

*Jimmy & Juanita
Love Marriage A Treasure Forever.*

CELEBRATION

**JAMES FRANKLIN THOMAS
SATURDAY, MAY 3, 2025
3:00 PM TO 5:00 PM**

**BISHOP JERRY DEMMER
OFFICIANT AND EULOGIST
SENIOR PASTOR THE ABSOLUTE WORD CHURCH**

PROCESSIONAL.....NATHANIEL BLACK

"THE BATTLE IS NOT YOURS"

PRAYER OF COMFORT.....REV. MARC DAVIS

SCRIPTURES.....RICK SANDERS

OLD & NEW TESTAMENT

MUSIC SELECTION.....BOYZ II MEN

"IT'S SO HARD TO SAY GOOD-BY TO YESTERDAY"

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND CONDOLENCES: PIPKIN BRASWELL

OBITUARY.....TIMOTHY THOMAS

VIDEO TRIBUTE:.....A'STAR'S MEDIA SOLUTIONS

TRIBUTES OF LOVEFAMILY

EXPRESSIONS OF LOVE.....2 MINUTES

MUSIC SELECTION.....ANTHONY Q

"STILL HERE"

WORDS OF COMFORT BISHOP JERRY DEMMER

**PIPKIN BRASWELL FUNERAL DIRECTOR
CLOSING PRAYER-COMMITTAL/BENEDICTION**

RECESSIONAL.....NATHANIEL

BLACK "I CAN ONLY IMAGINE"

**HE SHALL REST
PRIVATE CREMATION**

**REPASS:
PIPKIN BRASWELL RECEPTION CENTER**

GONE BUT NEVER FORGOTTEN

FEBRUARY 20, 1953 ~ APRIL 20, 2025



*James Franklin Thomas
'Jimmy Jam'*



A Life Well Lived

James Franklin Thomas

James Franklin Thomas was born on February 20, 1953, in Chicago, Illinois, to Leroy Thomas, Sr. and Emma Ophelia Green. James grew up embraced by the strong bonds of his siblings: Leroy Jr., Paulette, Wilverlyn ("Cricket"), and Alphonso. His childhood was rich with the simple joys of street ball, wrestling matches, neighborhood adventures, and the harmonious sounds of music sung with friends in the stairwells of Stateway Gardens.

Music was James' heartbeat. Not only did he listen to it passionately, but he also sang, managed artists and bands, and shared his vibrant energy as a DJ at countless parties and clubs. His love for music was a lifelong companion, a source of connection and celebration throughout his journey.

After the early passing of his father, James moved with his family to Denver, Colorado, where he embarked on a new chapter as a family man. He worked diligently to build a full and meaningful life as an active and present father to his three sons and working in a meatpacking plant and later proudly serving for 27 years at the Denver Water Department until his retirement.

In 1992, James married the love of his life, Juanita. Their 36 years together was a beautiful duet of shared adventures—traveling and exploring scenic wonders, cruising, road trips, spending time with family and friends, and doting on their beloved grandchildren.

James' spirit and smile was contagious. Whether affectionately known as, "Jimmy Jam" DJing a party or simply walking into a room, he made every person feel celebrated. His signature joyful greeting—"Heyyy! So-and-so's in the house!"—was not just a catchphrase but a genuine affirmation of others. With an embrace and a kiss on the cheek, James had a way of making everyone feel seen and welcomed.

He loved watching sports games with his sons, grandsons, and friends, cheering for the Broncos and the Nuggets, and enjoyed action movies in his downtime. And no matter the circumstances, James' optimism never wavered. Even while facing health challenges, other ups and downs he faced in his life, or the regrets he may have played close to his heart, he did his best to shield others from worry, choosing instead to radiate happiness, gratitude, and encouragement.

A phrase often heard from James was "Send it to Hollywood!"—a playful, yet heartfelt reminder of his special gift: seeing the greatness in everyone around him.

He loved to uplift and highlight the gifts and talents in others, even when they could not see it themselves.

James was preceded in death by his father, Leroy Thomas, Sr.; his mother, Emma (Green) McKinney; his brother, Leroy Thomas, Jr.; and his sister, Paulette Williams.

James peacefully fell asleep in death at the age of 72 on Easter Sunday, April 20, 2025, in Aurora, Colorado. Surrounded by the love of his family and the melodies that filled his life, he departed this world free of pain, leaving behind indelible memories of warmth, laughter, and genuine connection.

He leaves to carry on his vibrant spirit: his devoted wife, Juanita Thomas of Denver, CO; his children, Timothy (Tiauda) Thomas of Aurora, CO, John Aaron (Natasha) Thomas of Chicago, IL, James Anthony Thomas and Richard David (Amber) Thomas, both of Aurora, CO. He is also survived by his beloved sister, Wilverlyn Harris of Denver, CO; brother, Alphonzo Thomas; sister-in-law Kamala Thomas, both of Aurora, CO, his 7 grandchildren, 2 great-grandchildren, their bonus siblings, host of cousins, nieces, nephews, and his many, friends who cherished him and he loved as his own—will miss him tremendously.

Psalm 23
King James Version

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

OUR FAMILY

