

Celebrating the Life of

Eugene "Mano" McAllister

EUGENE "MANO" MCALLISTER, A MAN OF MANY TALENTS, A LEGENDARY SWIMMER, AND THE UNDISPUTED LIFE OF THE PARTY. BORN WITH A SPIRIT THAT COULDN'T BE TAMED, MANO'S JOURNEY BEGAN IN THE HEART OF BALTIMORE, WHERE HE ATTENDED MALCOLM X ELEMENTARY AND DR. KING BEFORE MAKING HIS MARK AT FOREST PARK SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL. A NATURAL ATHLETE, HE EXCELLED IN TENNIS AND SOFTBALL, BUT IT WAS IN THE WATER WHERE HE TRULY SHONE AS A POWERHOUSE SWIMMER.

MANO WAS A "JACK OF ALL TRADES" WHO LIVED THE FULL PARK HEIGHTS EXPERIENCE. ALONGSIDE HIS CHILDHOOD FRIENDS, ANDRE AND TRUE, HE SPENT HIS YOUTH CATCHING EVERYTHING FROM TADPOLES TO SNAKES AND CRICKETS DOWN AT "STINKY RIVER." HE WAS THE NEIGHBORHOOD DAREDEVIL — THE FIRST ONE TO HIT YOU WITH A "FORT NELSON SUPLEX" OR TICKLE YOU AND "PEANUT" UNTIL YOU CRIED TEARS OF LAUGHTER. A TRUE PIONEER OF NEIGHBORHOOD FUN, MANO WAS KNOWN FOR INVENTING LEGENDARY GAMES THAT KEPT EVERYONE ON THEIR TOES, INCLUDING "JUMPING PORCHES," "JUMPING TRAINS," AND THE CLASSIC MISCHIEVOUS ART OF "KNICKNOCKER."

HIS WORK ETHIC STARTED YOUNG AS A LIFEGUARD AT TOWANDA'S SWIMM POOL ALONGSIDE MS. NIECY. LATER, HE WORKED AT GIBBY'S SEAFOOD IN TINMONIUM AND THE AMISH MARKET IN LANCASTER, PA. MANY WILL NEVER FORGET WHEN HE AND PEANUT FINALLY SAVED ENOUGH "AMISH MONEY" TO BUY THOSE GOLD FRONTS AND SHINGLE JACKETS THAT DEFINED THE 90S STYLE.

MANO WAS A FAMILY MAN AT HIS CORE. HE TOOK IMMENSE PRIDE IN HIS TWO DAUGHTERS, SHYASIA AND LASHAY. THOUGH THE LOSS OF HIS MOTHER, CINDY, IN 2014 BROUGHT A SEASON OF DEEP STRUGGLE AND DEPRESSION, MANO REMAINED A FIXTURE IN THE LIVES OF THOSE HE LOVED. HE SPENT HIS FINAL DECADE AS A PILLAR OF HELP AT HIS "SISTER-COUSIN" DEE'S HOUSE, HELPING WITH HIS AUNTIE AND TAKING CARE OF THE HOME.

HE WAS A MAN WHO COULD TURN ANY ROOM INTO A CELEBRATION. WHETHER HE WAS PUTTING ON HIS REGGAE MUSIC, SHOUTING HIS SIGNATURE "I KNOW THAT'S RIGHT!", OR SHOWING OFF HIS FEARLESS SWIMMING SKILLS IN 25-FOOT WATER AT TWIN LAKES, MANO LIVED OUT LOUD. HE CHERISHED MEMORIES OF THE "BLIZZARD OF '96," CAMPING TRIPS TO SUGARLOAF MOUNTAIN, AND THE LIFELONG BONDS FORMED UNDER THE WING OF MISS LORI EDMONDS. IN HIS LATER YEARS, MANO FOUND GREAT PEACE IN RECONNECTING WITH HIS FATHER, "BIG GENE," ESTABLISHING A BOND THAT BROUGHT BOTH OF THEM IMMENSE JOY; MANO ALWAYS LOOKED UP TO HIS FATHER FOR HIS STRENGTH AND INTEREST IN BODYBUILDING.

MANO WAS PRECEDED IN DEATH BY HIS BELOVED MOTHER, CINDY CURE. HE LEAVES TO CHERISH HIS MEMORY HIS DAUGHTERS, SHYASIA (24) AND LASHAY (20) MCALLISTER; HIS FATHER, EUGENE "BIG GENE" MCALLISTER BEY; HIS BROTHER AND SISTER, PEANUT AND DEE; HIS AUNT DEBBIE (2ND MOTHER), JAMIE, LENORA, AND ROSALIE; HIS MOTHER'S BEST FRIEND, PRISCILLA PATTERSON; LORI AND A HOST OF 1ST COUSINS KC, TRIA, NIKA, JANEL, JAMES, DREA, & DAYON SPECIAL FRIENDS INCLUDING LINDA, SAM, TRACY, TY, ALICIA, TAY, DARWIN, CREASHA, PARIS, AND THE SISTERHOOD OF 4200.

MANO'S LAUGHTER, HIS "PARK HEIGHTS SOUL," AND HIS UNWAVERING LOVE FOR HIS FAMILY WILL BE MISSED BUT NEVER FORGOTTEN.
"I KNOW THAT'S RIGHT!"

