

# CELEBRATION OF LIFE



*Ryland L. Harris, Jr.*

**APRIL 30, 1950 - APRIL 01, 2026**

**THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 2026**

**WAKE: 3:00 PM - MEMORIAL: 3:30 PM**

**WATSON'S FUNERAL HOME**

**10913 SUPERIOR AVE - CLEVELAND, OH 44106**

# Order of Service

Musical Prelude.....

Processional..... The Family

Family Visitation ..... 3:00 PM – 3:30 PM

Scripture..... Minister

OLD & NEW TESTAMENT

Prayer .....

Remarks..... PLEASE LIMIT TO 2 MIN

Obituary..... PLEASE READ SILENTLY

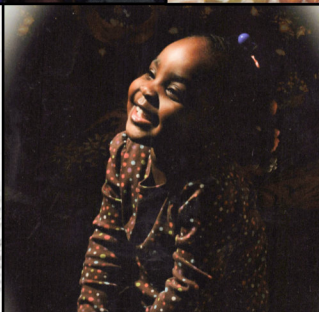
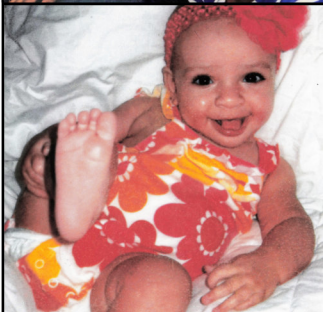
Selection.....

Eulogy .....

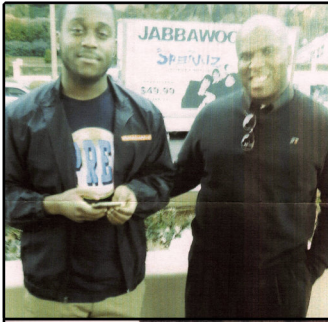
Recessional..... Family & Friends

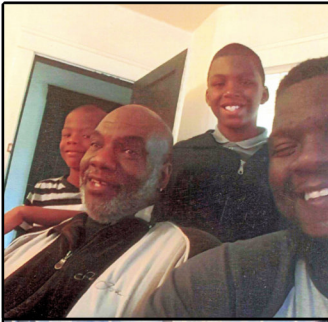
INTERMENT

PRIVATE









CUYAHOGA COUNTY COMMON PLEAS COURT

Be it known that upon recommendation of the Cuyahoga County Mental Health Adult Drug Court team, this diploma of successful completion is hereby conferred upon

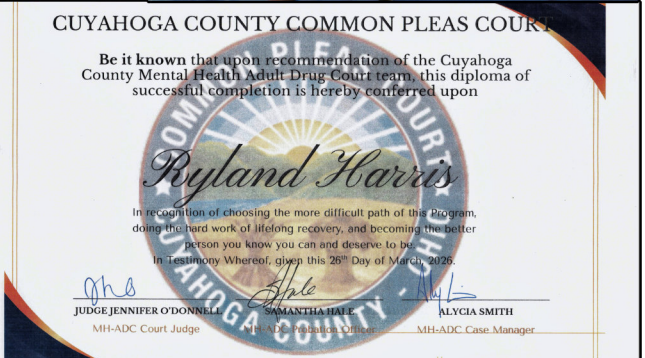
*Ryland Harris*

In recognition of choosing the more difficult path of this Program, doing the hard work of lifelong recovery, and becoming the better person you know you can and deserve to be. In Testimony Whereof, given this 26<sup>th</sup> Day of March, 2026.

*JHO*  
JUDGE JENNIFER O'DONNELL  
MH-ADC Court Judge

*Shirley*  
SAMANTHA HALE  
MH-ADC Rehabilitation Officer

*Alycia*  
ALYCIA SMITH  
MH-ADC Case Manager



# Obituary

Ryland Lee Harris Jr. was born on April 30, 1950, the first of three children born to Ryland Lee Harris Sr. and Jewel Cornelia Spence. He was joined by a sister, Brenda Michelle, in 1952 and a brother, Denis Lamar, in 1954. The siblings attended Kinsman Elementary School in Cleveland, Ohio. In 1959, the family suffered a profound loss when Ryland's father succumbed to complications from pneumonia, leaving their mother to raise three young children, ages 5, 7, and 9.

In 1961, his mother began a union with Rufus Kinsey Sr. This union expanded the family with two more children, Jacqueline Jewell in 1963 and Rufus Jr. in 1966. Ryland, Brenda, and Denis all attended Rawlings Junior High School and East Technical High School. A remarkably intelligent and articulate young man, Ryland possessed the natural curiosity and presence of someone destined for great things. He eventually went on to study at Case Western Reserve and dedicated part of his professional life to helping others as a social worker.

Ryland's true passion, however, was music, an early love that would help define his life. He taught himself to play the bass guitar and possessed a rare musical gift. Although he could not read music, if he heard a song just once, he could play it and make it his own. He especially loved the Motown hits that were so popular during his youth. His talent was so well regarded that he was frequently recruited to play with various groups before eventually joining the celebrated 1970s music group, The Spinners. During his time with the group, he played bass on two number-one hits, "Could It Be I'm Falling in Love" and "I'll Be Around."

Affectionately known as "Slim," Ryland found joy in the simple pleasures of life. He enjoyed fishing, spending time with friends and family, and the music that had long been a part of who he was. Known as "Cussing Uncle" was cherished by his loved ones for his quick wit, easygoing nature, enduring presence, and dry sense of humor.

Ryland is survived by a daughter, Ry-Lynn Jewell Harris (mother, April deceased); one sister, Jacqueline Kinsey; one brother, Rufus Kinsey as well as nieces, nephews, other family member and cherished friends.

Lovingly Submitted,  
The Family

# *Pass It On*

*If You Receive A Welcome Smile, Pass It On To Keep It In Style.*

*If You Receive A Word Of Praise, Pass It On To Ensure It Stays.*

*If You Receive A Pat On The Back, Pass It On To Those Who Lack.*

*If You Receive A Hug From A Friend, Pass It On Helping Others Mend.*

*If You Receive A Financial Lift, Pass It On Share Your Gift.*

*If You Receive A Faith's Strong, Pass It On To Those Who Long.*

*If You Receive A Message Of Hope, Pass It On So Others Might Coat.*

*If You Receive An Abundance Of Love, Pass It On Praising God Above.*

*If You Receive An Answer To A Prayer, Pass It On Your Blessings Share.*

*If You Receive God's Blessings Today, Pass Them On Without Delay.*

LOVINGLY SUBMITTED  
THE FAMILY

Please accept a heartfelt thank you from the family of

Mr. Ryland Harris. And, as Mr. Harris would say,

*"Thank all you so-and-so's for coming out.*

*I'll see you on the other side!"*

SERVICES OF COMFORT ENTRUSTED TO

*Watson's Funeral Home*

[www.WatsonFuneralHome.com](http://www.WatsonFuneralHome.com)

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