

Kenneth Jerome Curtis

CURTIS, KENNETH JEROME Better known as "Ken" to his family and "Cisco" to his lifelong friends was born March 20, 1959, to Rose and the late Isreal Curtis. Being the first born son and having sisters, Ken often complained of not having anyone to play with. His mama would remind him that he had sisters, Terry and Aundrea. Ken would sadly reply, "but they are girls". Five years later his parents gave him his heart desire, a little brother, "Tony". You now have someone to play with Ken, his mom told him. Ken replied, "he's just a baby". but as time passed and Tony grew a little older, Ken and his brother were inseparable. Ken love animals, all types. He had a white mice, turtles, a guinea pig, a rabbit, a cat, birds, etc. most of all, Ken loved dogs. His mother told him that he should become a veterinarian. Ken attended Frank C. Martin Elementary in Richmond Heights for grades, 1 through 3. he attended Lillie C. Evans elementary for grades 4 through 6. He attended Nautilus Jr. High where he joined the school band with his sister Terry. The Florida Sunshine Band were recruiting memebers at that time and they both joined. Ken playing the trombone and Terry the alto clarinet. He attended Miami Beach Sr. high school where he was a member of the marching high tide. Ken was also a gifted athlete; he ran track & field and other sports. He graduated from Miami Beach Sr. High and was employed with the Miami Herald publishing company in 1977 through 2017. Ken attended Miami Dade College where he studied photography and became an entrepreneur. In October 1985, Ken met the love of his life, Selma Gwen Lee and on August 6, 1988 they began their journey of marriage. Ken would often say that falling in love with Selma was the best thing that ever happened to him. Their marriage grew and so did their family and within years God blessed them with four beautiful daughters, Kenya Janelle (Muffin) whom he devoted quality time, preceded him in death, Keya Janay, Kayla Joelle, and Kaysia Joy. Ken enjoyed fishing with his youngest daughter Kaysia. Ken's photography business was his passion. He was instrumental in photographing Miami Central high school winning championships, special events as well as weddings, proms, family reunions, and church events. Ken was the best man and photographer at his brother Tony's wedding. Ken also loved to sing and sang he did, at programs, parties, and church services and wherever he was asked. In 2006, Ken joined Adams Tabernacle of Faith where he was baptized and became a member. On Tuesday morning April 11, 2017, God dispatched his angel Kenya (muffin) to escort her daddy home. Family and friends left to carry on ken's legacy and cherished his loving memories are: Selma his lovely wife; his beautiful daughters; Keya, Kayla, and Kaysia, his mother; Rose Curtis, brother; Tony (Maren), sisters; Terry and Aundrea Curtis, Carla (Donald) Lovinsky, mother-in-law; Fannie Mays, brothers-in-law; Eddie (Mattie) Mays, Warren (Barbara) Mays, Alvin Mays, Larry Mays (preceded him in death), sisters-in-law; Sandra Lee (preceded him in death) and Faye Simmons. Uncles; Carl (Delone) Bannister, Bishop Eustace Clark, aunts; Mildred Whipple, Dr. Enid (Frank) Pinkney, grand Aunt; Burnell Hunley, nieces; Jasmine Nelson, aka "snoop", Jala Curtis, Maya Lovinsky, Fey Curtis, Keshounda Mays Adams, Tashia Mays, Sonja Mays Thomas, Tamika and Sherika Lee. Nephews; Bailley G. Curtis, Darrion Lovinsky, Eddie Mays III, Warren Mays II Virtual, daughters; Tierney Jones, Sky'lah Hammonds, De'ana Brown. Godchildren; Jerrod, Rueben and Austin Felder, Alfred D. Cox, Jr. and Phoster Daniels. life long friends; Clifford, a.k.a. "CS", Felder and Dwight Richardson. A generation of cousins, relatives and friends. Ken Curtis assisted His Aunt Enid to Document Miami's Black History. Ken Curtis understood his aunt, Dr. Enid Curtis Pinkney, and helped her to document Miami's Black History by providing free photography and DVD services for historical events. He was the photographer when the Hampton House was dedicated. He was the photographer at the celebration when the Carlyle Corporation, the Biscayne Corporation, and the YMCA agreed to discontinue their plans to build two affordable housing units on an abandoned Black Cemetery, the Lemon City Cemetery. He took pictures of the Re-interment Service when human bones that had been dug up from the Lemon City Cemetery were re-interred. Through following the developments he learned that his great grand-father was buried.in the Lemon City Cemetery. He photographed the celebration of the Lemon City Cemetery receiving local Historic Designation. For twenty four years he photographed the "Commemorative Service and Youth Talent on Parade." His children participated in the "Youth Talent on Parade," in the Miami City Cemetery when the African American Committee of Dade Heritage Trust and the Lemon City Cemetery Community Corporation. Services will be held Saturday, April 22, 2017 11:00 AM at The Church of God of Prophecy, Ridgeway 5901 NW 22 Avenue Miami, Florida 33142 "softly spoken, peaceful hearted, family focused"

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