



Acknowledgements

“The family wishes to express our sincere appreciation for your prayers, cards, flowers and condolences.”

A special thank you to Rev. Frank and Saxophone Babe, Marquette Ware, Marc and Valencia Gresham, A.H. Parker High, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc in FAMU Marching 100 and the Soulful Saxes

MATTHEW 11:28 NIV

“COME TO ME, ALL YOU WHO ARE WEARY AND BURDENED, AND I WILL GIVE YOU REST. TAKE MY YOKE UPON YOU AND LEARN FROM ME, FOR I AM GENTLE AND HUMBLE IN HEART, AND YOU WILL FIND REST FOR YOUR SOULS.”



Repast

DK's Entertainment
801 4th Ave. North
Birmingham, Alabama 35203

The Final Tribute. A Service by:
LAURYN THOMAS, Licensed Funeral Director
THOMPSON, HALL and JORDAN FUNERAL HOME
 11400 Winton Road • Cincinnati, OH 45240 • (513) 742-3600
Professionally Designed By: THJ Media Department



HARDY “RUSTY” Matthews III

August 3, 1962

November 2, 2025



Friday, November 21, 2025

Gathering: 2:00 P.M. - Memorial Service: 2:30 P.M.

Thompson Hall & Jordan Funeral Home

11400 Winton Rd.
 Cincinnati, Ohio 45240

Sunday, November 30, 2025

3:00P.M.

DK's Entertainment
801 4th Ave. North
Birmingham, Alabama 35203

His Life Reflections

Hardy Matthews III, affectionately known as “Rusty,” passed away peacefully on Sunday, November 2, 2025.

Born and raised in Birmingham, Alabama, Rusty attended Birmingham public schools, including Holy Family Elementary, Wilkerson Elementary, and A.H. Parker High School. He went on to earn a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from Florida A&M University (FAMU), where he proudly played the saxophone as a member of the world-renowned Marching 100.

A longtime Noble Mason of Geometry Lodge #410 in Birmingham, Rusty carried himself with integrity, discipline, and purpose. After graduation, he began his professional career as an Electrical Engineer with U.S. Steel Corporation in Fairfield, Alabama, where he worked for over 15 years. His expertise and dedication led him to A.K. Steel in Middletown, Ohio, where he established deep roots in the Cincinnati area. Most recently, Rusty was employed with Garden Alive Corporation in Fairfield, Ohio, where he was admired and loved by his colleagues for his intelligence, kindness, and uplifting spirit.

Known for his infectious laughter and magnetic personality, Rusty was truly the life of every gathering—always ready with a joke, a story, or a song to lift the spirits of those around him. His joy for life, his humor, and his genuine love for people left a lasting impression on everyone he met.

He leaves to cherish his memory his former wife of 26 years, Patrice Finley Matthews; his children, Hardy Matthews IV (Adrian), Livingston Lemorie Matthews (Audreanna), and Lauren Olivia Matthews; and his beloved grandchildren, Hardy Matthews V, Aaliyah, Azul, and Akira Matthews. He is also survived by a host of nieces and nephews; his close cousin, Marc (Valencia) Gresham; and many extended family members, friends, and loved ones who will forever miss him.

Rusty now joins in eternal peace his parents, Gloria Durr and Hardy Matthews II, and his sisters, Freida Lynn Hall and Dani Joyce Watkins.

Rusty’s vibrant spirit, laughter, and love for family and music will continue to live on in the hearts of all who were blessed to know him.

Rest in peace, Rusty—The G.O.A.T.



Order of Service

PRAYER

Rev. Frank Sloan Indianapolis, Indiana

Cincinnati Service

Rev. Derrick Bester

Birmingham Service

MUSICAL SELECTION

Saxophone-Z Babe

Birmingham Service

VIDEO SELECTION

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

SILENT READING OF THE OBITUARY

LIFE REFLECTIONS FRIENDS & FAMILY

Please Keep to a 2 Minute Limit*

EULOGY

Rev. Frank Sloan

Cincinnati Service

Rev. Derrick Bester

Birmingham Service

BENEDICTION

