

You Never Said Goodbye

Author Unknown



You never said, "I'm leaving."

You never said, "Goodbye."

You were gone before I knew it,
And only God knows why.

A million times I needed you,
A million times I cried.

If love alone could have saved you,
You never would have died.

In life I loved you dearly,
In death I love you still.

In my heart you hold a place,
That no one could ever fill.

It broke my heart to lose you,
But you didn't go alone

For part of me went with you,
The day God took you home.

Anthony C. Gardner, Jr. (Son)



Pallbearers

Anthony C. Gardner

Trevin Gardner

Ronald L. Lobbins

Kevin Taylor, Jr.

Avion Ashawn Gardner

Kevin Gardner

Anthony A. Boyd, Sr.

Rodney Payne

Acknowledgement

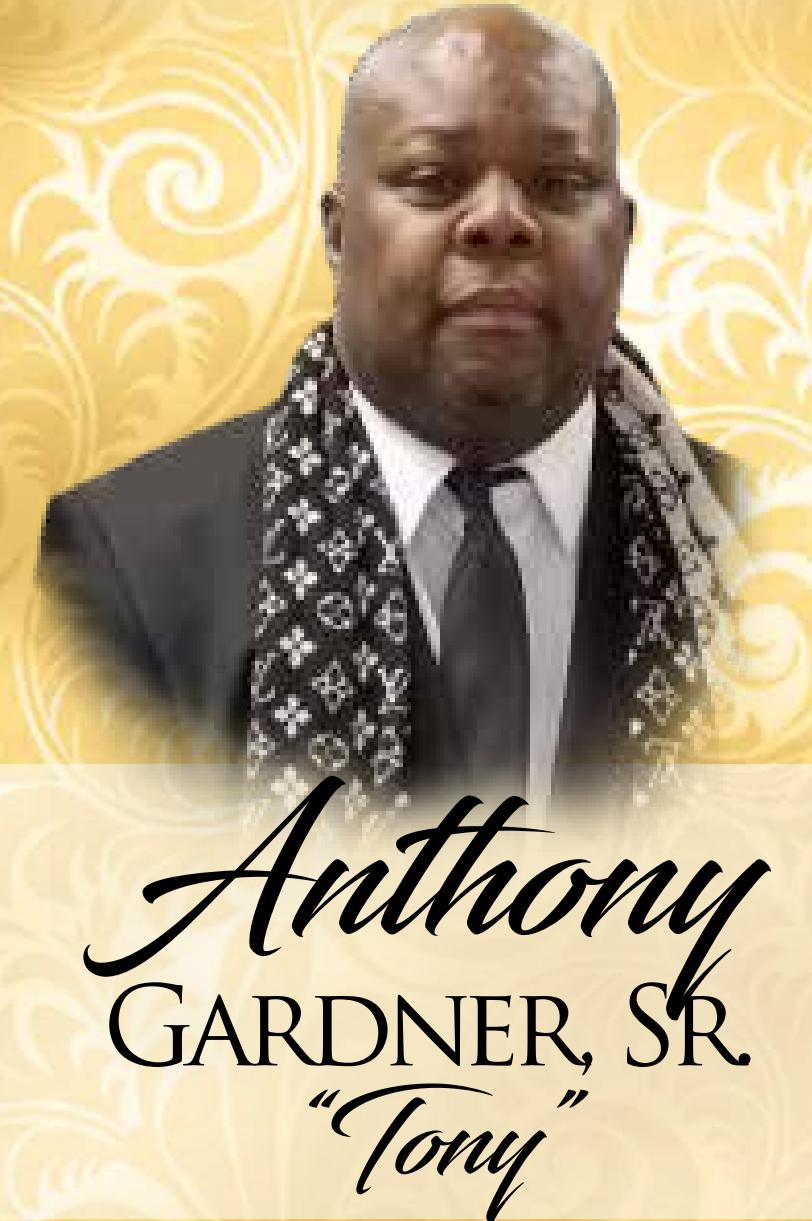
The family of Anthony "Tony" Gardner would like to express our deepest gratitude to all our friends and family for their prayers, calls, visits, meals, and expressions of kindness shown during this difficult time. Your thoughtfulness and support has been a great comfort to all of us.

Professional Services Entrusted To

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(314) 741-2444 | baumspreciousmemories.com

CELEBRATION OF LIFE



Sunrise
March 24, 1967

Sunset
October 5, 2019

Visitation: 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Celebration of Life – 12:00 p.m.
Friday, October 18, 2019

Third Presbyterian Church
9990 Lewis & Clark Blvd.
St. Louis, Missouri 63136

Rev. Cedric Portis, Host Pastor
Pastor Byron Thompson, Officiating
Lighthouse of Hope Church, Belleville, Illinois

Life Reflections

Anthony "Tony" Gardner was born in St. Louis, Missouri on March 24, 1967 to Anthony Hayes and Rose Mary Gardner. He was their oldest child. Tony accepted Christ as his personal Savior and was baptized at an early age because of the influence and teaching of his grandfather, Charlie Roberson.

Tony was educated in the St. Louis School System and attended L'Ouveture Grade School, McKinnely High School, and then graduated from Tennessee State University with a Bachelor of Science in Restaurant and Hotel Management. Tony was a man with many talents and interests which were developed as a young man at the Herbert Hoover Boys and Girls Club. He played baseball, basketball, and in the band, he played the saxophone.

Tony's first taste of restaurant management was with Maggie O'Brien's Restaurant and Irish Pub. He started at the bottom, learning all aspects of managing a restaurant and hotel working in such positions as Director of Housekeeping to restaurant management and eventually served as the general manager with hundreds of employees and owners who enjoyed working with him. He earned top awards for sales and Best Performance in Hotel Management along the way. The entrepreneur bug caught him at an early age when he had his own paper route for the St. Louis Post Dispatch. He would take his money and spoil his mother and siblings, buying them candy and other treats. He would later open and operate his own "TKO Restaurant" which was a sports bar.

His education, knowledge, and desire to help others were the perfect qualities and skill set. He would go on to work for the Chase Park Plaza, Hilton at the Arch and the Western Inn. He so enjoyed working downtown and in the sports arena until he also lived downtown in a loft across from Ballpark Village. He held a membership in the St. Louis Minority Business Council and served as a mentor, Big Brother, and role model to many.

Tony loved music, cooking, traveling, and spending time with his family and friends. He enjoyed his trip to Paris and Bora Bora. He loved the St. Louis Cardinals and the Rams when they were still here. His love of baseball and work would earn him autographed sports memorabilia from Whitey Herzog and many of the Rams, St. Louis Blues, and St. Louis Cardinal Players. He was known to be a jokester at family events, and his signature move would be to stick his finger in your plate and say, "Let me taste it and see if it's gonna be as good as mine when I get it." He was a sharp dresser and was always "Board Room Ready." Tony was a hero to his mother, who he loved and enjoyed taking care of, as well as his children and siblings, and all those he came in contact with leaving an indelible impression and endearing bond. He was loved and will be missed by all who knew him.

Tony was preceded in death by his grandparents; father, Anthony Hayes; siblings, Pamela Garth-Taylor and Julian Hayes; and two children, Antwaun Dashawn Gardner and Arerevure Rose Mary Denise Gardner.

Tony's life, memories, smile and laughter will always be remembered and cherished by: his mother, Rose Mary Gardner, whom who loved more than life; his five children whom he also loved and were his world, Ebony Nakisha, Anthony C. Jr., Avion Ashawn, Carlicia Moshay, and Alexes; four grandchildren, Rhianna, Layla, Amari, and Amaya; three siblings, Antoinette, Kimberly, and Kevin; and a host of nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends both near and far.



Order of Service

*Master of Ceremonies – Minister Carlos D. Turner
Faith Miracle Temple*

*Processional Song..... Nicole Edwards Sanders
Faith Miracle Temple*

*Scripture Minister Carlos D. Turner, Faith Miracle Temple
Old Testament Isaiah 41:10-13
New Testament John 14:1-3*

Prayer Minister Carlos Turner

Selection Sister Andrea Jackson, Faith Miracle Temple

Condolences and Acknowledgement

Remarks Family, Friends, Colleagues, and Employers

Life Reflections (Read Silently to Soft Music)

Selection..... Sister Deborah Edwards, Faith Miracle Temple

Eulogy Pastor Byron Thompson

Parting View..... Baucom's Funeral Director in Charge

Benediction

Interment

*Laurel Hill Memorial Gardens Cemetery
2000 Pennsylvania Avenue
Saint Louis, MO 63133*

*Repast immediately after Interment
The Hilton at the Arch
400 Olive Street – St. Louis, MO 63102*