

# IN THE NEWS

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## Celebration of Life for Anthony Carter

A Celebration of the Life of Chattanooga's Anthony "Tonee" Carter, stage name (Tonee Valentine) was held Saturday afternoon at Hope City Church on Brainerd Road. The beloved and talented pianist was known to light up a room with his jovial personality whether he was performing or hanging out with friends. A Celebration of Life service was previously held last week in Atlanta where he resided and was attended by many, many professional entertainers and friends at Piedmont Park.

Anthony "Tonee" Laroie Carter was born in Chattanooga, Tennessee to Louise Calhoun and George Carter. Tonee began playing piano at the age of 5. Encouraged by his father to pursue his passion, he landed his first paying gig at the age of 16.

He was a graduate of Brainerd High School and went on to major in music at Tennessee State University in Nashville. This is where he honed his musical skills and learned the fine art of entertaining others. Following in the footsteps of his gifted composer and conductor uncle, Roland Carter, he began his professional career at the age of 20 and enjoyed entertaining audiences from pubs and cafes to five-star restaurants and luxury hotels. Tonee cruised the world's oceans as a featured entertainer on several cruise lines, and, was fortunate enough to visit over 87 countries during his 11 years at sea. His passion and smile were magnetic, and his talent...obvious!

For the last 13 years, Tonee had been a faithful member of the music program at the Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport. He enjoyed being part of a team of gifted entertainers and musicians. He had the honor of serving as a source of hope and inspiration to all that he met and played for. It's safe to say that during his lifetime, he impacted the lives of thousands of people and families from all over the world.

His God-given gift was undeniable! His belief in Christ and knowing who his gift came from shined through every time he placed his fingers on those keys. His legacy of music, laughter, and love lives on in the hearts and minds of his family and all who loved him.

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*Lifelong Friends of Carter Express Their Love and Memories with Word and Song*



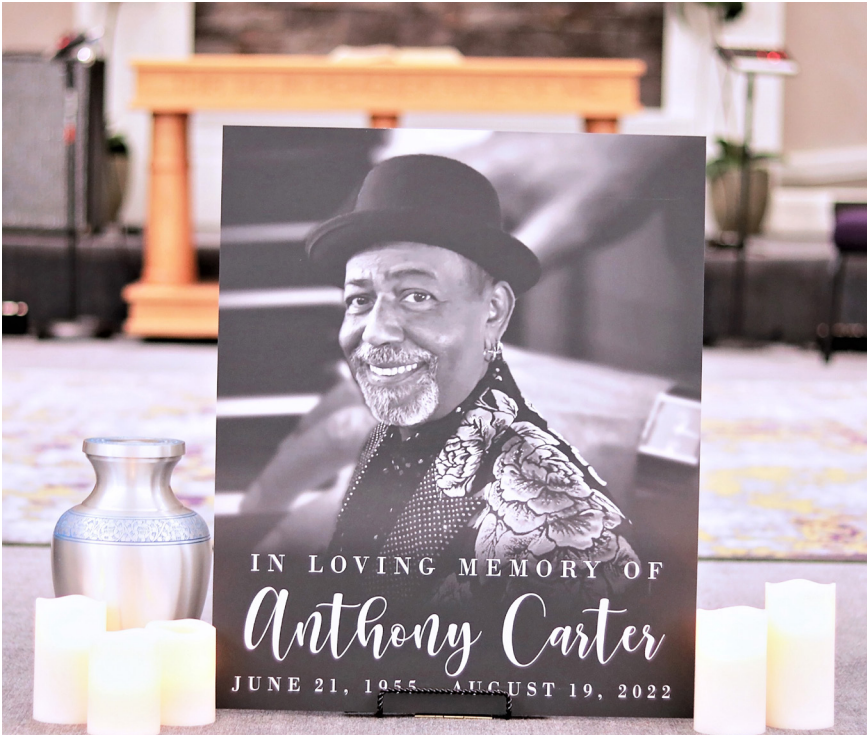
Georgette Carter, sister, organizer, and Mistress of Ceremony for the Celebration of Life Memorial & Tribute for her brother, Anthony "Tonee Valentine" Carter. Ms. Carter addresses more than 100 friends and entertainers who attended the ceremony.



Reverend Dr. Terae Jordan



Musician David Anthony



Carter's uncle and nationally renowned conductor and composer Dr. Roland Carter performed a beautiful rendition of 'It Is Well With My Soul/Total Praise'.



Maryline Blackburn, Atlanta, GA, sings Etta James's 'At Last' while accompanied by Jeni Michelson, also of Atlanta, GA, on keyboard.



View of attendees; featured on left (first three rows) members of the St. Paul-Peyton Sims Choir of the local St. Paul Church. The choir under the direction of Kenneth Parks performed to honor Carter who was a previous choir director. The remaining crowd shot displays a wide range of family, entertainers, and friends in attendance for the Carter Memorial & Tributes.