



## William Robert Hawkins Jr.

April 29, 1940 - January 28, 2025

William Robert Hawkins Jr. (Bobby), was born on April 29, 1940, in Washington, D.C., to Carolyn B. and William R. Hawkins, Sr. He grew up in a vibrant neighborhood where he shared his childhood with the legendary Marvin Gaye. Bobby was exposed to music early by his parents. His father not only sang in the choir, but he was also the choir director for over 50 years. His mother was the church pianist/organist during that time. For many years, Bobby was a tenor in the church choir. His love and appreciation of music continued to grow. In the early 1950s, he integrated Anacostia High School Marching Band as a drummer. At the age of 19, he moved to New York City to pursue a singing career. He and several friends then formed a group called the Revlons. (Some of their recordings can be found on YouTube) His unwavering love for music remained constant throughout his life. He amassed a vast collection of vinyl albums that he cherished.

In the early 1960s, during the Vietnam War, Bobby answered his country's call and enlisted in the Army, becoming a paratrooper. After his time in the military, Bobby returned to New York to a different kind of service. He dedicated two decades of his life as a corrections officer for the New York Department of Corrections.

In 1990, seeking new opportunities and a change of scenery, Bobby relocated to Phoenix, Arizona. His life took another major turn when he moved to San Diego, California in 2017 where his son Trey resides.

Bobby was a passionate sports enthusiast, particularly enjoying watching NFL

football. The Raiders was his favorite team. Many weekends and evenings were spent with his son watching all sports and epic boxing matches on pay-per-view tv.

On January 28, 2025, William Robert Hawkins Jr. passed away in San Diego, California. His departure left a profound void in the hearts of all who knew him. His warmth, kindness, and the indelible impact he made on those around him ensured that his legacy would continue to resonate in the memories of family and friends. He is survived by his partner Anita Gerken, his daughter Michelle Hawkins, his son William R. Hawkins, III (Trey), his sisters: Carole H. Melton, Sandra J. Hawkins, Lisa Muhammad; his brother Michael J. Hawkins, Sr.; his grandchildren, Nadya M. Crutchfield, Tariq Clark, William R. Hawkins, IV, and his great granddaughter, Nouri Crute. He is also survived by many other relatives and friends.