

Celebrating the Life of



— *—* Mr. Rodney L. Austin *—*

Sunrise July 30, 1969

Sunset September 21, 2021

Service to be held at:

Calahan Funeral Home 7030 S. Halsted St. Chicago, IL 60621

Saturday Oct. 2nd, 2021 • 12:30 p.m.

Rev. Dr. J. Rayford Goodwin - Officiating
Mount Olive Baptist Church • 6353 - 57 South Marshfield
Chicago, IL 60636

OBITUARY

Life's Journey

Rodney L. Austin was born July 30th, 1969 in Chicago, IL to parents Edward R. and Earnestine Austin.

He accepted Christ at an early age at Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church in Chicago, IL under the Leadership of Rev. Willie E. Cosey. He attended service at Christ Temple Baptist Church in Markham, IL under the leadership of Rev. Dale Lawson.

Rodney graduated from Thornridge High School in June 1988. He joined the United States Army in November of 1988 and was stationed in Fort Hood, Tx. He was assigned to the HHC 1st Battalion where he served proudly as a Bradley Fighting Vehicle System Turret Mechanic and earned the Good Conduct Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Expert Badge Rifle and Army Lapel Button.

He was deployed to serve his country in Desert Storm where he was honored as an Army War Veteran and was decorated with the National Defense Service Medal, Overseas Service Ribbon, Southwest Asia Service Medal W/3 Bronze Stars, and the Kuwait Liberation Medal. Upon leaving the Military he was given an honorable discharge and served active reserves for 2 years.

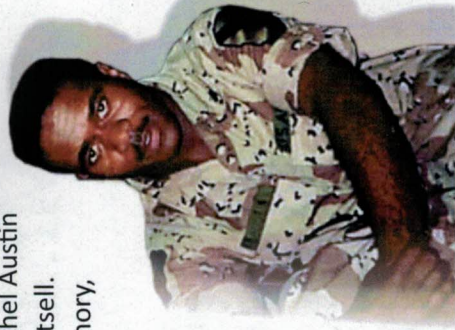
Rodney earned his Associate Degree in Electronic Systems at Lincoln Technical Institute in Melrose Park, IL.

Rodney had a great sense of humor. He had a special love for fine cars and owned his share of them. He loved sports and had a great appreciation for the Chicago Bears, Chicago Bulls and Chicago White Sox. He loved the Lord with all of his heart and was devoted to and cherished his family.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Millard & Ethel Austin and James & Nora Humphries, and Godmother Ethel Wrightsell.

Rodney leaves to cherish his loving, precious and special memory, his parents, Edward R. & Earnestine Austin, 1 sister, Minister Andr ea D. Harris, 2 nieces, Anisha D. Harris, and Shania J. Harris, 1 great-nephew, Alijah K. Hayes, 1 great-niece, Summer J. Mosby, 1 God brother, Dennis A. Campbell, 3 God children, Aakash Nanjappa, Sithara Nanjappa and Kendall Ann Hall. As well as aunts, uncles and a host of cousins and friends.

Rodney shared a brotherly bond with Apaya Nanjappa and Kerry Harris.

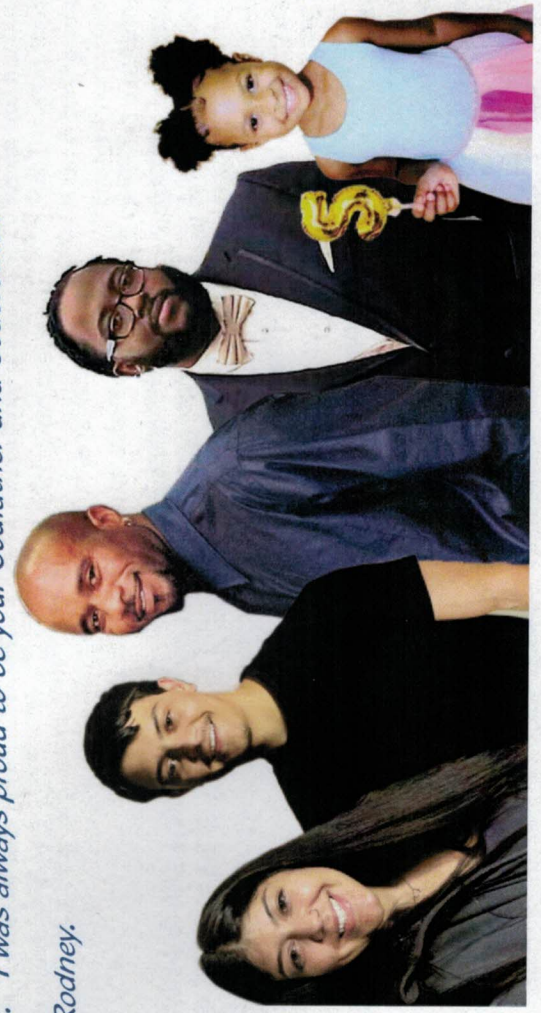


Uncle Rodney,
Gone from this life but forever in our hearts. We will never forget all of the great times we shared, and memories made. From childhood to adulthood, you were there every step of the way. Thanks for loving us unconditionally and always being but a phone call away. We love you always - Anisha, Shania, Alijah and Summer.



*Sithara, Aakash, Kendall and Dennis,
"Never forget that I love you. Always stay strong, be confident and be the best you can be. I was always proud to be your Godfather and Godbrother."*

Love Rodney.



Reflections From the Family

Rodney,

Sometimes it's really hard to understand the reason things happen the way they do. We had so much joy and happiness that was centered around you. It's so hard to accept that you are no longer here but the memories will always keep you near and dear to our hearts. With each mention of your name, we are reminded of how proud we were of you and it is comforting to know that death cannot change one single thing.

As your mother, I could not have asked for a more loving and caring son. As your father, I am grateful for the relationship that we shared. You were not just my son, but you were my best friend, my buddy. The laughter that we shared as we watched boxing, football and basketball will always be a treasured memory. You took care of me when I was down. You knew just what to do or say to give me the lift



that I needed. Thank you for making family first and being the catalyst that pulled us all together during holidays and birthdays. We are grateful to God for allowing us the privilege of being your parents and the gift he blessed us with for 52 years.

Love, Mom and Dad

Rodney,

I know that when someone makes their transition to go be with the Lord, everyone talks about them in the past tense. With the bond we have there is no past tense. You will forever be my brother; you will forever be my friend and you will forever be my confidant. Although at the time I didn't know it, I was blessed the day you were born. You were always there for me even when no one else was and I will forever hold you in my heart. With love forever, Your Sister, your friend and your confidant. I love you more than words can say and more than you would ever know.

Niecey

