

- *The Order of Service* -

Processional Clergy and Family

Scripture Readings:

Prayer of Comfort

Musical Selection

Expressions of Love Two Minutes (Please)

Musical Selection

Eulogy..... Reverend Kenneth Coleman

Recessional

Benediction

- *Interment* -

Evergreen Cemetery
1409 Monroe Avenue
Opelika, Alabama 36801

- *Acknowledgment* -

The family of the late Mr. Clarence Anthony “CJ” James acknowledges with grateful appreciation all acts of kindness, prayers, cards, telephone calls, flowers and words of comfort extended to us during our time of bereavement. May God bless each one of you.

IN MEMORIAM

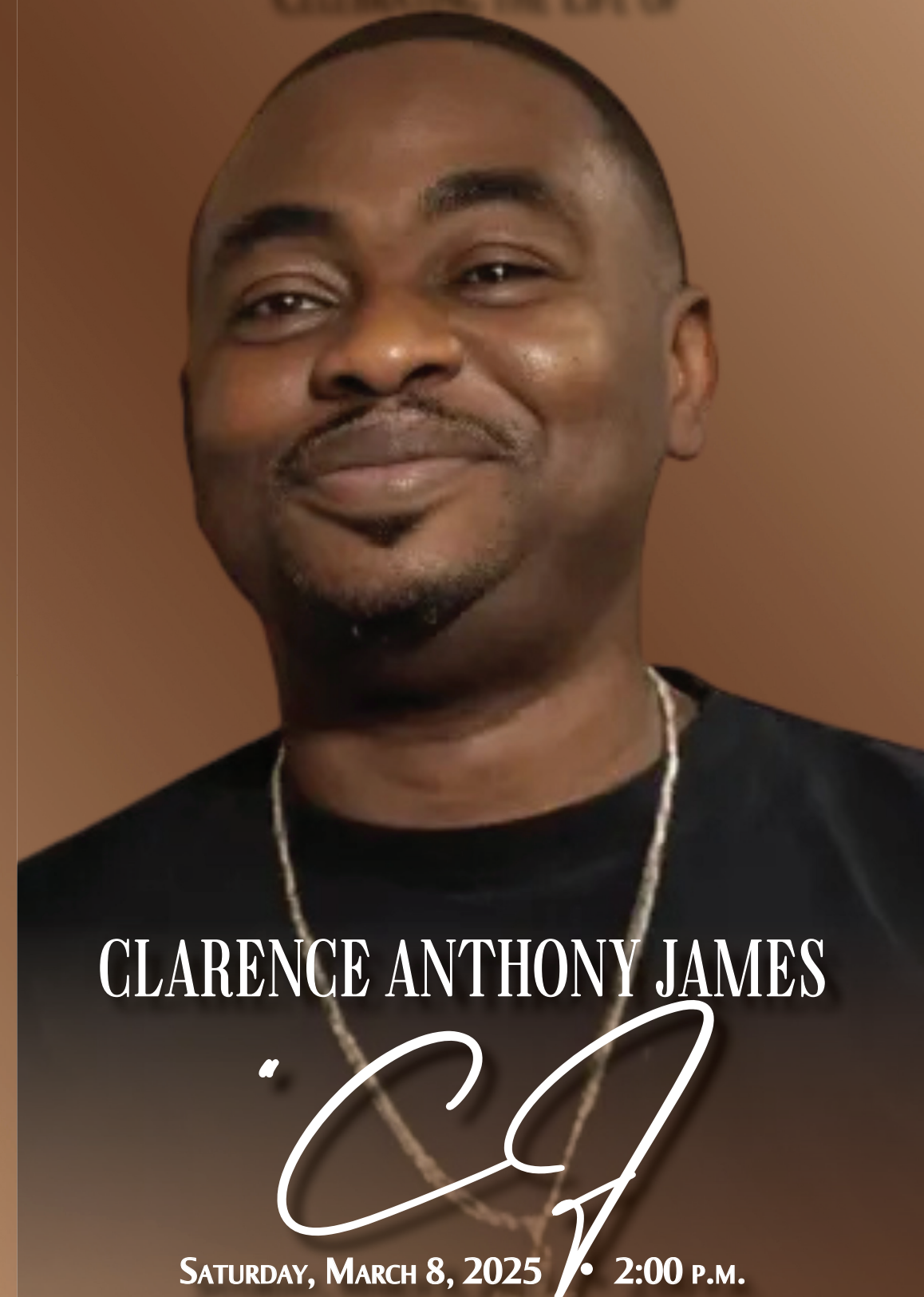
May we take this opportunity to express sincere and deep appreciation for allowing us to serve you during this most difficult period. It is our constant aim to afford to the people of this community a service completed in all details and faultlessly executed with sympathy and understanding.



Final Arrangements Entrusted to:
Harris Funeral Home
Sympathetic, Courteous & Professional Service
515 South Sixth Street
Opelika, Alabama 36801

(334) 749-6583 Fax (334) 759-7018
www.harrisfuneralhomeinc.com

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF



CLARENCE ANTHONY JAMES

CJ

SATURDAY, MARCH 8, 2025 • 2:00 P.M.

BETHEL #1 MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
2324 Double Hill Road
Opelika, Alabama 36801

REVEREND KENNETH COLEMAN, OFFICIATING

- The Obituary -

Clarence Anthony James, affectionately known as “CJ” to his friends and family, passed away peacefully at his home in Opelika, Alabama on Sunday, March 2, 2025. Born on September 29, 1974, in Macon County, Alabama, CJ was the cherished son of Mrs. Vivian James Horton and the late Mr. James Reese. His presence was a source of joy and comfort to all who knew him.

CJ’s early years were marked by a close-knit family and a community that nurtured his kind and loving spirit. He was a beacon of friendship, always greeting everyone with his trademark big smile. CJ carried this warmth throughout his life, never meeting a stranger and always making those around him feel valued and loved.

At an early age, CJ dedicated his life to Christ and became a devoted member of the Pleasant Grove Baptist Church in Notasulga, Alabama.

A proud graduate of Notasulga High School’s class of 1992, CJ shone brightly as an athlete, leading his team to a championship and earning the title of Most Valuable Player. His passion for sports continued well into his adulthood, with a particular love for basketball. CJ was an avid Auburn “War Eagle” fan, his enthusiasm for his team as infectious as his personality.

Professionally, CJ was a dedicated worker at Vermont America in Auburn, Alabama, until its closure. His commitment to his work and colleagues was a testament to his strong work ethic and his belief in the value of community and camaraderie.

CJ’s interests were as varied as they were enthusiastic. He had a deep love for Westerns and wrestling, often sharing this joy with friends and family. His love for watching sports was only matched by his passion for participating in lively discussions about the latest games and players. CJ’s friendly and loving nature made him a beloved figure in all his circles, and his absence will be deeply felt by all who had the pleasure of knowing him.

CJ was preceded in death by: his loving companion, Yolanda Canada; daughter, Sunshine Rose James; his grandmothers Annette James Robinson Ashford and Mary Lois Reese; grandfather Johnny Lee James, Jr.; aunts, Lydia Regina Dungy, Barbara Jean Reese; uncle, Henry Reese.

He leaves to cherish his precious memory: one daughter, Andrea Gunnings of Opelika, AL; stepdaughter, Crystal (Bernard) Sanford of Opelika, AL; mother, Vivian James (Archie) Horton of Opelika, AL; two grandchildren, Jakera Davis and Josiah Freeman both of Opelika, AL, three step grandchildren, Caytlynn Martin, Jorie Sanford and BJ Sandford all of Tuskegee, AL; two brothers, Roy (Helen) Young, Jr. of Opelika, AL and Mark (Janice) Horton of Auburn, AL; two sisters, Rochetta Young (Mario Shaver) of Opelika, AL and Tikka Momon of Tuskegee, AL; four uncles, Johnny Lee (Dorothy) James III of Notasulga, AL, Steven James, Charles James both of Tuskegee, AL and Kenneth Reese of Opelika, AL; eight aunts, Martha James Parham, Evon Carr both of Notasulga, AL, Marquetta (Preston) Brown of Baltimore, MD, Patricia Reese of South Carolina, Mary Reese of Auburn, AL, Loraine Reese of Opelika, AL, Teresa Reese and Michelle Reese both of Montgomery, AL; one niece, Kambriya Moore of Opelika, AL; three nephews, Cedrick Bailey, Jr., Roy Allen Young and Kameron Stephens of Opelika, AL; devoted friend, Willie “Shon” Gray of Notasulga, AL; devoted cousin, William Kirk of Snellville, GA; a host of other relatives and friends.

- Who was Clarence? -

A son of the father and his parents too,
a brother to his siblings,
and a loving friend to you.

A loving grandfather
affectionately called, “Papa”
but to me the titles were endless....
What do you call someone who loves you
without conditions someone who opens up
and shows you new traditions.

The person who showed up and never
turned away the person who meant
I’m here for you until my dying days.

A heart filled with love, kindness,
and generosity. A true man of character,
valor, and humility.

The type of man who put you before himself.

The type of man whose answer
was always YES if you were in need of help

I can tell you a million stories and
different scenarios to be true

None of them will touch the measure
of what he meant to me too

To some I’m describing just any ol man,
to some even just a simple friend...

to me he was daddy

The ultimate title yet and I thank

God he was the absolute BEST

Daddy our time was cut short but
your love will be with me forever...

Until God calls my name and we are reunited together
I will miss you tremendously that’s not a second guess
But daddy you’ve done your part you can finally rest!

I love you too infinity- your baby girl

