



Mr. Herman Keels Jr.

October 9, 1969 - June 15, 2026

Herman James Keels Jr. was born on October 9, 1969, in Charleston, South Carolina, to Herman James Keels Sr. and the late Sara Ann Grant. He was raised in Oxon Hill, Maryland, and spent several summers as an adolescent with extended family in Dale City, Virginia. Herman attended Potomac High School in Oxon Hill, Maryland, spent his sophomore year at Gar-Field Senior High School in Woodbridge, Virginia, and returned to Potomac High School, where he earned his diploma. From an early age Herman was drawn to sports. He later developed a profound interest in music and became a talented multi-instrumentalist, particularly skilled at the guitar. His passion for music led him to join a recording band that secured a national recording contract with a major record label, a noteworthy achievement for anyone, but particularly for a person who had yet to reach their 21st birthday.

In time, Herman would step away from the music business and begin a career in hospitality. He would eventually meet Lisa Walker, and together they became the proud parents of Julian Keels, whom he loved unconditionally. Herman spent much of his more than thirty-year hospitality career at Crystal Place Apartments in Arlington, Virginia, where he served as the evening concierge. There, he earned the respect of residents and colleagues alike and was deeply appreciated and loved by many. His presence was so meaningful that he became affectionately known as “The Heart of Crystal Place.” As a testament to his strong work ethic, Herman also regularly worked part-time

conciierge positions at various apartment buildings in the surrounding area, further cementing his legacy not only at Crystal Place Apartments but throughout the Crystal City community.

Herman was a beautiful soul, who possessed a smile that could light up a room. He was caring, funny, reflective, introspective, and at times, wonderfully whimsical. Those who had the privilege of knowing him were truly blessed. Herman James Keels Jr., affectionately known as “Boo” to family, was one of a kind, and will forever live in the hearts of many. His impact will be felt for years to come, and he will be deeply missed.

Herman was predeceased by his beloved mother, Sara Ann Pendleton.

Herman leaves behind; his father, Herman Keels Sr. (Angelique “Angie”), his son, Julian Keels, his sister, RaShon Spencer, his brother, Antoine Keels (Christina), two uncles, two aunts and a host of cousins, nieces, nephews and friends.

Upcoming Events

Visitation

JUN **30**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (est)

J.B. Jenkins Funeral Home
7474 Landover Road
Hyattsville, MD 20785
(301) 322-2300
jbjenkins@jbjfh.com
<http://JBJenkinsFuneralHome.com>

Service

JUN **30**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (est)

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