

Celebration of Life
FOR
DEACON WOODROW
"WOODY" RIVERS, JR.



Sunrise
August 1, 1943

Sunset
July 15, 2025



Union Baptist Church

31 Manhattan Avenue, White Plains, NY 10607

Friday, August 15th 2025

Rev. Dr. Verlin D. Williams, Pastor

Rev. Cynthia Dorsey, Officiating

Order of Service

OPENING HYMN

O I Want To See Him

SCRIPTURE

Old Testament Psalm 121-Deacon Leroy Jones
New Testament 2 Corinthians 5:1-8 Deacon Edgar Ervin

PRAYER OF COMFORT

Deacon Nathan Dolman

MUSICAL TRIBUTE

Elder Nelson

REFLECTIONS

Reverend George Whitfield
Deacon Anthony Scott
Deaconess Pearl Moss

Family

PROCLAMATION

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Sister Leslie Wardell

OBITUARY

Michael Rivers

MUSICAL SELECTION

Elder Lisa Nelson

EULOGY

Reverend Cynthia Dorsey

RECESSIONAL



Obituary

Woodrow "Woody" Rivers Jr. was born to the late Hazel Robinson Rivers and Woodrow Rivers Sr. on August 1, 1943, in the town of North, South Carolina. At an early age, Woodrow's love for God led him to join Jerusalem Baptist Church.

It was at the tender age of six years old that Woodrow (fondly known as "Woody") began working many hours as a sharecropper while attending the Dover School. He was recognized as one of the strongest and fastest students in his school and, as a result, gained a reputation for being athletically gifted. During his teenage years, he left South Carolina and went to live with his Aunt Ida Little in Tuckahoe, NY. He lived with her for a short time before moving to his own place.

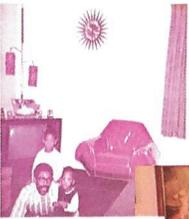
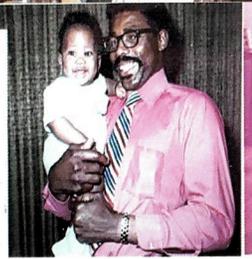
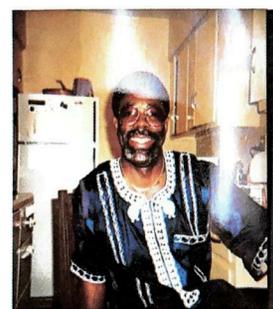
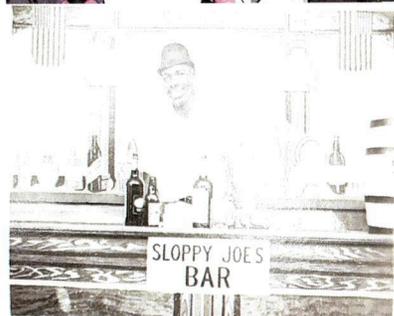
On June 10, 1967, Woody married the love of his life, Annie L. Logan, at Union Baptist Church in White Plains, New York. From that union, they were blessed with two sons, Melvin B. Rivers and Michael B. Rivers. Deacon Woodrow Rivers was an extremely devoted husband and father. He was known for his wisdom, great advice, calmness, and generosity to everyone he met.

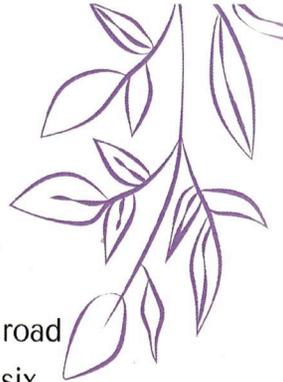
Woodrow worked at several places and had many occupations, including at A&P Supermarket, Exxon gas station, and at other auto shops as security, and as a bouncer. He began working at Sal's Auto Body Shop during the mid-1970's and worked there until his retirement in 2009.

Deacon Rivers became deeply involved in the ministries of Union Baptist Church and served as a deacon, trustee, usher, member of several choirs, member of many committees, and served as an officer in each. He served as Chair of the Trustee Board of UBC during the tenure of Reverend Robert L. Mason and the 18 months prior to the appointment of Reverend Dr. Verlin D. Williams as Pastor. His skills and expertise in money management kept the church solvent during a critical time in the life of UBC. His love for people and ministry helped the church to thrive financially and assisted in the financial acquisition of properties.

He leaves to cherish his fond memories, two sons, Melvin (Annette) Rivers of Queensland, Australia, and Michael (Marcia) Rivers of Baltimore MD; three sisters, Blondell Donaldson of North, South Carolina, Rose Mitchell of Hartsdale, NY, Annette (Alvin) Knotts of Orangeburg, South Carolina, and Faye (Timothy) Milhouse of Neeses, South Carolina; two brothers-in-law, Robert Logan Moss of North, South Carolina and Ronald Logan of North, South Carolina; three godchildren, Allison Knotts, Monica Arismendez, and Terence Arismendez; two special daughters, Candice Peoples and Lydia Alston; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, relatives and many friends.

Lovingly Submitted
The Family





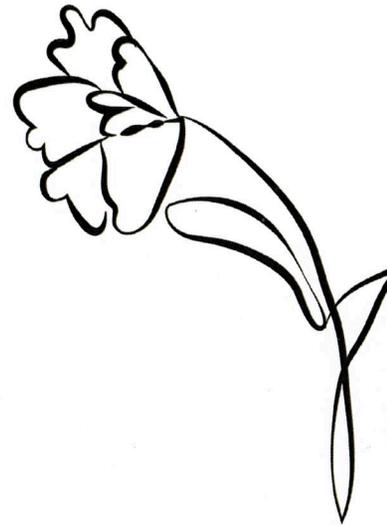
Thy Spirit Is Still With Us

Pops...you have traveled a long road
 Been workin' since you were six
 Never grimaced.....nor complained
 Always findin' a way to make things stick
 Your power and strength from within
 Was steadfastly guided by your faith
 You served tirelessly which allowed
 Thee to move beyond each and every
 Obstacle that stood in thy way
 Your grace...kindness...and love was
 Felt by all whom connected in thy path
 You remained diligent in all matters...
 From the first to the last
 Our hearts feel a heaviness 'cause we will miss
 bein' engaged with your bodily form
 Hence, through our thoughts.....memories....and
 experiences....we feel solace in knowin'
 Thy spirit will always live on....

MICHAEL B. RIVERS
 AUGUST 6, 2025

Peace Be Still

Master, the tempest is raging
 Oh, the billows are tossing high
 The sky is o'er shadowed with blackness
 Oh, no shelter or help is nigh
 Carest Thou not that we perish?
 Oh, how can't Thou lie asleep?
 It's seem like each moment so madly is threatening
 Oh, a grave, a grave, a grave in the angry deep?
 Get up, Jesus
 Because the winds and the waves shall obey Thy will, peace be still
 Peace be still, peace be still, peace be still
 Whether the wrath of the storm-tossed sea
 Or demons or men or whatever it be
 No water can swallow the ship where lies
 The Master of ocean and earth and skies
 They all shall sweetly obey Thy will
 Peace, peace be still
 The winds and the waves
 The winds and (let's go) the waves shall (shall obey your will) obey Thy will
 (And all You've got to say)
 Peace be still, peace be still (peace be still), peace be still, peace be still
 (Whether the wrath) whether the wrath of the storm-tossed sea
 (Or demons) or demons (or men) or men (whatever it be) or whatever it be
 (No water can swallow) no water can swallow the ship
 Where lies the Master of ocean and earth and skies
 They all shall sweetly obey Thy will
 Peace (when you burdened)
 Peace (when you're lonely)
 Peace (when you're broken)
 Peace (oh)
 Peace (oh)
 Peace (yeah!)
 Peace (I'm looking for)
 Peace (oh yes, I am)
 Peace (whoa)
 Peace (yeah)
 Peace
 Peace, peace
 Peace (yeah!)
 Peace (yeah!)
 Peace (yeah!)
 Peace (oh peace) be still



Expression of Appreciation

Family and Friends of Deacon Woodrow Rivers wishes to express their profound gratitude to God, Lee's Funeral Home, L.L.C., Pastor Williams and his staff, Late Lady Dorothy Williams, Candacee, Elder Lisa D. Nelson, officers, members and friends of Union Baptist Church for your many acts of kindness.

Acknowledgements

Our deepest thanks and sincere appreciation to the caregivers, Rose Mitchell, Candice Peoples and Janita Donaldson for their consistent concern and dedication. The medical at WestMed, Scarsdale Medical Group, the nurses, and staff at White Plains Hospital.

Arrangements entrusted to:

Lee's Funeral Home, LLC
 160 Fisher Ave, White Plains
 White Plains, NY 10606
 Phone: (914) 949-0372 Fax: (914) 949-2380

Thank you