

## A FIREFIGHTER'S PRAYER

When I am called to duty, God,  
Whenever flames may rage,  
Give me strength to save a life  
Whatever be its age.

Help me embrace a little child  
Before it is too late  
Or save an older person from  
The horror of that fate.

Enable me to be alert  
And hear the weakest shout,  
To quickly and efficiently  
Put the fire out.

I want to fill my calling,  
To give the best in me,  
To guard friends and neighbors  
And protect their property.

And if, according to Your will  
In my duty I should fall,  
Bless with Your loving hand  
My family one and all.



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

THE FAMILY WISHES TO ACKNOWLEDGE WITH DEEP APPRECIATION THE  
MANY EXPRESSIONS OF LOVE, CONCERN, SUPPORT AND  
KINDNESS SHOWN TO US DURING THIS DIFFICULT TIME.



*Davis Funeral Home*  
89 Walnut Avenue, Roxbury  
654 Cummins Highway, Mattapan  
617 427-0828 617 296-1755  
[www.DavisOfBoston.com](http://www.DavisOfBoston.com)

*A Celebration of Life for*

# Joseph Mario Townes

*Sunrise*  
May 24, 1956

*Sunset*  
August 18, 2023



Friday, September 8, 2023 at 11 AM  
**ST. KATHARINE DREXEL**

517 BLUE HILL AVENUE, DORCHESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

*FR. OSCAR PRATT, CELEBRANT*

# Obituary

*"A great soul serves everyone all the time. A great soul never dies. It brings us together again and again." Maya Angelou*

Joseph Mario (Jo Jo) Townes, was born to the late, Courtland Townes, and his mother, Jacqueline I. Townes of Boston, Massachusetts, on May 24<sup>th</sup>, 1956. He was predeceased by his late wife, Darilyn (Marsh) Townes. Joe was a life-long resident of Boston and departed this life on, August 18, 2023, at the age of 67.

As a teen Joe attended Catholic Memorial High School and transferred to English High School where he graduated in 1974.

At the ripe age of twenty-three he joined the Boston Fire Department on September 5<sup>th</sup>, 1979, where he spent the next thirty-eight years until retirement on January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

Joe also worked part-time at TD Garden in Boston, for the past twenty-five years. Joe loved and was truly loved by all.

As many of you know Joe was an avid golf player and enjoyed a good cigar. He enjoyed his Saturday tee times and cigar dates with the guys.

Family was very important to Joe and he received the greatest joy with his children, during game nights, bowling and looked forward to their annual family trips to Martha's Vineyard. He also enjoyed spending time at home, watching CNN/MSNBC, old school music, and the smell of burning incense.

Everyone that knew Joe knows he was proud to be an Orchard Park OG and was quite the ladies' man.

Joe and his beautiful life will forever be cherished by his mother Jaqueline I. Townes, his children: Stephanie Merritt, [son in law Jonathan DePina], Monique Sisco, Sheila Townes, Joseph (Joey) Townes [Dalila Townes], and Shannon Houston. His grandchildren: Jazmyne (Jazzy) Bloomfield, [Rain Bloomfield], Jayden DePina, CJ Israel, Christian Sisco, Carly Sisco, Jonovan Houston Otero, Jovelle Houston Otero, Josev Houston Otero, Riley Townes, Ryan Townes, and great grandchild Noa Bloomfield. His siblings; Courtland Townes Jr. [Leevonia Townes], Stephanie Townes, Ric Townes, [Val Townes] Michael Townes, Nina Townes, Jason Townes, Mario Townes [Jackie Townes] and Chris Townes, Rosetta Marsh [mother-in-law] and a host of family and friends. He was loved and will be deeply missed by his family, friends, and all who knew him.

We thank you all for your love and support during this difficult time!

# Order of Service

## INTRODUCTORY RITES

Greeting & Sprinkling with Holy Water

Placing of the Pall

Entrance Procession

Opening Prayer

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

### SCRIPTURE READINGS

First Reading by Dionne Dowling

Responsorial Psalm

Second Reading by Nina Townes

THE GOSPEL BY FR. OSCAR PRATT

Homily

General Intercessions

## LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Preparation of the Altar and the Gifts

Eucharistic Prayer

Communion Rite

Obituary Reading by Jazzy Bloomfield

## FINAL COMMENDATION

Invitation to Prayer

Song of Farewell and Incense

Prayer of Commendation

## PROCESSION TO FINAL RESTING PLACE

### CEDAR GROVE CEMETERY

920 Adams Street

Dorchester, MA

## REPAST

Florian Hall

55 Hallett Street

Dorchester, MA