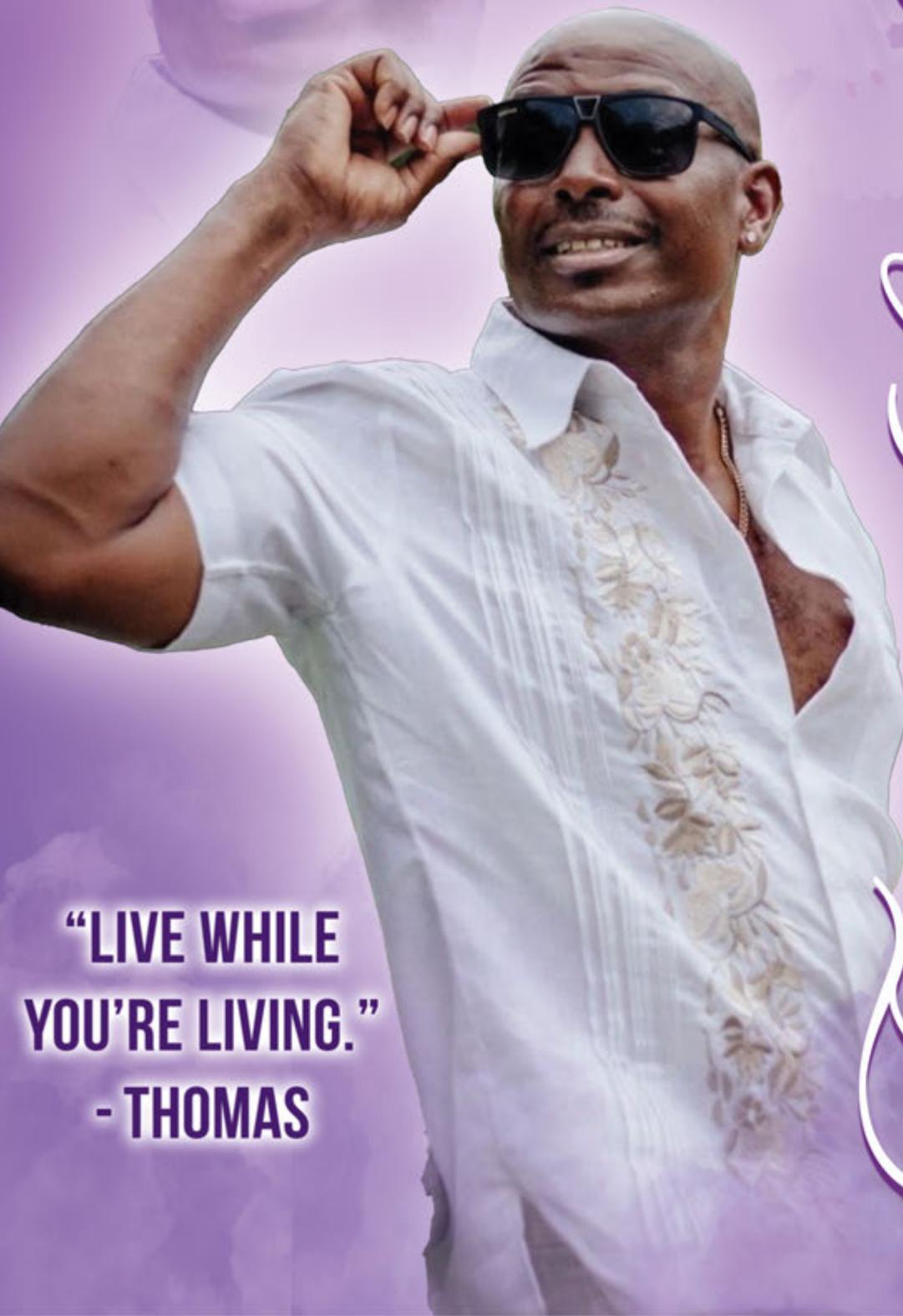


CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF



Thomas L. James

**“LIVE WHILE
YOU’RE LIVING.”
- THOMAS**

DECEMBER 26TH, 1969 - MAY 2ND, 2025

ORDER *Of* SERVICE



Processional Song.....Inspirational Choir Ensemble

Processional.....Family/Clergy

Welcome.....Pastor Jamaine Tucker

Opening Prayer.....Pastor Terrance Stovell

Musical SelectionDwayne Foster

Words of Comfort.....Calvin White (Uncle)

Scripture Reading

Old Testament: Job 19: 23-29.....Keeivin Bailey(Brother)

New Testament: Rev 21: 1-4Tomisha Goater(Daughter)

Musical Selection.....Jesse Seymour

Reading of Tributes.....Mervyn Grant (uncle) and Tariq Smith(friend)

Video TributeFamily

Obituary.....Kevin Bailey

Special Music.....Desirae Simons

Eulogy.....Pastor Jamaine Tucker (Warwick Sec)

Closing Prayer.....Pastor Terrance Stovell

Recessional Song.....Inspirational Choir Ensemble

INTERMENT
Pembroke Cemetery

PALLBEARERS



Out of Church

ANTHONY BEAN
FRIEND

TREVOR SIMONS
FRIEND

COY RATTERAY
FRIEND

VERNON TROTT
FRIEND

CLEON WOODLEY
FRIEND

SHORON HUNT
FRIEND

Graveside

KEEVIN BAILEY
BROTHER

LLOYD PARKS
FRIEND

OMARI FRANKLIN
BROTHER

WAYNE SINCLAIR
FRIEND

TRAE GOATER
NEPHEW

SEAN DILL
COUSIN

Honorary Pallbearers

KEJAUN CLARKE

CHRIS ANDERSON



OBITUARY



Thomas L. Jones was born December 26, 1969, to Thomas “Lamps” Jones and Paulette “Pinky” Bailey. He was the eldest sibling to his brothers Quincy Jones and Keeivin Bailey; who he adored. Thomas grew up on Spring Hill in Warwick, Bermuda.

He attended Paget Primary, Warwick Secondary School, and Bermuda College where he made lifelong friends. Thomas was his mom’s Christmas present as he was born on Boxing Day. He always mentioned how he never had a birthday party because of Christmas. Every year he always had a cake and celebrated with family. He also made it a priority to find his favorite gombey troupe, Warwick Gombey, on his birthday as well. When Thomas went 50, he got the surprise birthday that he always longed for.

Thomas has always been adventurous. On his first family trip to Florida, he went missing in a department store and his family was frantic. They searched everywhere and they found him hiding between a clothes rack grinning from ear to ear. Can you imagine what his mom wanted to do to him?

From young, Thomas enjoyed being around his friends—with most of them originating from Spring Hill. Thomas was the type of person who would lift your spirits whenever you were with him. His house was the spot for most of his friends to hang out, and to his mom’s surprise, there were a lot of sleepovers that she did not know about!

His entrepreneurial spirit was present from a young age. He always thought of ways to make money. His first “business venture” was cutting neighbors’ lawns with his friends and delivering newspapers.

Throughout his childhood, he conspired in many escapades that were sometimes hilarious and sometimes resulted in unexpected outcomes. At ages ten and eight, Thomas and his cousin decided that they would take his aunt’s car for a drive to the top of Spring Hill. Thomas drove the car to the top of the hill, however, on his way back down (driving in reverse) he scratched the side of the car on the wall.

The next morning, his aunt and uncle complained bitterly about how someone could hit the car and keep on driving. The two boys remained silent for 35 years, finally confessing at a family event once they were sure the statute of limitations for “licks” had expired. In 1994, Thomas’s life changed in a meaningful way. He had his first child, Tomisha Goater; then followed Tomiko Goater, and Kyesja Jones. He loved his children immensely and would do anything to make them happy.

He reminded everyone of how proud he was of them every moment he got. He enjoyed spending time with them, their cousins, and friends. Most times, if you saw Thomas, you knew his kids were near or he was calling them to “come spar with your daddy.” Everyone his kids loved; Thomas loved, and he was known as Uncle Tom throughout the island. He was always the parent that fit in with his kids’ company no matter the setting. Anything his kids bought him to wear, he wore with pride because, to Thomas, his kids were keeping him young.

Thomas was a very supportive parent and was always the loudest parent in the crowd even when told not to say anything. Him and Miko shared a love for football, and he attended every single game that Miko played since the age of three. You always knew he was there because he would shout out to Miko to let him know that he was there.

He was always someone you heard before he came along with his infectious smile. Thomas always arrived on time, which was the time he arrived. It wasn't the time he was supposed to show up, but it didn't matter. He made up for his tardiness with a grand entrance and always turned the party up a notch or restarted it if the set was almost done. He continued the legacy of "Lights out Lamps" by staying on the dance floor and sometimes this was until the next morning if Beres Hammond and Sanchez was playing. Then he would start recruiting people from the set to continue onto the next spot.

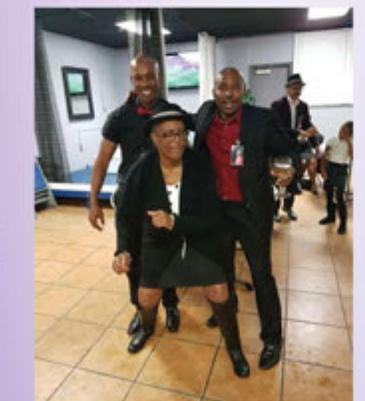
Thomas was always a kindhearted person with a great personality. He saw the good in everyone and would help a stranger if they were stranded. He took pride in being a good person to people. You would often see him showing tourists that he just met "a good time" around the island. A good time to Thomas was also laughing until your stomach hurt.

Every day he had a new story. He often said, "I have enough material to do standup comedy." He loved traveling and would often look for spots with only locals. Sometimes that meant being in an environment where no one spoke English, but Thomas was sure he was apart of their culture.

Outside of the fun, Tom, who we all knew, he was also a driven person. If Thomas wanted something, he did anything to get it. He was so determined to get his diploma from Bermuda College. He used to walk from Spring Hill to Bermuda College through the railway trails if he did not have transportation. This same drive was evident in his career as an electrician. He loved to see things work and due to his love for helping others, he would do anything to finish a project. This meant staying after hours—and those close to him have pulled a wire or two in their life. One of his proudest achievements was purchasing the lunch cart, "T's Homestyle." He was always overjoyed when he received good reviews on social media. Along with his day-to-day responsibilities, Thomas was also a Shop Steward for the B.I.U. at the Fairmont Southampton.

He took that responsibility very seriously. He was always well researched and fearlessly addressed issues and policies that disadvantaged workers with management. When Thomas showed up with his briefcase and documents, management knew he meant business!

In Thomas's later days, he got stronger in his faith and enjoyed sharing his spirituality with others. He was a devoted son, brother, father, nephew, cousin, and friend to many. We have so many memories of our dear Tom and we will cherish them forever and hope you can too. He loved his family and friends deeply and lived his life to the fullest.



THOMAS *Leaves*

To MOURN



PARENTS: Thomas “Lamps” Jones (late) and Paulette “Pinky” Bailey (Kevin)

KIDS: Tomisha Goater, Tomiko Goater, and Kyesja Jones

SIBLINGS: Quincy Jones, Keeivin Bailey, and Omari Franklin

AUNTS: Debra White, Connie Jones, Joan Talbot, and Roma Douglas

UNCLES: Mervyn Grant, Duane Jones (late), Eugene Calder, and Cal White

SPECIAL NIECES: Liberty Franklin and Zariah Franklin-Grant

NIECES: Royal and Majesty Jones

SPECIAL NEPHEW: Trae Goater

PREDECEASED GRANDPARENTS: Pauline and Horace Calder, Henrietta and Thomas Vere Jones

CLOSE COUSINS: Delton White (Doreen), Kellyn White, Landrea and Zenja Jones, Kimberly Jones, Noelene Jones-Seymour, Diana Darrell, Robyn Douglas, Tamara Grant, Natasha Morrison, Jason Santos, Duane Jones Jr. (Natasha) and Dean Jones (Gaynete), and Sean Dill

CLOSEST FRIENDS: Travis, Shawn M., Anthony, Coy, Chris, Yul, Trevor, John “Scrooge”, Shoron, Teiko, Cleon, Darren, Che, Shawn W., Herbie, Wayne, Lloyd, Vernon, Wai-Zu, Jason, Raymond, Donavon, Antoine (late), Umoja (late), Alvin (late), Stacey, Theresa D., Juliette, Dee Dee, Keisha, Denise, Mallissa, and Sarai

GOD-CHILDREN: Kejaun, Jahshuna, Sheniqua, AJ, Chezai, Coy, Jahzai, Zaijae, Nyumi, Jarye, Jyire, Senoj, Travis, Sienna, Preya, Zandi, Rico, and Liberty

MOTHERS OF CHILDREN: Tomika Harrell and Geri-lynn Goater
Spring Hill Family, Southampton Princess, Breakfast Crew, Paget Lions Family, T’s Homestyle, Goater Family, Dill Family, Bailey Family, and Harrell Family

FAMILY AND FRIENDS TOO NUMEROUS TO MENTION.



TRIBUTES



Misha

Daddy, since I was young, I have always been your princess. I took that so serious that I have everyone calling me Princess. With you around I always felt safe because I knew my daddy would never let anyone hurt his princess. To me you knew how to fix everything. I am always quick to say let me call my daddy even when it came to where to pick loquats. During my dark moments you always stayed by my side every second. You never judged me which allowed me to be vulnerable. We share so many secrets together and I promise I will never tell anyone. You and my mama taught me what unconditional love feels like and I am so thankful that I got experience a love like yours. You have always been the fun daddy so those I love will also feel a void. So many of my cousins/friends spent time with you even when I wasn't there. You and I would literally call each other during the middle of the day to share something funny we just saw. Our laughs could go on for hours and I always said daddy give me time to breathe. You never missed my birthday and this year you made sure that you were still present even under unfortunate circumstances. Daddy, I can literally go on for years talking about the love we have had for each other since 1994. I am not sure how but please make sure you keep my siblings and I protected. I love and miss you more every second that goes by. Love, The Princess

Nika

My Twin, I have many unanswered questions , but I know you're saying "don't worry about that bie push on regardless". You supported me in everything I did . You attended all of my games and sometimes didn't see you but I definitely heard you. You was always the loudest when I played against Paget Lions. I am going to miss you calling me after my games to tell me where I went wrong and also what I done well. Daddy, I admired everything you did. I catch myself talking, walking and even smiling like you. Apparently, Misha says I even sleep like you. You taught me how to be confident, brave , strong, and genuine. Daddy, your energy was unmatched. When you came around my friends and family we all knew that it's a party now . One of my close friends came to me one day and was like "fam I used that line on this girl that your daddy said one time and it worked." I told you about it and you said, "I have the formula son it's in you not on you partna ." Your saying, "live while your living" will forever live through me. Nevertheless, I could sit here all day talking about you daddy, but I just want to let you know that I will protect Misha and Ke Ke just like you would! I love you and you will always be a legend to me.

Kyesja

I have so many feelings when it comes to my daddy. It kinda sucks to say, but I admire him at a whole new level now that he's passed away. I've started to look back at life from his perspective and it's painted a whole new world I wasn't ready to see when he was alive. All the qualities that made my daddy Thomas Jones have been shown to me in a whole new light. Like when we'd go out and he'd be swaying telling me, "don't let nobody mess with me because he'd go to jail for his kids", I would roll my eyes and say 'ain't nobody fighting me', but in my heart I knew he meant every word of what he said, and I'm forever grateful that I got to experience the feeling of always having someone to have my back no matter what. He had a big, strong heart full of life and he had a way of spreading that light to everyone around him. It was always amazing to see how he would liven up any gathering he went to and guaranteed a good time for everyone. Daddy had a way of announcing that his life is his and he was gonna live it anyway he wants to, without even saying anything, and I know he'd want others to live the same way because he was very accepting of where people were at on their life path and he offered support along the way. I know a lot of people island-wide got to experience the comfort of this unconditional, non judgmental love daddy gave and I hope he knows that the love he gave to me, I give it back times a million and when we meet again, I want to show it to him in a whole new way and I'll spread that same love while I'm living. I love you Daddy, Keke



Acknowledgments

The family takes this opportunity to thank everyone for their kind words, thoughts, and prayers during this time of bereavement. Our sincerest thanks and gratitude to King Edward VIII Memorial Hospital, John Hopkins, Augustus Funeral Home, Makayla Paul, Warwick Gombeys, CJ Rentals, and anyone who has assisted us during this unpredictable time.

Wake Location

Pier 6

24 Front St,
Hamilton, Bermuda

Entry Code: *SPRINGHILL*

**SCAN HERE FOR
ADDITIONAL TRIBUTES**



**SEND YOUR TRIBUTE TO:
LIVEWHILEYOURELIVIN@GMAIL.COM**

Thursday 22nd May 2025 at 2:00pm

Ruth Seaton James Auditorium | Cedarbridge Academy

Officiating Pastor: Jermaine “Jay” Tucker

Musicians: Owen Simons, Keyboard; Marvin Pitcher, Organ; Troy Washington, drummer