



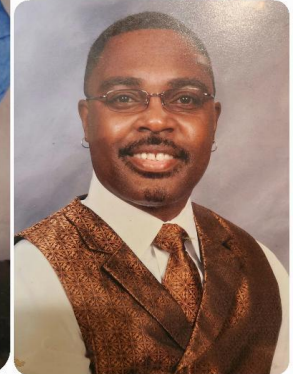
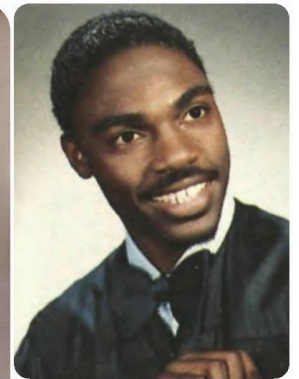
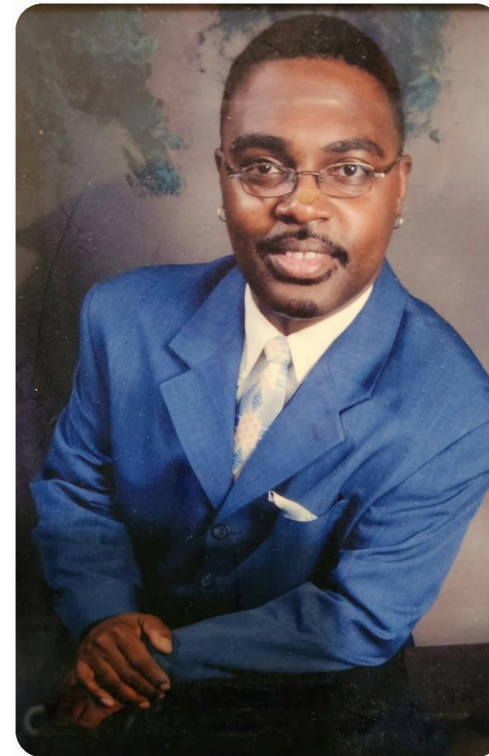
*In Loving Memory
of
Raymond William Ates
"Ray"*

*Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free
I'm following in the path God laid for me.
I took his hand when I heard him call
I turned my back and left it all.
I could not stay another day
to laugh, to love, to work or play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way
I found Heaven at the close of the day.
If my departure has left a void
then fill it with happy memories and joy.
Family and friends share a laugh, a kiss,
you know, these things I too, will miss.
Be not burdened with times of sorrow
I wish you sunshine of tomorrow.
My life's been blessed, I've savored much
good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.
Perhaps my time seemed all too brief
don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your hearts and share this with me
God wanted me now so he set me Free!*

Private Viewing and Cremation entrusted to:
*Westry The Home For Services
Kyjuan T. Westry
715 Irvington Avenue
Maplewood, NJ 07040*

*Sunrise
March 9, 1965*

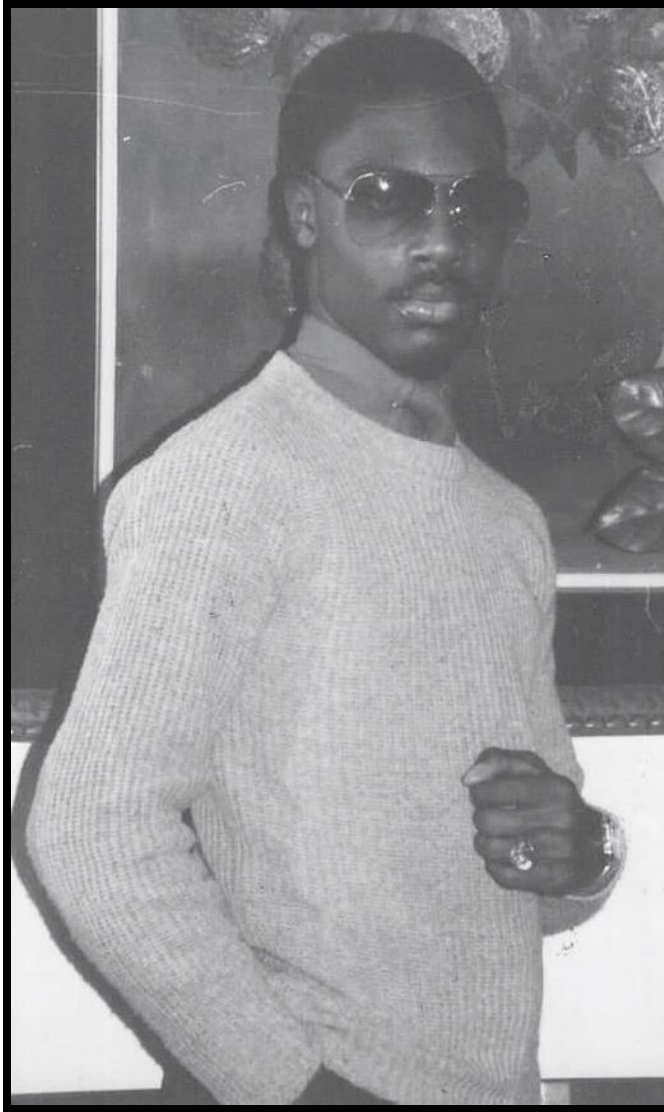
*Sunset
December 27, 2024*



*"And the dust returns to the earth as it was, and
the spirit returns to God who gave it."
Ecclesiastes 12:7*

Obituary

Raymond William Ates, affectionately known as **Ray** was born on March 9, 1965 to the late Willie C. and late Virginia N. Ates in Newark, New Jersey.



Raymond grew up in East Orange, NJ. He attended the Newark Boys Chorus School and graduated from East Orange High School where he was a member of the Glee Club, Acapella Choir and Men's Vocal Ensemble. Raymond attended Fisk University for one year, then decided to pursue a radio broadcast license certification. Further fueling his love & passion for music, he embarked on a career as **DJ Paradise**. Raymond held various jobs, FedEx, NJ Turnpike and lastly, Parsons/Division of Motor Vehicle. Raymond was a loyal New York Giants fan. We will always remember him through his favorite song, "Precious Lord".

Raymond leaves to cherish precious memories: two brothers, Kenneth & Terence Ates (Monique Dykes-Ates); two sisters, Monique & Jacqueline Ates (Leroy Hayes); Nieces & Nephews: Tahirah, Tahir, Charisse (preceded in death) & Kayla Ates; Daaayah & Rashan Howard, Anthony Mays (Sierra); great nieces & nephews, Na'Ziyah & Tahir Jr. Ates, Rahmir Sapp, Kygama Thomas; Ameena, Khari & Ausha Howard; Anthony Jr., Ezsianna, Deviya & Ke'Marion Mays. His cousin and best friend, Jeffrey Ates and a host of other relative and friends.