



“Many ask where I get my constant drive from in and out of the gym — from my mom. . . . Don’t know where I would be without her. Moms has always showed up for me. Came to all my games in middle school. In High school, she sat in the rain during my football games, track meets, and watched all my basketball games. She yelled the cheers out with the cheerleaders as my sister Tina would join in with the cheerleaders. Road trips you made down to Roseburg to my college games. Came to all my Oregon bodybuilding shows and flew out to watch me win my Pro Card in Pittsburgh in 2014. The power and focus come from her. Thank you. Love you to the moon and back, Mom.” — Neal Franklin Blassingame, Jr.



In Loving Memory



Neal Franklin Blassingame Jr.

Sunrise
June 11, 1973
Portland, Oregon

Sunset
January 16, 2021
Portland, Oregon

Viewing

Thursday, January 28, 2021 from 4-6PM
Terry Family Funeral Home
2337 N. Williams Ave
Portland, Oregon 97227

To send the family personal messages of condolence, please visit Neal’s online webpage guestbook at www.terryfamilyfuneralhome.com



Neal Franklin Blassingame, Jr. was born on June 11, 1973 in Portland, Oregon to mother, Shirley Lowe and father, Neal Blassingame, Sr. (deceased). He graduated from Jefferson High School where he also served as the basketball coach in the late 2000s.

Neal was a natural born leader — at the age of 7 months, he not only learned how to climb out of his crib and walk, but he also taught the other kids how to climb out as well. This early development as a leader and helper would serve as his launchpad into his years as an athlete — track, football, and basketball. In fact, as a sophomore, he and his varsity basketball teammates traveled to Sapporo, Japan for the Junior Sports Exchange in Men’s Basketball in 1988.

His hard work, leadership, and athleticism gave him the solid foundation to create and enjoy a successful 20+ year career as a personal trainer, IFBB Pro Body Builder, and business owner.

As a trainer to top athletes nationwide, Neal specialized in strength and endurance training, which fed the popularity of his brands: Pass and Cut, #NOXCUSES, and Body by Blass (BBB). In a recent profile of him, he said: “There are no excuses to the things I want to achieve: working out, training, growing my business, etc. My brand name [#NOXCUSES] is my lifestyle and the lifestyle of so many others.”

In addition to pursuing his passion of fitness and helping others with their wellness journey, Neal enjoyed all groups of friends. For nearly 30 years, he was a part of the 833 crew — a collective of childhood and boyhood friends, all of whom considered him a brother.

Affectionately known as “Big Blass” or “Blass” by his friends, to family he was, Neal. The quiet and humble kid and adult who would light up the room with his big smile and 6’ 3” (lean or bulky) stature. He enjoyed cracking jokes and laughing, traveling to the Oregon Coast, watching his beloved Cowboys, and as a kid he enjoyed softshell taco nights with the new taco flavored Doritos, “those nights were the best,” he’d say. As an adult, whenever he took a break from his clean, healthy eating habits, he’d enjoy a slice of carrot cake — one of his favorites.

Neal is survived by his mother, Shirley Lowe; wife, Mena Kamara whom he wed in August 2011; five children: Nia Blassingame, Niles Blassingame, Kamara Blassingame, Blaise Blassingame, and Blayke Blassingame; three siblings: Ron Lincoln, LaTina Lewis, and TreNeal Blassingame; and a whole host of uncles, aunts, niece and nephew, cousins, extended family, and friends.

Preceded him in death: his father, Neal Blassingame, Sr.; brother, Nicholas “Nic” Blassingame; and step father, Lorenzo Lewis.

Neal touched the lives of many. He was adored by family, loved by friends, and a superhero to the community. Neal will be missed tremendously and his legacy of hard work, dedication, perseverance, kindness, and wisdom will remain in everyone forever.

Order of Service

Musical Prelude

“God Has Smiled on Me”
 “Love Theory”
 “Amazing Grace”
 “I Smile”
 Clergy & Family

Processional

Pastor J.W. Matt Hennessee

Welcome & Occasion

Scriptures

Old Testament Psalm 23
 Old Testament Isaiah 41:10
 New Testament John 14:1-6

Sherrelle Jackson
 LaToya Kamara
 Sherrelle Jackson

Prayer

Rev. Beverly Jackson

Musical Selection

“Eye on the Sparrow”

Obituary Reading

Tiffanie Morris

Cards & Acknowledgements

LaShanda Terry

Musical Selection

“More than I Can Bear”

Words of Encouragement

Ray Leary

Expressions & Reflections

(2 Minutes Please)

Family & Friends

Video Presentation

Eulogy

Rev. Beverly Jackson

Musical Selection

“I Believe”

Recessional

Clergy & Family

Interment will immediately follow the service at

River View Cemetery

0300 SW Taylors Ferry Road, Portland, Oregon 97219

Pallbearers

Ron Lincoln	Nate Griffin	Clarence Richmond
Canaan Chatman	Denmark Reid	Joe Rollins

Honorary Pallbearers

Niles Blassingame	Blaise Blassingame	Blayke Blassingame	Dennis Lowe
Robert Lowe	Sammuel Lowe	Essex Griffin	Sam Blassingame
TreNeal Blassingame	Brian Griffin	Kevin Lowe	Shakur Shabazz
Dominicke McCord	Tony Lowe	Ray Leary	Mitchell Jackson
			Avery Cummings