



Sailor's Rest

When my sailing days are over,
And I sail the seas no more,
I shall build myself a refuge
By the ocean's murmuring shore.
As I watch the foaming breakers
When the tide comes rushing in,
I will contemplate my lifetime
With its virtues and its sins.
Where the azure of the heavens
Meets the undulating blue,
Where the sweeping, soaring seagull
Flies its endless quest for food.
It is there that I would rest,
When my work on earth is done,
At the endless blue horizon
'Neath the crimson, setting sun.

Pallbearers

Family and Friends

In Appreciation

The family of Nathaniel Kemp extends their deepest gratitude to all who have supported us in prayers, hospital visits, calls and more. We sincerely say Thank you.



Davis Funeral Home
89 Walnut Avenue, Roxbury
654 Cummins Highway, Mattapan
617 427-0828 617 296-1755
www.DavisOfBoston.com

In Loving Memory of

Mr. Nathaniel Kemp

Sunrise: March 4, 1944—Sunset: April 28, 2025



Saturday, May 17, 2025 at 11AM

DAVIS FUNERAL HOME

89 WALNUT AVE, ROXBURY, MASSACHUSETTS

REV. JOE RIBEIRO , OFFICIATING

Obituary



Nathaniel Kemp was born on March 4, 1944, in Butler County, Alabama, to the late Reverend Dancy Kemp and Annie (Lee) Kemp. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his siblings: J.C., Curley, Eula Pearl, Andrew, Hillary, Findlay, Ruthie Mae, and Daniel Kemp.

Nathaniel, affectionately known as “Nate,” attended Catholic schools and graduated from St. Jude High School, where he excelled as a standout athlete, so much so that he once outran a motorcyclist in a footrace, a legendary display of his speed and spirit.

Following high school, Nate courageously served a four-year term in the United States Navy, receiving an honorable discharge. After his military service, he became a proud father to Terry Johnson, Darryl Nathaniel Hall, Natonya Hall, and Natia Kemp. He was a devoted grandfather to five special grandchildren: Kapryse, Terry, Kwamane, Antuan, and Michelle.

Nate built a life of dedication and hard work, retiring from the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA), where he worked in construction.

Known for his love of cooking, especially collard greens and his passion for dancing in sharp, tailored clothes, Nate was the life of many gatherings. Though physical limitations eventually prevented him from dancing, his spirit turned toward a deeper desire to grow closer to God in his later years, a journey he spoke of with heartfelt sincerity.

Nathaniel leaves to cherish his memory his children, grandchildren, his beloved niece and favorite friend Debbie, nephews Jerome, Kelvin, and Ray, and his longtime companion and friend Lori Adamson. He also leaves behind his cherished friends George, Joe, Abu, Hazel, Leo, Linda, Darlene, and many others.

Though he never had the chance to meet his beautiful great nephew, Nakobe, he longed for that moment with deep love.

May we always remember Nathaniel Kemp, our father, grandfather, companion, friend, Navy veteran, and child of God, with love and honor.

Order of Service

ORGAN PRELUDE	Phillip Young
INVOCATION	Rev. Joe Ribeiro
OPENING HYMN	
OLD TESTAMENT	Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8
NEW TESTAMENT	John 14: 1-4
PRAYER OF COMFORT	Pastor Joe Ribeiro
OBITUARY	Natonya Hall & Kapryse Hall-Thomas
SPECIAL TRIBUTES	Family and Friends
VIDEO TRIBUTE	
ORGAN MEDLEY	“ <i>Ill Fly Away</i> ” Phillip Young
EULOGY	Pastor Joe Ribeiro
BENEDICTION	Pastor Joe Ribeiro
RECESSION	

Interment

MT. HOPE CEMETERY

355 Walk Hill Street, Mattapan, Massachusetts