



Rudolph Lewis

January 18, 1955 - July 15, 2022

THE LIFE OF RUDOLPH LEWIS

Rudolph Lewis, known as “Rudy” or “Dolph” was born on January 18, 1955 in Florence, South Carolina to Mabel Lee and William Henry Lewis. He came to New

York at the age of 11 and became a responsible man in a hurry when circumstances

called for him to step in to be the phenomenal younger (but big) brother and help

his mother, where he was dedicated to maintain the household and support his

younger sisters, although he was the 5th child and the baby boy. He loved his wife

Michelle and his son Demetrius unconditionally, as well as his 7 brothers and sisters: Willie; Nate; Vern; Gloria; Dorothy; Brenda and Marlene.

Raised in the downtown section of Brooklyn NY (Bed Stuy, etc.), Rudolph graduated

from Boys High (now Boys & Girls High) in 1973. The legendary ball court “Soul In

The Hole” is where Rudy balled with Bed Stuy legends and literally lost teeth doing

battle in the paint exercising his athleticism.

After his High School years, Rudolph started working in a clothing factory in

the

Garment District in lower Manhattan. Always a hard worker, Rudolph began a long

career in 1978 with New York's Board of Education as a School Safety Officer where

he worked for 30 years. He received numerous commendations, medals, awards and

NYPD accolades during his tenure. Rudolph retired as a Supervisor of School Safety

Officers in 2016 after countless hours of dedicated overtime.

Rudy was a huge sports fanatic and a die-hard fan of his favorite teams which included the New York Knicks and the NY Mets. He also enjoyed the game of Tennis

and watching the top seeded players play in the majors. During his younger years

Rudy and his beautiful wife Michelle were fierce competitors who loved riding in

bike marathons and playing paddle ball on Brooklyn College's handball courts.

He met his wife Michelle and became a father to her son Demetrius in 1977.

They

married on Sept. 7, 1984. Collectively, they built a warm, long lasting, loving relationship for 38 tried and tested years. Additionally, they enjoyed any opportunity

to engage with family in and out of town.

To all who knew him "Rudy" was the definition of a smooth, stylish, proud, giving,

kind-hearted, humble man who never showed signs of aggression or anger.

His

humility was real and he instinctively extended himself to anyone in need, looking

for nothing in return but a good meal, sweet desert or something entertaining

on T.V. He loved hard in his own silent way, no matter your appreciation of him.

He took his role as father; husband; brother; uncle; friend to heart and supported

nieces, nephews and any child's dreams/aspirations.

When Rudolph became ill, his medical diagnosis was the most brutal battle he was

ever faced with, often resistant to help because of his pride and selflessness, in not

wanting to burden anyone. He rode the illness out his way. On July 15th his battle

ended. He leaves to mourn:

His loving wife Michelle Gillead Lewis and son Demetrius Cull. His mother Mable Lee Lewis. Brothers: Willie Lewis (sister in-law Beth) and Nathaniel Lewis. Sisters: Gloria Duncan; Dorothy King Curry; Brenda Lewis and Marlene Nurse (brother in-law Rian). Sister In-Laws: Charlene Freeman; Annette Lewis and Carolyn Gillead. Brother In-Laws: Michael Duncan; Collin King Sr., William

Lockley (wife Annie) and Gregory Montrose. A host of nieces, nephews, great-nieces; great-nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins and friends. Rudolph was preceded

in death by his Father William Henry Lewis and his Brother Edward (Vern) Lewis.

In lieu of flowers please consider donating to the Parkinson's Foundation.

https://secure3.convio.net/prkorg/site/TR/Tributes/General?px=2406813&pg=personal&fr_id=3526

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL **25.** 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Grace Funeral Chapels
607 North Conduit Blvd.
Brooklyn, NY 11208
(718) 235-8088
info@gracefunerals.com
<https://www.gracefunerals.com>

Funeral Service

JUL **25.** 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM (ET)

Grace Funeral Chapels
607 North Conduit Blvd.
Brooklyn, NY 11208
(718) 235-8088
info@gracefunerals.com
<https://www.gracefunerals.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *Rudolph Lewis*

November 11, 2022 at 12:38 PM



“ *Rudy, Gone way too soon. I love you and we will miss you tremendously. Rest in peace my dear sweet brother.*

Your Loving Sister, Marlene



yvettelewis1970 - July 25, 2022 at 10:20 AM



“ *My Brother Rudy, as we rise to honor and celebrate your rise to be the king of all KINGS! I will place the love and peace you shared with us in my heart to be the example you Rudolph Lewis has taught me to be.*

*Love Always9 ASE
Brother-in-Law, Greg*

yvettelewis1970 - July 25, 2022 at 10:09 AM

YV

“Hard to make me succumb to my emotions and have tears roll from my eyes...But Rudolph, you represented the love of a pops and complimented my peace of mind in knowing my mother was in the hands of a man's man who held the epitome of true love in his heart for his wife. Not one day did I have to worry about my mother being under any form of emotional duress throughout the years. The only time I can say she was, was when you were battling your disease. She had a very hard time seeing you in that physical state because she loved you so much. Nonetheless, I was honored to play my part in holding you down because you refused outside help. And I cry now, not out of sadness but because I am truly happy that you are no longer in pain. For all you've done, for all you influenced, for all you inspired to change with your vulnerability and humility which you weren't willing to compromise...I salute you. The general of gentleman. You my man were the real strength of a man. All you wanted was the best for me. So, to hear you tell me within the last 4 years that you were proud of me meant a lot. To feel and know that you knew I could handle whatever life throws my way meant a lot. You didn't have to say a word...I could feel the silent angel in you that had my back. Every time I walked out that front door and you were in the living room, you wouldn't let me lock the door...You'd say "I got it. I'll lock the door", as you said, "Be safe out there". I think that was your way of blessing me before I left. I will miss your smile and all the love behind it. Until we meet again, I am gracious to feel the presence of your warm spirit encouraging me to continue to grow as a man. Your last words to me, in a condition where you could hardly breathe, were "Thank you for being there for me". Rudolph, Thank you...for providing me with opportunity to grow.
Love Always.
Your Son,
Demetrius



yvettelewis1970 - July 25, 2022 at 08:50 AM

SL

“ Uncle Rudolph, in my opinion, was the "cool" uncle. The few times I saw him as a little girl, he formed my first view and definition of what swag and cool charisma should look like in a Black man. And even though distance kept us from staying in consistent contact over the years, whenever I would see him he regarded me in the same way as he did when I was that little girl 45 years ago (without picking me up of course...lol)

In my book he will always be "My Uncle With Swag".

Rest on, Uncle. ❤️❤️

Your Niece Sonya

Sonya Lewis - July 24, 2022 at 03:57 PM

JB

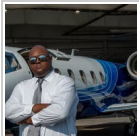
“ My Condolences Go Out To The Family Of Rudy Lewis, He Was A Very Nice Man, Iam Pround To Know Him And Worked With Him. God Bless His Soul.

James Brown - July 23, 2022 at 04:05 PM

DC

“ All the books and magazines in the world cannot store the memories I hold in my heart for my baby brother. Rest in arms of our Lord and Savior. 🙏

Dorothy King Curry - July 23, 2022 at 01:00 PM



“ Uncle Rudy was the one who put me on the grill. Rudy used to handle all the grilling duties before passing it on to me. Taught me everything I needed to know. I'll miss u Rudy! 🍔🍌 - Collin

Collin King - July 23, 2022 at 12:53 PM

VR

“ *Rest in Eternal Peace and Love Rudy*💙



Virginia Rodriguez - July 22, 2022 at 06:53 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Rudolph Lewis.*



July 20, 2022 at 10:05 PM

CF

“ *Rudolph
Life has shown us again its painful side by
taking you away from us when we didn't see it
coming.
I will always remember your kindness and
Gentle
Spirit. Rest In Peace Brother In Law*



Charlene Lewis Freeman - July 20, 2022 at 06:51 PM

TM

“ *Condolences to the Lewis Family. I remember cousin Rudolph as a sweet and gentle man. I loved when he and the family would come visit us in South Carolina. God bless...Rest in Peace*



Love, Twanice Muldrow

Twanice Muldrow - July 20, 2022 at 05:21 AM

KL

“ *You will be missed dearly uncle Rudy. I always remember daddy bringing me to your house all the time just because. It wasn't a fun filled day without stopping by uncle Rudy house.*

Kyra Lewis - July 19, 2022 at 05:29 PM

BL

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Brenda Lewis - July 19, 2022 at 05:09 PM

MN

Gone way too soon .Rest in peace my dear sweet brother.

Marlene Nurse - July 21, 2022 at 08:45 PM

RJ

“ Celebrating Grandma's 91st birthday! He cried because he saw his mother age gracefully. Gone but never forgotten. Love you Uncle Rudy.



Rian Nurse Jr - July 19, 2022 at 04:54 PM

JB

Love you

joyce baker - July 19, 2022 at 04:59 PM

AN

“ You will be truly missed Uncle Rudy.

- Love Aniya

Aniya - July 19, 2022 at 04:02 PM

MN

Rudy, I love you. We will miss you tremendously. Rest in love & peace.

Marlene Nurse - July 24, 2022 at 06:17 PM

LH

Family you're in our thoughts and prayers. 🙏💕 Letha Howard & family

Letha Howard - July 25, 2022 at 04:46 PM

YV

“ 1 file added to the album Rudolph Lewis Memorable Moments



yvettelewis1970 - July 19, 2022 at 03:44 PM

JB

Looking great baby

joyce baker - July 19, 2022 at 04:58 PM

DE

Hard to make me succumb to my emotions and have tears roll from my eyes...But Rudolph, you represented the love of a pops and complimented my peace of mind in knowing my mother was in the hands of a man's man who held the epitome of true love in his heart for his wife. Not one day did I have to worry about my mother being under any form of emotional duress through out the years. The only time I can say she was, was when you were battling your disease. She had a very hard time seeing you in that physical state because she loved you so much. Nonetheless, I was honored to play my part in holding you down because you refused outside help. And I cry now, not out of sadness but because I am truly happy that you are no longer in pain. For all you've done, for all you influenced, for all you inspired to change with your vulnerability and humility which you weren't willing to compromise...I salute you. The general of gentleman. You my man were the real strength of a man. All you wanted was the best for me. So, to hear you tell me within the last 4 years that you were proud of me meant a lot. To feel and know that you knew I could handle whatever life throws my way meant a lot. You didn't have to say a word...I could feel the silent angel in you that had my back. Every time I walked out that front door and you were in the living room, you wouldn't let me lock the door...You'd say "I got it. I'll lock the door", as you said "Be safe out there". I think that was your way of blessing me before I left. I will miss your smile and all the love behind it. Until we meet again, I am gracious to feel the presence of your warm spirit encouraging me to continue to grow as a man. Your last words to me, in a condition where you could hardly breathe, were "Thank you for being there for me". Rudolph, Thank you...for providing me with opportunity to grow. Love Always.

*Your Son,
Demetrius*

Demetrius - July 19, 2022 at 06:19 PM

RF

Rudy, words cannot express how I feel. I will truly miss you and that infectious smile. We all have decades of wonderful times and beautiful memories of you, that will never be forgotten. My prayers are with your family.



Rita and Family - July 19, 2022 at 08:21 PM

YV

“ *Uncle Rudy,*

You were the best Uncle ever that we could have. I remember you use to sing to us girls "Look at those little Lewis Girls". You protected us, feed us and comforted us. Thanks for all the love you provided to me throughout my life. You are one of a kind and will forever be missed. Rest in peace and power!!!

Your Loving Niece, Yvette

yvettelewis1970 - July 18, 2022 at 05:32 PM