

Expressions of Gratitude

Thank you to all who donated to Juan Pickens Memorial -

Carole Pickens, Jill Smith, Judith Grinston, Jeriene Pickens, Jeannine Shippen, Janae Pickens, Troy Shippen Jr., Paula Goins, Shelia Smith, Nicole Pickens, Jeanna Overstreet, NeTaki Wolfe, Janette Pickens, Joyce Pickens, Lauren Poindexter, Kathy Kokoruda, McGary Grinston, Jacqueline King, Monica Goins, Jeff Stickler, Shamika Lewis, Ken Brown, Renee Munnerlyn-Goodwin, Manuel Pantoja Jr., Paul Magdaleno, Alexis Diaz, Christopher Santos, Yesenia Guillen, Ashley Fey, Jodi Morton, Hiram Gore, Kelly Reese-McCall, Andre Owens, Marquiel Archibald, Joy Cross, Paul Goins, Joyce Parry, Crystal Roberts, Eva Martin, Vanessa Skuter and Larry Grinston.

Pallbearers

Friends & Family

My Dearest Dad

The weight of the words I want to convey feels immeasurable. You left us on that fateful day, 10/11/23, at the young age of 61. The loss we feel is profound, and the emptiness in our hearts is something we grapple with every day. But it's essential for me to express not only the sorrow of your absence but also the deep love and appreciation we have for you.

Your love for us, your dedication to your roles as a father, husband, and grandparent, and your incredible work ethic were nothing short of inspirational. You gave us the best of yourself, and for that, we are eternally grateful. Your laughter, your kindness, and your endless patience, even in the face of adversity, will forever be a memory in our hearts.

We miss you more than words can express, and there's a void in our lives that can never truly be filled. But in this moment, I also want to say something important: we forgive you. We forgive you for any imperfections or mistakes, as we recognize that you were only human, just like all of us. We understand that life can be complicated and that we all have our struggles. Your love and the joy you brought into our lives outweigh any of the shortcomings. Forgiveness is a gift we give not only to you but also to ourselves, as it allows us to heal and remember you with love and gratitude.

You may not be physically present with us now, but your spirit and the memories we shared continue to inspire us every day. Your legacy lives on in our hearts, in the lessons you taught us, and in the love that still surrounds us. You will always be a part of our lives, and we promise to honor your memory by living the best lives we can, just as you would want us to. Dad, we love you, and we miss you profoundly. Your absence is a pain we will carry, but the love you left behind is a light that will forever guide us.

With all our love and with forgiveness in our hearts,

Your daughter,

Ju Juan

To offer condolences to The **Pickens** Family,
visit www.TheChapelofPeace.com

11.8.23

In Loving Memory Of **Juan Pickens**

11.22.1961 - 10.11.2023



Marlan J. Gary Funeral Home
Chapel of Peace East
5456 E. Livingston Ave.,
Columbus, OH 43232

Visitation: 1:00pm
Service: 2:00pm

Obituary

Juan McGary Pickens, aged 61, unexpectedly passed away on Wednesday, October 11, 2023, in Columbus, Ohio. He was born to Janet Lorraine Pickens and Jimmy Allen on November 22, 1961, also in Columbus, Ohio.

Juan proudly served in the Army from 1981 to 1985, completing his Basic Training and AIT with a specialization in Artillery/Weapons Supply Specialist at Fort Jackson, South Carolina. Subsequently, he was stationed at Ft. Hood, Houston, Texas, where he earned his diploma. During this time, his Aunt Jeannine was also stationed at Ft. Sam, Houston, Texas, and Juan would often spend weekends with her, as she had her own apartment off base. Juan's military service also took him overseas, allowing him to explore various parts of the world.

He spent 39 years with the love of his life, June Ann Williams, whom he first met in 1984, during a brief visit home while in the service. In their youth, they attended June's Prom and Homecoming, enjoyed concerts, and later relocated to California to raise their children together.

Juan had a deep love for spending time with family and friends, particularly enjoying games like spades and bones. Juan worked as a chef at various restaurants and took pleasure in cooking and grilling at home. His specialty was his mother's famous "Goulash" recipe, always served with a side of cold applesauce. He earned the title of "Grill Master" for his exceptional grilling skills.

In his leisure time, Juan was an enthusiast of pool and racketball and an avid supporter of the OSU Buckeyes. His ultimate source of pride and joy were his daughters, JuJuan and LeKea; his son, Juan Jr (JJ); and his grandchildren.

Juan was preceded in death by his mother, Janet Lorraine Abercrombie; father, Jimmy Allen; maternal grandparents, Gertrude Jeanette Pickens and James Pritchard Pickens; maternal great-grandparents, Ellen Lucille Mathias and McGary Williams; paternal great-grandparents, Murdie King and Pritchard Pickens; uncle, James Pickens; and cousins, Jajuanna Lynn Pickens, Christopher David Overstreet Jr., and Jeffery Owens.

Juan is survived by his lifelong partner, June Ann Williams; his daughters, JuJuan Renee Brown and LaKea Farrell; his son, Juan McGary Pickens, Jr.; his sisters, Jill (Michael) Smith and Joy Cross; his brother, Timothy Jerome (Becky) Porter; aunts, Judy Grinston, Joyce Pickens, Jackie (Stanley) Brookins, Jeannine Shippen, Jodi (Timothy) Morton, Janetta Pickens, J. Renee (Robert) Goodwin, Jeriene Pickens; and a special aunt, Carol Pickens. He is also survived by numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins, and a wide circle of friends.

Order of Service

ORGAN PRELUDE The Chapel of Peace Music Ministry

PARTING VIEW Immediate Family

SCRIPTURE READING Elder Brenda Talley
Old Testament.....
New Testament.....

PRAYER Elder Brenda Talley

MUSIC OF COMFORT The Chapel of Peace Music Ministry

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS..... Elder Brenda Talley

REMARKS JuJuan Brown, Family and Friends (2 mins. Please)

READING OF OBITUARY Read Silently

MUSIC OF COMFORT The Chapel of Peace Music Ministry

The Eulogy

Elder Brenda Talley

BENEDICTION Elder Brenda Talley

RECESSIONAL Clergy, Family, and Friends