

## A Letter To My Son

It was a joyful experience the day I cut your umbilical cord. Juanita and I were blessed with a healthy baby boy that was made from the love we shared for each other.

You were 7lbs at birth and grew at an average rate for several years. By the age of nine, it seems like overnight, you grew 4 inches in every direction. You had this great big growth spurt right before our eyes.

Even as you would go to Briar Pond, Alabama for your summer stay with family, we had to go and buy you a whole new wardrobe. I didn't expect that big of a change in your growth but it appears that was just the beginning. From then on, you kept growing and growing!

I loved the father and son time we spent together when I would take you to the swimming pool in the evening after I got off work. I enjoyed watching you play and interact with the other children. You never met a stranger and always had the ability to make friends wherever you went.

One of my proudest days was the day you walked across that stage as you graduated from Jarvis Christian College. I admired your determination. When you made up your mind you wanted to do something, you did it. You put college on pause while you pursued another passion and completed a course at Belma-B's Braiding Academy.

Another one of my proudest moment was the birth of John-Luke. You gave the gift that keeps giving. I loved the joy that it brought your mother; having a grandson that she felt the sun rose and set because of him. I saw the mellow, easy going, and positive spirit you had. I am proud to be your father and proud of the father you were to your son!

I know you are whole again with no more suffering and no more pain. You did well my son and I will truly miss you. You're with your mother, resting, and waiting on the return of Christ. Rest easy my son.

- Much Love, Dad



## Acknowledgements

This has been a very difficult time for our family. However, because of the outpouring of love, support, prayers, text messages, phone calls, visits, cards, flowers, social media posts, and all expressions of kindness shown to us during this season, we will survive. We deeply appreciate all that you have done. We are humbled and we feel the love. Thank you so much for caring for us. It is appreciated. Please continue to remember us in your prayers as we remember you in ours.

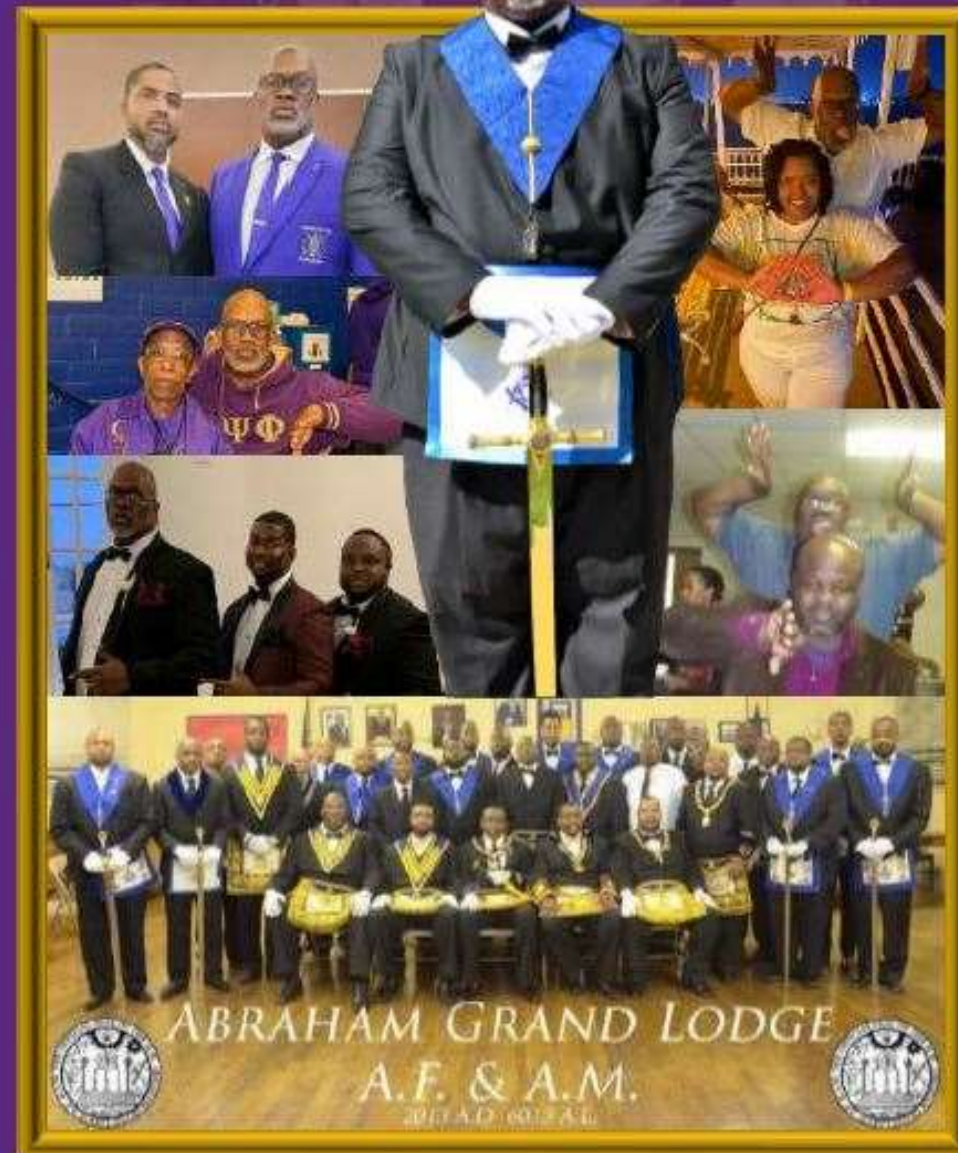
- The Family of Jaffar Marshall Milledge

## Active Pallbearers

Marcus Franklin - Dr. Damian Greer - Dwayne Johnson - Donovan Jones  
George Lewis IV - Kendall Moore - Michael Smith - Colby Walker

## Honorary Pallbearers

Michael "Fuzzy" Crittended - Edward Ford - Charlie Hudson, III  
John-Luke Milledge - Willie Charles Smith, III - Joseph Washington



ABRAHAM GRAND LODGE  
A.F. & A.M.  
2017 A.D. - 6017 A.L.

# Jaffar Marshall

# MILLEDGE



# Jaffar Marshall Milledge

Saturday, May 4, 2024 | Eleven O'clock in the Morning

## Church Without Walls

5725 Queenston Boulevard | Houston, Texas 77084

DR. RALPH D. WEST, SR.  
Host Pastor

MINISTER KUAN MICHELL  
Eulogist

## Order of Worship

**Processional** Clergy and Family

### Final Glimpse Until Glory

**Solo** DR. WILLIAM MILLEDGE JR.

**Old Testament** REV. CLARENCE WHITE

**New Testament** MS. RASHIDA PETERSON

**Prayer** MR. TERRY GORDON

**Solo** MS. LAURA HORACE  
*I Go To The Rock*

**Resolutions** MS. CHANDRA WEBB  
*The Church Without Walls  
Jarvis Christian University  
Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.  
Pride of Texas Lodge #7  
Acknowledgement of Others*

**Expressions** MS. DETRA BURNSIDE  
*Educational Colleague*  
YOLANDA DUZANSON  
*As A Friend*  
SAM SYLK  
*Behalf of the Marshall Family*  
SAMUEL L. MILLEDGE II  
*Behalf of the Milledge Family*

**Solo** DR. TARANA WARFIELD  
*Take Me To The King*

**The WORD of Comfort** MIN. KUAN MITCHELL

**Recessional**



## Reflections of My Dad... The Greatest!!!



My dad was such a cool guy that so many people loved and respected. There are so many great memories and times that all of us shared that there is no way that I can tell them all. Well, let me start at the beginning. On Monday, June 13, 1977, at 2:18 PM my dad entered this world at Lovelace Hospital in Albuquerque, New Mexico. My grandparents, Emanuel & Juanita Milledge were the proud parents of their bouncing baby boy. Granddad even cut the umbilical cord. I'm told that Dad was a bright and energetic child. I smiled when they told me that dad was a sharp dresser even as a child. That was my dad, he always dressed nicely! Aunt Melita said that he was a very loving big brother who always built things for her to do. She recalled him building a tent in the house for her to play in as well as a scary house in the closet for her. How cool was that. They said that Dad always kept some types of animals from hamsters to fish, he loved pets and growing things.



Dad was active in school, from student council to leading pep rally's where he would hype up the student body at Trinity High School. The school even had a "Jaffar Day" in his honor.



In high school Dad's leadership skills were obvious. He was also the captain of the Drill Team at Greater Cornerstone Baptist Church in Dallas and a manager at the Rex Center in Euless, Texas. Dad graduated from Trinity in 1995. Following graduation he was introduced to Jarvis Christian College in Hawkins, Texas where he went to the Upward Bound Program. At Jarvis he flourished. He was an active member of the choir, and yes, Dad could sing! He was a part of the Mellow Fellows Social Club. He pledged and became an active part of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Dad was also the first "Mr. Jarvis Christian College" in the history of the university.

It was at Jarvis that Dad met my mom, Sheree Jones. They got married in 2000 and I was introduced to this world in 2004. I'm told that my grandparents took over 100 pictures of me that day. Dad and Mom were so proud of me. Although Dad and Mom decided this was not the best for them, they both continued to show me unconditional love.



Dad was an awesome educator! Students and colleagues enjoyed his enthusiasm, ability to reach and teach students, collaboration with other teachers, dedication, classroom management, and overall teaching skills. There are people who still remark about his ability to connect with the students at Shady Dale Elementary School where he was a music teacher and a remarkable Drum Corps Director. From there he taught math and science at Cook Elementary in the Houston ISD as well as Frazier Elementary in Cypress-Fairbanks ISD, and he was a Math Interventionalist Specialist at Jowell Elementary.

Dad's passion for people and service to the community was unmatched. There were so many times that he pulled me out of the bed to go to a community event where we could serve others. Although I normally would have much rather been sleeping, Dad instilled in me the desire to serve others, especially those who were underprivileged and overlooked. He also had a passion to provide a positive role model to young black boys.

Dad not only served others, but his ultimate goal was to serve God. It started when he was baptized at 6 years old at New Hope in Albuquerque, New Mexico. It continued at Greater Cornerstone Baptist Church in Dallas, Faith Family Church in New Carney, Texas, Grace Church of Humble and lastly Church Without Walls in Houston, Texas.

Dad was an active member of several organizations which included the Omegas, the Masons – Pride of Texas Lodge #7, Positive Black Males Association (PBMA), The Boy Scouts, as well as Jarvis Christian University Houston Alumni Chapter.

I never questioned if my dad loved me. He supported me in everything regardless of his personal option or thoughts. He taught me what integrity meant and looked like. For example, I recall one day when I was small Dad promised me that we were going to go to the movies. As we sat at the table and ate it was getting later and later and I thought he was going to back out. I started crying and Dad asked me why I was upset. I told him that it was because we weren't going to the movies. Dad was just waiting for me to finish eating... after all, if he promised it, he was going to do everything he could to come through. We went to see The Lego Movie! Dad showed me in that moment that living with integrity meant being a man of your word. Needless to say, that there were so many times following that moment that Dad showed me what living with integrity, honesty, and transparency meant, what being a man meant and looked like, and how important it was to provide for your family and to serve others. Throughout life he repeatedly instilled in me principles and core values that he lived and stood by that made him "The Greatest".



Even as Dad battled a very rare and aggressive cancer, he still taught me much. He showed me what strength looked like and the power of a fighting spirit. He showed me what it was like not to give up or give in even in the face of harsh and overwhelming odds. He showed me what faith in God looked like and really meant. That solidified for me that yep, my dad was "The Greatest".

On Tuesday night, April 23, 2024, Dad gained his wings. There are so many things that I and all of us will miss. We will miss his great sense of humor, his eye for fashion and style, the way he worded and reworded phrases, the long and engaging conversations, the way he could light up a room when walking in, the way he could 'cut a rug' on the dance floor at weddings, banquets, parties or get-togethers, him 'strutting' and his love for a good step show, the over-the-top way he would decorate his classroom bulletin board, the hundreds of professional pictures he would make us take and the way he cherished them, the smell of his cologne, to him just being himself and insisting that we not give into the opinions of others but to keep moving forward. I and we will miss him, however at the same time there are so many things that I learned from him and for that I'm grateful to God for allowing him to be my dad.

These are just some of the reflections that I, John-Luke Milledge, have of my father. Those who will often reflect on these and other precious memories also include his father, Emanuel Milledge; siblings, Andres Milledge and Melita Pryor as well as a host of family, loved ones, fraternity brothers, colleagues and students, former class mates, friends and acquaintances. It is in times like these that we remember those who went before Dad including his mother, Juanita Marshall-Milledge.

