



Asante Jamal Kamau

January 4, 1982 - November 3, 2020

Asante was born in Boston, Massachusetts, to Pamela Nandi Varris and Eric Headley (aka Salim).

Asante is pre-deceased by, his grandparents Thelma and George Varris, Martha and Eric Headley, Sr. and his son Asante Jamal Kamau II who he will be joined with in burial at Oak Grove Cemetery in Springfield, MA.

He leaves behind three sons, Jeremiah Malik Kamau (18), Vernon Jamal Kamau (5) and Colossus Amir Kamau (4 mo.), his Godson Shaunari Buckhannon, his fiancé Mariah M. Colemon, five brothers: Dini Varris, Salim Kamau, Eric Headley, Isiah Headley, and Stevaughn Smith, eight sisters: Amefika Varris McDowell, Sele'Fana Kamau, Hanifa Nelson-Kamau, Crystal Haynes, Joi Headley, Aliyah Headley, Ariel Carter, Yvonne Headley, many nieces and nephews and a host of other family and friends who will forever cherish his legacy.

A walk-through visitation will be held on Thursday, November 12, 2020 from 12PM – 2PM at New England Funeral & Cremation Center, LLC, 25 Mill Street, Springfield, MA. Masks and social distancing are required. Private funeral services will be held at 2PM. Burial will take place Monday at 12PM at Oak Grove Cemetery.

Tribute Wall

CB

“ *Asante you will remain forever in our hearts.* \n*Your Aunt and Cousin.*

Cynthia Headley and Stephen Bethley - February 14, 2023 at 10:03 AM

“Asante Jamal Kamau Thank You for our Beautiful Quiet Warrior When Asante came into this world, he was the youngest of six children; this truly shaped his life and made him want to be first. Not only was he competitive, he was undeniably intelligent. His siblings would say, “Asante is the smartest” and it was true. Asante was testing at college level reading and math in elementary school.

Asante was raised in an African American family that was seriously “woke”. His mother was a co-founder of the community Kwanzaa committee in Boston and so Asante celebrated and practiced Kwanzaa from the first year of life. He was taught to revere god, respect his elders, love his family and his history.

Asante was anointed to be a powerful leader. Even as a young child, he always spoke up for others and would stand up to authority figures, whether it was the principal of the elementary school or Miss Elma Lewis, founder of the NCAAA

Asante began performing at age 3, singing and playing drums at community events in Boston, such as the welcome celebration for the honorable Nelson Mandela. His love for the arts continued throughout his adult life as he produced and performed rap music.

After settling in Springfield during his teenage years, Asante established a strong connection with people who would become lifelong friends and brothers. This bond of brotherhood was based on trust, honesty and loyalty. Their like mindedness allowed them to give back to the community through various projects and coached youth football and basketball teams. He later was introduced to the art of business and carpentry by his father and worked with the Local 108 Carpenters Union.

Asante was a gentle soul who valued his privacy. His fun loving, sense of humor had everyone in stitches. However, friends and family knew him as a natural and fierce protector of the people he loved.

Parenting was a pivotal moment in Asante’s life. He could often be found sitting and speaking with his son AJ and kept his memory alive by ensuring his younger sons knew and loved their older brother.

His connection with his four boys and Godson was solid and they truly were an inspiration to him. He frequently thought of ways to enrich their lives, encourage them to learn, grow and be the best version of

themselves they could be. \r\nAsante was inseparable from his fiancée, Mariah M. Colemon, over the last 8yrs of his life. He was her biggest cheerleader and was invested in her law studies.\r\n\r\nAsante had a way with words which would lead self-reflection if one listened.\r\n\r\nAlthough he has joined the ancestors Asante's, spirit shines brightly in our lives, always. We thank you God for our beautiful son, life partner, father, brother, nephew, uncle, cousin and friend who is our quiet warrior! His beautiful soul and energy will forever echo through everyone that was blessed to cross paths with him.\r\n\r\nAshe'

P Nandi Varris - February 14, 2023 at 10:03 AM

DT

“ *Love you more brother!!! Rest in power!!!*

Daniel Tate - February 14, 2023 at 10:03 AM

FH

“ *My Dear Nandi.\r\nOur deepest and sincere condolences from our family to yours. Peace and Blessings be upon you. Sister Fulani*

Fulani Haynes - February 14, 2023 at 10:03 AM

MB

“ *Asante Asante Asante!!!! Yes, I call your name. Yes, I acknowledge your legacy, and Yes, I am grateful that I had the opportunity to interact with your mighty spirit and the family you entered through. I promise to always salute your legacy and I promise to call your name with love, gratitude, and acknowledgement of who you are and that is Asante! \r\nlove to the family*

Mama Qasimah Boston - February 14, 2023 at 10:03 AM

LJ

“ To the Fiancee and Family of Sante, \n\nI have know him as a friend of my deceased son Smitty. Sant was Larry’s friend no matter what! Many times through his trials and tribulations he would only laugh when my son asked me to reach out to him. \n\nWhen my son got shot he brought him supplies and food daily! At the time it was amazing because he was dealing with his own struggles and my son was quick to tell me ‘mommy dont say anything to Sant’. So each time he came to visit or I was in his company I would be recall Larry’s instruction. I pray that his family can find strength in knowing that he was a good kind man. My sincere condolences. \n\nLaureen Jones (Larry & Smitty; Mom)

Laureen Jones - February 14, 2023 at 10:03 AM

MO

“ RIP .Love always

Monique - February 14, 2023 at 10:03 AM