

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF "ROCK"



Roderick
LARAYMOND RUSSELL, SR.

SUNRISE: OCTOBER 19, 1974

SUNSET: MAY 23, 2022

SATURDAY, JUNE 4, 2022 • 2:00 P.M.

MT. ZION EAST
MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH CEMETERY
Stillwaters Drive • Dadeville, AL 36853

REVEREND JIMMY THOMAS, PASTOR,
REVEREND KIMANO HARRIS, OFFICIATING

- *Pallbearers* -
Family and Friends

- *Flower Bearers* -
Family and Friends

- *Acknowledgment* -

The family of the late Mr. Roderick Laraymond Russell, Sr. acknowledges with grateful appreciation all acts of kindness, prayers, cards, telephone calls, flowers and words of comfort extended to us during our time of bereavement. May God bless you all.

IN MEMORIAM

May we take this opportunity to express sincere and deep appreciation for allowing us to serve you during this most difficult period. It is our constant aim to afford to the people of this community a service completed in all details and faultlessly executed with sympathy and understanding.

Final Arrangements Entrusted to:

 *Harris Funeral Home*
Sympathetic, Courteous & Professional Service
515 South Sixth Street
Opelika, Alabama 36801
(334) 749-6583 Fax (334) 749-6587
www.harrisfuneralhomeinc.com



- The Obituary -

Mr. Roderick Laraymond Russell, Sr., son of Mr. Larry Finley and the late Mrs. Linda Russell Paradise, was born October 19, 1974, in Camp Hill, Alabama.

At an early age, he confessed Christ and united with Mount Zion East Missionary Baptist Church in Dadeville, Alabama. He later joined The Lord's House in Conyers, Georgia.

"Rock" as he was affectionately known, had a passion for sports and football was the sport he loved the most. In high school he started three years as fullback and tailback as number 29. He rushed for 1,311 yards and scored 16 touchdowns his senior year. He was chosen as player of the year by the Opelika/Auburn News and the most valuable player by the Opelika/Auburn Touchdown Club. In 1992, he was one of two high school players selected from Opelika to play in the Alabama vs Mississippi All-Star Game. That same year the Alabama High School Athletic Association honored him as an All-State Player. He was a big reason the Bulldogs won the Class 6A Region 5 Championship that year. He graduated from Opelika High School in 1993. Roderick then played for Georgia Southern from 1993 to 1998. He started as fullback his junior and senior years. While there he was an All-Star and a 1997 honors candidate at the National I-AA and Southern Conference Level. In 2000, Roderick graduated from Georgia Southern with a Bachelor of Education Degree with an emphasis in Health and Physical Education. He used his degree to teach and coach middle and high school students. He spent most of his teaching career at Tucker High School.

Roderick loved God, his children, family, friends, football, and the ladies. He will be missed by all who knew him.

On Monday, May 23, 2022, he departed this life at Emory St. Joseph's Hospital in Atlanta, Georgia.

He leaves to cherish his memory: five children, Za'leria Barrow, Tamara Floyd both of Opelika, AL, Roderick Laraymond Russell, Jr., Emmanuel Russell of Locust Grove, GA and Hanna Russell of Marietta, GA; two grandchildren, Madison Trammell and Phaith Pearson; father, Larry (Dique) Finley of Marietta, GA; one sister, Chaka (Antheus) Dawson of Opelika; one aunt, Brenda Turner of Atlanta, GA; two uncles, Abraham Turner and Ricky Turner both of Atlanta, GA; one nephew, Amari' Dawson of Opelika, AL; fiancé', Katrina Curtis of Fairburn, GA; devoted friend, Timothy Thomas of Union City, GA and a host of cousins, other relatives and friends.

- The Order of Service -

SCRIPTURE READINGS:
Old and New Testament

PRAYER OF COMFORT

MUSICAL SELECTION

EULOGY
Reverend Kimano Harris

COMMITTAL

BENEDICTION

- I Am Always With You -

When I am gone, release me let me go.
I have so many things to see and do.
You mustn't tie yourself to me with tears.
Be happy that we had so many years.

I gave you my love and you can only guess,
How much you gave me in happiness.
I thank you for the love you each have shown.
But now it's time I traveled alone.

So, grieve awhile for me, if grieve you must.
Then let your grief be comforted by trust.
It's only for a while that we must part.
So, bless the memories within your heart.

I won't be far away, for life goes on.
So, if you need me, call and I will come,
Though you can't see or touch me, I'll be near,
And if you listen with your heart, you'll hear
All my love around you, soft and clear.

And then, when you must come this way alone,
I'll greet you with a smile and say, Welcome Home!