



**In Loving Memory of  
My Dear Son Rico,**

*The day you came into my life, my world was forever changed. Your laughter, your smile, and your loving heart brought so much joy to everyone around you. You were a source of light and happiness, and your absence is felt deeply every day. Rico, you were taken from us too soon, but your memory will forever live on in our hearts. You had a spirit that was vibrant and contagious, and your energy touched the lives of all who knew you. I want to honor your life by remembering the beautiful moments we shared together. The times we laughed until our stomachs hurt, the adventures we embarked on, and the love we shared unconditionally. You had a zest for life that inspired us. To keep your memory alive, we will strive to embody the qualities that made you so special – your kindness, compassion, and unwavering love for others. We will remember your infectious laughter and carry it with us even in our darkest moments. But most importantly, Rico, we will hold onto the lessons you taught us about life. You reminded us to seize every moment, to live with gratitude, and to cherish the ones we love. Your passing has taught us the fragility of life and to never take a single day for granted. As your mother, I promise to keep your memory alive, to share stories of your remarkable character, and to honor the beautiful soul you were. You will forever be a part of my heart, my thoughts, and my actions. Rest peacefully, my precious Rico. Your strength and spirit will continue to guide us and remind us of the power of love. With eternal love,  
Your Devoted Mother*

The family would like to welcome you to join them for the repast at:  
Vintage Special Event Center  
980 Industry Dr.  
Savannah, GA 31415

**MEMORIES OF MY BROTHER**

*How well I do remember  
All the special times we had  
As we were raised side by side  
Sharing good times, sharing bad.*

*Sometimes we would disagree  
But always made up in the end  
But as we grew to be adults  
We became the best of friends.*

*Then you heard the voice of Jesus  
Gently calling from on high  
He was holding out His loving arms*

*But I could not say "goodbye."  
So I said "see you later"  
Dear brother, wait for me  
In the beauty of God's Heaven  
Where the best is yet to be.*

Services entrusted to



510 Stephenson Ave.  
Savannah, GA 31405  
(912) 354-6260

Programs by:  
A. Washington Co.  
912.713.6663

**CELEBRATION OF**  
*Life*

**Rico**  
**GORDON, SR.**

August 5, 1987 — November 12, 2023

Sunday, November 19, 2023 | 2:00 PM

**THE ADAMS FUNERAL HOME CHAPEL**  
510 Stephenson Avenue • Savannah, GA 31405

# Obituary

Rico John LaGrond Gordon Sr., a gift from God, was born on August 5, 1987 in Savannah, Georgia. As Jesus cracked the sky, he made a powerful entry into what we now know as "The Earth"! His loving and proud parents, Zella Heyward and Ellis Gordon, welcomed him with open arms and hearts filled with joy. He was married to Priscilla Small for nine years and he has three beautiful children.

Rico received his education in the Chatham County School System where he graduated from Sol C. Johnson High School. Rico was a special gift to his family and the community. He served his community through volunteering with Black Lives Matter organizing the "Hear Me Now!" march for equality on Tybee Island, assisted with the political campaigns for politicians within the city, fed the homeless, and supported the back-to-school supplies drive for the students of Chatham County. He was also a member of the Sons of Legion Savannah Chapter.

When he was not serving the community, he spent quality time with his family. He loved rapping and he was a grill master with his famous "Rico Sauce". He was a beloved member of the Sey Hey team where he was known as the life of the party and DJ Walk-Out.

He was preceded in death by his brother, Larry Smith and Brother-in-law, grandparents, Edward Heyward, Rosalie Heyward, Bessie Scott, and John Reed.

Rico leaves a piece of his heart to be forever cherished to his wife: Priscilla Gordon; beautiful children: Ja'Mya Polite, Rico (RJ) Gordon, Jr., and Madison Gordon; Mother: Zella Heyward; Father: Ellis Gordon; In-laws: Angela Small and William Small, Jr.; Siblings: Ra Vaics Gordon, Sr. (Jonetta), Tanisha Small, Laquinta Small, Angela Small, William Small, Jr. Tanisha Small, Laquinta Small, and Will Small; Nephews: Ra Vacis "Spooogie" and William Small IV; Niece: Isabella Gordon; Aunts: Davezella Young(Marty), Carolyn Heyward-Bynes; Uncles: Edward Heyward, Jr., Otis Ford (Brenda) Gary Heyward (Latisha), Ricky Frazier (Lai) and a host of cousins and friends.



## Psalm 23

The Lord is my *shepherd*;  
I shall not want.  
He *maketh* me  
to lie down  
in green pastures;  
he *leadeth* me  
beside still waters.  
He *restoreth* my soul;  
he *leadeth* me  
in the paths of  
righteousness for  
His name's sake.  
Yea, though I walk  
through the valley  
of the shadow of death,  
**I will fear no evil;**  
for thou art with me.  
Thy *rod* and thy *staff*  
they *comfort* me.  
Thou *preparest*  
a table before me  
in the presence  
of mine enemies;  
thou *anointest*  
my head with oil;  
my cup runneth over.  
Surely **goodness** and  
**mercy** shall follow me  
all the days of my life;  
and I *will dwell*  
in the house of the Lord  
❧ **FOREVER.** ❧



## Order of Service

**PRESIDING**  
Dr. Rosa Smith

**PROCESSIONAL**  
Heyward/Gordon/Small  
Families

**MUSICAL TRIBUTE**  
Lawrence Harris Jr.

**SCRIPTURE READING**  
Old & New Testament  
Pastor Kinlaw

**SPECIAL TRIBUTE  
FROM COUSINS**

**REFLECTIONS**  
Jason Allen  
Tonya Slay  
O'Ronde Johnson

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**  
Amber Heyward

**SERMONIC SELECTION**  
Lawrence Harris

**EULOGY**  
Randolph Bynes II

**RECESSIONAL**

### Acknowledgements

The family wishes to take this moment to express our sincere thanks and heartfelt appreciation for the many acts of kindness shown during this most difficult time. May God Bless and Keep each of you always.

**SPECIAL THANKS TO:**  
Sey Hey Management & Staff and  
Vintage Special Event Center