



Joseph P. Thompson

March 17, 1955 - November 25, 2021

HISstory

The “Prince” of the Thompson family, Joseph Patrick, was born on March 17, 1955, in Baltimore, Maryland as the sixth child of the late Rev. Dockery S. and Zenobia Inman Thompson. This baby boy became the center of shared adoration, often found in the arms of his older sisters. Eventually, this precious gift to the Thompson family was affectionately known as Joe, Joey, JT, and “J.” He was baptized by his father and pastor of Friendship Baptist Church at a young age, where Joe’s musical talents were birthed through singing in the choir and occasionally playing the piano. Although he revered his parents and their guidance, he especially remembered how his mother recognized his musicianship and sacrificed to enroll him in the Peabody Preparatory School of Music. In addition, they developed a special loving relationship, which he honored by always attending Mother’s Day service.

The formal music training and listening to the piano renditions of his older siblings, Sylvester and Sylvia, impacted his love of music. He found joy and inspiration listening to Sylvester’s interpretation of “You’ll Never Walk Alone” and Sylvia’s constant practicing of classical music. Therefore, Peabody and his home experiences contributed to his performance and music composition development. The results were constantly played and recorded on his beloved keyboard along with his melodious versatile voice.

Education was a prime goal of the Thompson's parental upbringing of their children. So it was natural for Joe to attend the Baltimore Public Schools and graduate from Polytechnic Institute in 1973, followed by attendance to Howard University's School of Architecture. By the time of Joe's college years, his musical interest and performance levels had broadened with an appreciation of various genres—R&B, funk, Contemporary jazz, gospel, and classical. However, music remained his passion amid the collegiate academic life. For a brief time, Joe accompanied the Tones of Faith Gospel Ensemble, of which his sisters, Pat and Jean, were members. Also, he performed as an original member of the Universal Law Band as lead vocalist and keyboardist. His sister, Jacki, was “over the moon” when Joe asked her to be an occasional backup singer in the band. In both ensembles, he practiced that family bond established by his parents through his musical gifts.

After college, family love and bond were exemplified when his sister, Gerri, introduced him to Federal Express. As a result, he was an exemplary employee for over thirty years, receiving numerous service awards and an outstanding citation for ten years without one day of absence. Besides being a model employee, he continued to practice his love of music and fulfill his second lifelong passion--playing tennis. His love of tennis emerged under the mentoring of his brother-in-law, Charles Coffey. Also, it brought him great enjoyment having his sisters-- Jean, Sylvia, Pat—brothers-in-law, and close cousins playing on the court with him.

This artistic and athletic “Prince” relocated to Florida for love and marriage that ended in an amicable divorce. Joe loved Florida and gained special friends and neighbors that surrounded him like a family village of caring loved ones for over 25 years. They knew him as JT and as a “Really Good Guy” with a fantastic personality who treasured the sport of tennis. Upon his passing, their generosity demonstrated their respect and adoration for our Joe.

Finally, this family's loved one didn't have any children of his own. Still, he was dedicated and devoted to his nieces and nephews, who describe their uncle as thoughtful, loving, funny, creative, smart, and generous. The sweet love between him and them was mutual. But, more importantly, he always created ways for family unity, such as the Annual Siblings Retreat and Flash Back Friday. Unfortunately, due to covid, group family activities were affected, and Joe began a period of reflection focused on his unfinished music compositions. He trusted his youngest sister, Jacki, to critique his sound before final production. However, he did not complete all he had planned, for he peacefully entered into final rest on November 25, 2021, Thanksgiving Day.

Cherishing beautiful memories are one loving brother, Sylvester Thompson (Mary), five devoted sisters, Sylvia Coffey (Charles), Geraldine Thompson, Laura Jean Loudon (Dave), Patricia Johnson (Manasseh), Jacqueline Richardson (Raphael); adored nieces and nephews, Lynn "Pooh" McKinney, Brandon Briscoe, Sr., Alisha Wilson, Lisa Finlayson, Charles Moore, Michael Thompson, Patrick Johnson, Genneya Briscoe, Erika Hawkins, Tiffani Rogers, Tamara Arthur; great-nieces and nephews, and a host of relatives and friends.

Previous Events

Wake

DEC 18. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

March Life Tribute Center - Randallstown
5616 Old Court Road
Windsor Mill, MD

Service

DEC 18. 11:00 AM (ET)

March Life Tribute Center - Randallstown
5616 Old Court Road
Windsor Mill, MD

Tribute Wall



“ To View the Webcast of the Funeral for Joseph P. Thompson, Please Click the Link below.



March Life Tribute Centers - December 13, 2021 at 08:52 PM

RR

Worked with Joe at FedEx here in Jacksonville. Always enjoyed working with Joe and being around him. He was kind and thoughtful. A really good guy!!

Robin Roberts - December 18, 2021 at 06:44 PM

AD

“ *Joe, a fine gentleman who will be missed. I met Joe through Jacki (his sister) and that has been well over 30 years. I thank God that I had an opportunity to meet him and to share our thoughts, opinions and experiences.*

My condolences and heartfelt sympathy go out to each one of his family members.

Rest-In-Peace

Annette Dawkins

Annette Dawkins - December 23, 2021 at 03:36 PM

JE

“ *Jacki, Sylvia, Raphael, and the rest of the family, we loved JT in Jacksonville, and always will.*

Jeff - December 18, 2021 at 12:37 PM

PR

“ *I never met Joe. I felt moved to watch this service as I know one of his closest friends (Butch) and heard about what a beautiful human being Joe was. I feel humbled and grateful to have heard such heartfelt speeches and wonderful songs that lifted my spirits. Those who knew him are certainly blessed and I know there is a very special place in heaven for souls like him.*

Pradeep - December 18, 2021 at 12:21 PM

CC

“ *Condolemcnes to you Jackie and family. May your brother rest in heaven with our Lord and Jesus Christ.*

Carol Copeland - December 18, 2021 at 11:46 AM

TF

“ *the Shelton family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Joseph P. Thompson.*



the Shelton family - December 18, 2021 at 10:58 AM

DW

“ *My sincere condolences and prayers are with you in the passing of your loved one.*
Pastor Deborah Webb



Deborah Webb - December 18, 2021 at 08:21 AM

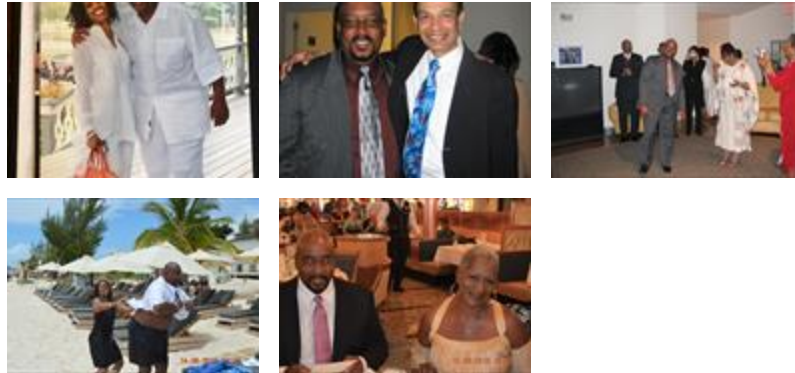
KA

“ *I met Joe through my brother-in-law, Butch Williams. Although I didn't see him often as I live in NJ, I always enjoyed spending time with him when I visited my family in MD & our paths crossed, or at times when he accompanied Butch on trips to NYC. He always liked to tease me, and we also had serious conversations about interests that we had in common, or that were different. I offer my sincere condolences to his surviving family members, as well as his friends. May you always have fond memories of Joe.*

Kim Andrews - December 18, 2021 at 12:12 AM

RJ

“ *30 files added to the album Joe's Memorial Photos*



Raphael & Jacki - December 17, 2021 at 09:12 PM

GW

“ 3 files added to the album Joe & Butch



George Williams - December 17, 2021 at 05:56 PM

“ A Tribute to Joseph Patrick Thompson

As we gather to celebrate the life of Joe Thompson, may our many fond and cherished memories give us the strength to comfort and uplift each other in this moment and afterwards.

I consider myself among the blessed to call Joe a friend. He stepped into my life 50 years ago asking to see my homework for a summer school class we were attending. I'm not sure asking a fellow summer school classmate to see their homework was the smartest decision since only months earlier I failed the class!

Throughout the years, Joe and I would enjoy road trips which took us from Key West, Florida to Montreal, Canada, from California back to the east coast, and several trips to New Orleans and New York City. His easy-going demeanor made traveling with him a joy, and his humorous streak always kept the mood uplifted. He always saw the best in people and could engage anyone in an animated and stimulating conversation.

He always approached life with a positive and cheerful mindset, befriended those around him. He embodied the characteristics of a loyal, generous, forgiving and trustworthy friend. He tried to live each moment to the fullest.

Joe took great pride in his job at FedEx because he was confident that he was good at what he did. Aside from the occasional loose dogs along his route that he had to navigate, he took his job seriously and completed his career satisfied.

The community of friends he amassed among his FedEx co-workers and tennis partners caused him to thrive in Florida. It was good to know that he was surrounded by people who cared for him and he felt the same.

My memories of riding in his VW bug in the middle of winter with a rusted out floorboard, picking up a tumbleweed bush he wanted in the Arizona desert resulting in prickly thorns flying all over the inside of my car (which we were reminded of each time we got back into the car and felt the painful poke), playing cards while he constantly provoked me, indulging him while we searched for a place to grab some Pacific Ocean water and beach sand in Los Angeles (we

should have chosen a better access point outside of the city), talking about his latest music project, relaxing on so many Florida beaches, calling one another on our birthdays with the challenge of delivering the worst and most humiliating happy birthday song possible, frantically driving from his FedEx office in downtown DC to Dulles and BWI airports in an attempt to get a package he overlooked back into the FedEx supply chain (it didn't work!), and missing him when he hibernated during tennis season will all remind me of my friend Joe. I will miss the opportunity to build more of those memories.

But I will always have a friend named Joe!

George "Butch" Williams

George Williams - December 17, 2021 at 05:28 PM

KA

What a heartfelt, loving tribute!

Kim Andrews - December 18, 2021 at 12:00 AM

 Paul
Dinkels

“ *I worked with Joe for over 30 years at Fedex. Joe always had that smile and that laugh that was genuine. We just had lunch in mid November (the retirement crew) and it was great seeing him. I am going to sincerely miss you.
R.I.P my friend.*

Paul Dinkels - December 17, 2021 at 05:20 PM

JU

“ *Joe, was a Great Person., we worked together for years, Awesome guy!
God Bless you all in your time of Sorrow. God Bless.
Juanita*



JUANITA - December 17, 2021 at 11:43 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Joseph P. Thompson.*



December 17, 2021 at 08:22 AM



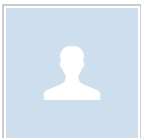
“ *JT was everyone’s friend. He honestly never met a stranger . He always had a smile on his face whether we were winning or losing . His voice carried over the tennis court and that laugh... his laugh ... was spectacular. So fun to have as a partner and team mate because he never got down on himself or me. He always had a positive outlook on everything. Like JT I also sport a smooth scalp and the same beard . One day I said “ hey JT I think I would look as young as you if my beard was grey ” he did that big smile , pointed to his beard and said” you don’t think that’s real do ya” and laughed his @\$\$ off.*

Oh how I will miss that big guy.

My prayers are with you all

Doc

Alan Weldon - December 16, 2021 at 08:02 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Joseph P. Thompson.*



December 15, 2021 at 05:34 PM

LP

“ *Love Always, Kristi Peeples Payne purchased the Reflections of Glory Wreath for the family of Joseph P. Thompson.*



Love Always, Kristi Peeples Payne - December 15, 2021 at 01:27 PM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Joseph P. Thompson.*



December 11, 2021 at 04:13 PM



“ *Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Joseph P. Thompson.*



December 10, 2021 at 08:42 PM