

As We Look Back

*As we look back over time
We find ourselves wondering
Did we remember to thank you enough
For all you have done for us?
For all the times you were by our sides
To help and support us
To celebrate our successes
To understand our problems
And accept our defeats?
Or for teaching us by your example,
The value of hard work, good judgment,
Courage and integrity?
We wonder if we ever thanked you
For the sacrifices you made.
To let us have the very best?
And for the simple things
Like laughter, smiles and times we shared?
If we have forgotten to show our
Gratitude enough for all the things you did,
We're thanking you now.
And we are hoping you knew all along,
How much you meant to us.*

Author Unknown

Acknowledgements

*The family wishes to acknowledge with deep appreciation,
the many expressions of love and kindness shown to
us as we remember our beloved Rodney D. Ijames.*



727 North Patterson Avenue
Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27101
336.722.8117
www.clarksbrownandsons.com



Service of Love and Remembrance



MR. RODNEY DAWYNE IJAMES

September 16, 1957- January 22, 2026

Saturday, February 7, 2026

1:00 P.M.

Clark S. Brown & Sons Funeral Home
727 North Patterson Avenue
Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27101
Bishop Donald Keating, Officiating

—•— OBITUARY —•—

Mr. Rodney Dawyne Ijames was born to Lonnie Ijames and Mary Lois Rapley on September 16, 1957. The celebration of his life and the mourning of his passing on January 22, 2026 will be lovingly remembered by his family and friends.

He received his formal education in the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County School System. Rodney enjoyed swimming and was on the Kimberly Park diving team. While attending Paisley Jr. High School where he played football, he was known as “Speedy.” He later attended RJ Reynolds High School and participated in various school activities.

After high school, Rodney served in the United States Army where he trained and became proficient in telecommunications. In civilian life, he utilized his analytical and hands-on skills as a mechanic for the Winston-Salem Transit Authority (WSTA). As a pastime, he especially enjoyed the pleasures and challenges experienced while playing chess with Michael Hairston.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Mary Lois Rapley; sister, Lonetta Ijames; and brother, Thomas Rapley.

Rodney is survived by his son, Rodney Dwayne Gadson; daughters, Tasheka Blue and Frances Blue; 10 grandchildren, DaNya Hodge, Gregory Cuthbertson, Jr., Jamirrah Cuthbertson, Jered Cuthbertson, Jahmal Muhfooth, Jr., Isaiah Blue, Mariah Blue, Haliagh Blue, Lu’Brey Gadson, Razhane Gadson; 3 great-grandchildren, Sa’vion Benjamin, Ahmir Gadson, Reilani Gadson; sisters, Zonja Ijames, Linda Thompson of the city, and Gracetta Ijames-Gant of Florida; and brother, Lonnie Ijames.

—•— ORDER OF SERVICE —•—

Processional

Family Visitation

12:30 P.M. – 1:00 P.M.

Opening Selection

Minister Lora Smith

Scriptures

Old Testament

Pastor Tammy Miles

New Testament

Evangelist Sheena Rapley

Prayer

Bishop Donald Keating

Selection

Ms. Akissa Miller

Community Resolution

Minister Edna West

Selection

Minister Lora Smith

Eulogy

Bishop Donald Keating

Recessional