



Ronald Maurice Cokes

August 14, 1953 - April 27, 2017

Ronald Maurice Gordon Cokes, 63, son of the late Ronald Maurice Gordon and Evelyn Fay Cokes, was born on August 14, 1953, in Kansas City, MO. Maurice attended the public schools of Jackson County in Kansas City Missouri; he was a graduate of Lincoln High School. Maurice was one of thirteen children. During his youth Maurice had a way with animals and had rare, unique pets, such as raccoons, rabbits, and snakes. Everyone that came to the family home would say where is “Baybay.” He was raised in a Holiness Pentecostal church, where his grandmother was a preacher, she prayed over all of his siblings all the time. Maurice took care of seven of his younger siblings until he enlisted in the United States Navy at the age of 16 where he worked for 25 years. He then transferred and worked as a Longshoreman for 20 years. He also worked as a SIU Representative for the Seafarers’ International Union in Norfolk, VA. He served the military as a union rep on the local military bases in Virginia and the Inland Waters District Union for North America Bases. He was a dedicated worker until he retired. After retirement, he continued to work with the Sealift Command until unfortunate circumstances befell him.

Maurice joyfully welcomed the birth of his first child, April Gordon, in 1975. He was later united in holy matrimony to Priscilla Faulk in 1978 and from this union they were blessed with two sons, Kareem and Eric Cokes. Maurice loved little children and could quite often be found jokingly offering people

money to buy their children. He purchased lollipops and kept them readily available at his job, so that he would always have something for the children who were accompanied by their parents. Maurice was a very giving person and has lived his life to be a loving son to his parents, a good brother to his siblings, a great provider, loving father to his children and grandchildren; and a terrific friend. Maurice quietly departed this life on Thursday, April 27, 2017.

Maurice's beautiful life will forever be cherished by the lives of his 3 children April Gordon, Kareem Cokes, Eric Cokes, and daughter-in-law Andrea Cokes; seven grandchildren; one great-grandchild. He was preceded in death by his siblings Donald Gordon, Ralph Gordon, Grover Cokes, and Rene Cokes. He is survived by other siblings Andre Cokes, Kevin Cokes, Rita Cokes, Regina Cokes, Renita Pitts, Jennifer Harden (Craig), Teresa Smith (Scott), and Chonia Sanderson and a host of devoted nieces, nephews, cousins, uncles, aunts, and friends.

The families of Ronald Maurice Cokes wish to thank all who have who have given their support during this time.

Cemetery Details

ABAC

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 6. 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM (PT)

McGee Avenue Baptist Church
1640 Stuart Avenue
Berkeley, CA

Service

MAY 6. 2:30 PM (PT)

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