen Camper Johns, until she entered a nursing home. While assisting his aunt, he joined her church, Union Memorial United Methodist Church, where he participated in Bible study and outreach activities to register voters and support the neighborhood schoolchildren.

In March 2023, when Rudy was diagnosed with a rare and aggressive cancer, his sister moved him to an assisted living facility in Annapolis, MD so that she could manage his healthcare. After several months in the facility, he entered South River Healthcare Center, a nursing home in Edgewater, MD. At the nursing home, he earned a reputation for wearing fancy shoes, playing guitar, and being an all-around "good guy." Said one staff member, "He lights up the

room.”

Rudy leaves his son, Tavon Redd, his sister, Teresa Redd, his nephew, Tarik Donaldson, and his uncle, Nixon Camper, as well as extended family and friends who will forever cherish his memory.

Cemetery Details

Arbutus Memorial Park Cemetery

1101 Sulphur Spring Road
Baltimore, MD 21227

Previous Events

Wake

MAR 7. 10:30 AM (ET)

March Funeral Homes - West Baltimore
4300 Wabash Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21215
(410) 542-2400
info@marchfh.com

Funeral Service

MAR 7. 11:00 AM (ET)

March Funeral Homes - West Baltimore
4300 Wabash Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21215
(410) 542-2400
info@marchfh.com

Tribute Wall



“ *March Funeral Homes created a Webcast in memory of Rudolph James Redd, Jr.*



March Funeral Homes - February 25, 2025 at 08:56 AM

MG

“ *Mr. Redd was a truly great man whom I had the privilege of signing up at The League for People with Disabilities back in 2007. From the very beginning, he stood out as someone with a warm heart and a genuine spirit. He always carried a positive energy, and I will never forget how much I enjoyed seeing him smile it could brighten anyone's day.*

He was deeply committed to his health and consistently put his fitness first, showing dedication and determination every time he came in. His presence brought joy not only to me but to everyone around him. He had a kind way about him that made people feel welcomed and appreciated.

Mr. Redd will truly be missed by all who knew him. His memory, his kindness, and his spirit will always be remembered and cherished. He was deeply loved, and his impact will never be forgotten.

*With love,
Morris G.*

Morris Gough - March 23 at 07:48 PM

RA

“ MY NAME IS RICKY ALFORD A.K.A. RICO I PLAYED MUSIC WITH RUDY AND PETER ACOSTA I WAS THE DRUMMER MY CONDOLENCES TO THE REDD FAMILY. RUDY WAS A REAL GOOD FREIND AND MUSICIAN

RICO ALFORD - November 19, 2025 at 02:12 PM

BT

“ *Dear Teresa and family,
Please accept my condolences on Rudy's passing -no doubt he will be greatly missed. I well remember how bright and talented he was as a student at Friends.*

Indeed, Rudy became part of my family's lore: at some point in middle school, my mom asked me how I had done on a particular test. I had the second highest grade in the class, and Rudy had the highest score. I told my mother that "Rudy Redd topped me!" and my brothers overheard and for years they teased me about it.

It sounds like Rudy lived his life with great courage despite his diagnosis, and doubtless it was not easy. I hope all his family members are able to take comfort in one another and in remembering the good days. Special greetings to you, Teresa - I have such fond memories of doing plays together with you.

*Once again, please accept my sympathy on Rudy's passing.
Godspeed, Rudy.
Barbara Sieck Taylor*

Barbara Sieck Taylor - March 04, 2025 at 11:19 AM

TR

Thanks for sharing that story, Barbara! And, yes, I too have fond memories of performing with you at Friends. 😊

Teresa Redd - March 08, 2025 at 08:36 AM

EF

“ Dear Teresa and family - I am so sorry to hear of Rudy's passing. I hope you take comfort in holding onto the memories of his numerous triumphs over the multitude of challenges he experienced. He had a resilient soul. Please accept my warmest condolences.

Emily Frank '71

Emily F Frank - March 04, 2025 at 08:18 AM

TR

What a pleasant surprise to see you at the funeral! I'm sure Rudy would have appreciated seeing you too—and perhaps he did!

Teresa Redd - March 08, 2025 at 08:37 AM

PE

“ I remember Rudy well, having played football and lacrosse with him. He was a fearless competitor and a great teammate. He was the lynchpin of our lacrosse defensive unit. I was surprised to learn in the obituary that we shared an interest in birds -- I would have love to help him develop that interest.

Peter Kaestner Friends '71

Peter - March 03, 2025 at 09:54 PM

TR

Pete, I'm so glad you could make it to the funeral yesterday! Rudy spoke of you so highly. Multiple times over the years he credited you with introducing him to birdwatching when he was at Friends. Since you don't recall teaching him, perhaps he was inspired by something you said or did. I guess we'll never know.

Teresa Redd - March 08, 2025 at 08:33 AM

KD

“ Rudy and I were in the same class at Friends. Reading about the rest of his life made me really smile. A beautiful soul, a well lived life. I am so sorry for your loss.

Katie Paine Dixon - March 03, 2025 at 05:17 PM

TR

Thanks for the lovely words and sentiment, Katie!

Teresa Redd - March 08, 2025 at 08:38 AM

SG

“ Rudy was in many of my classes at Friends, however it was French class that he out shown us all. God love him.

Sue Goetze - March 03, 2025 at 02:03 PM

TR

Really? French! Thanks for sharing that information and sending condolences.

Teresa Redd - March 08, 2025 at 08:39 AM

BM

“ I'll always remember Rudy as the toughest of lacrosse goalies. It was back in the day when the throat guard for lacrosse goalies had not yet been invented. One day He took a hard shot directly to his Adam's apple. He collapsed to the ground clutching his throat. His wind pipe had been crushed. He twisted in the dirt trying to breathe. A coach ran to him and started massaging his wind pipe which apparently reopened it enough to allow Rudy to breathe. He eventually got up and walked to the sideline. He was an amazing athlete. I wish I had reached out to him w this story. My Loss.

Beau McCaffray - March 03, 2025 at 10:14 AM

KK

beau thank you for sharing that. i remember that day also. rudy was brilliant and a phenomenal athlete. kirk kolodner, class of 1971

kirk kolodner - March 03, 2025 at 02:29 PM

SF

Rudy was a great guy and a close friend from 4th grade until he left Friends. He had a lot of impact on me in those years, as did his departure. There are many wonderful memories. A favorite is the Electric Eye.

We enjoyed joining up to do projects together. In a science class, 6th or 7th grade I think, Rudy told me that our project would be to make an electric eye. I had no idea what an electric eye was or what he was talking about. Rudy said that a beam of light was shined on a glass object and when that beam of light was broken, a reaction occurred. Since I still had no understanding of what that meant, he led us up to Eddie's on Roland Avenue after school. He showed how the store's door opened when the beam of light located a few feet in front of the door was interrupted. With his family security business, he was exposed to this technology. So he played the scientist and I was the writer. He built the model and, of course, it worked.

All these years later, at least a few times a year, probably more, when I walk into a store and the door magically opens, i think of the electric eye and Rudy.

Steve Frenkil - March 04, 2025 at 11:33 PM

TR

Beau, thanks for sharing that incredible story!

Teresa Redd - March 08, 2025 at 08:40 AM



“ 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 - February 24, 2025 at 03:48 PM