

Life Story

Ellis Ray Lawrence Sr.

Order of Service

We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord. 2 Corinthians 5:8

Ellis Ray Lawrence Sr. was born on November 9, 1960, in Pontiac, Michigan, to James Ellis Lawrence and Mrs. LeeAnna Joy (Rhone) Lawrence. From an early age, Ellis displayed a passion for life and enjoyed playing sports with family and friends. Above all, he made serving Christ the cornerstone of his life. His love for God was unshakeable, and his faith remained steadfast until his final days. He was a man who found joy in the simple pleasures of life—whether it was gathering for picnics, heading to the basketball court, or traveling to new places. But above all, Ellis took comfort in reading the word of God daily and sharing the Gospel through his actions and words.

In 1978, Ellis moved to Houston, Texas, where his life took another beautiful turn. On October 12, 1985, he united in marriage with Shetaqua LaPray Rogers (Stewart), and together they raised a family filled with love. From this union came three children: daughter Shakira Chantae Lawrence, who preceded him in death; son Ellis Ray Lawrence Jr.; and daughter Kirayonna LaShae Lawrence. Ellis also opened his heart to adopt Tiara Charae Lawrence, nurturing and raising her as his own. Ellis worked tirelessly throughout his life, dedicating numerous years of service in management roles at NTB, Palais Royal, Dollar General, Family Dollar, Kroger, and Auto Zone, always striving to do his best.

He was preceded in death by his father, Mr. James Ellis Lawrence, and his mother, Mrs. LeeAnna Joy Lawrence, as well as his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Rhone of Mobile, Alabama. Ellis grew up with nine siblings, all of whom he loved dearly: brothers Zachary Wayne Lawrence, Marcus Lawrence, Wali Abdyr Rahman, James Rhone, Thomas G. Lawrence, Reginald A. Lawrence, Curtis Lawrence; and sisters Joyce (George Meads) Lawrence, Merrie Caye Bell Lawrence.

On January 16, 2025, Ellis peacefully took his rest with the Master, leaving behind a legacy of faith, love, and devotion. He is deeply missed by his immediate family, aunts, uncles, and a host of relatives and friends who carry on his memory and his example of living with purpose.

Processional.....Clergy and Family

Scripture Readings

Old Testament..... Pastor Ward

New Testament.....Pastor Ward

PrayerDeacon Steven Lane

Song of Praise.....Ms. Tolesia Charles

Tribute to Dad.....Ellis Ray Lawrence Jr.

Silent reading of Obituary.....All

Poem to Dad (A Guiding Light).....Tiara Lawrence

Song of Praise..... Ms. Demetria Armstead

To Uncle "Ebbeses".....Jaelyn Lane & Steven Lane II

Expressions of Love (Please limit to 2 minutes)

Acknowledgements..... Torina Lane

Song of Praise..... Ms. Tolesia Charles

Eulogy..... Pastor Bryant

Recessional Clergy and Family

