



Mr. Robert William Spain

March 2, 1948 - August 30, 2018

ROBERT WILLIAM SPAIN was born on March 2, 1948, in Saint Louis, Missouri and transitioned at home August 30, 2018. He was the third and youngest child of Eva Rae Yates Spain and John Otis Spain Jr. Preceding Robert in death were his mother, father, and sister, Janice Spain Goodwin in August 2001.

Robert attended Banneker Elementary School and was president of his class. He then attended Vashon High School where he earned academic honors, lettered in track and football, was elected president of the Vashon High School class of June 1965 and became a lifelong advocate for Vashon. He received academic and athletic scholarships from Washington University, Kansas State, Missouri University and Bowdlen College. Robert completed five years of pre-med, pre-pharmacy education through Washington University, St. Louis Community College and the University of Missouri St. Louis. While attending college, Robert worked as a research analyst at Ralston Purina. (He was one of the first analysts to research and develop the “Jack-in-the-Box” hamburger). After leaving Ralston Purina, Robert acquired his first sales position with Pitney Bowes where he set up a national contract with Western Union and ranked in the top 10 in the nation three times in one year for outstanding sales. Corporate Rexall Drugs heard of Robert’s sales abilities and offered him a position as Senior Sales Consultant. During his tenure with Rexall, he set up new stores in Southern Illinois, Lexington and Louisville, Kentucky.

Upon his return to St. Louis, a new chapter in his life began in automobile sales. It was his passion until his death. His auto sales accomplishments include General Motors Training Academy graduate, first African-American Oldsmobile Sales Manager in St. Louis, first African-American Independent new and pre-owned auto dealer that was financed by GMAC. First African-American Independent new car leasing and rental car company financed by GMAC; Boatmen’s Bank and Mercantile Bank. In addition to his automobile accomplishments; Robert was CEO of Triad Productions (an entertainment production company); CEO of ARS Records. He booked talent locally and nationally. He was a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Inc. fraternity. From his very many involvements, the most endearing were those that involved the Vashon High School where he served as a

volunteer track and football coach for over 20 years. He served as alumni booster for the girls' track, soccer, volleyball teams, and the boys' baseball teams. He was a member of several committees that included anti-drug, National Honor and student advancement.

His most treasured accomplishment was serving as Chairman of the Save Vashon Alumni Committee, on which he and a dedicated group worked diligently and steadfastly to ensure that the new Vashon High would be built.

He and the committee met with Judge George Gunn and convinced him to support their efforts. After several minutes of discussions and evaluations, Judge Gunn agreed that a new Vashon High School should be built. That significant accomplishment hence had been achieved.

Robert leaves to celebrate his homegoing: his wife of 20 years Damitra, his brother Ronald (Kim) Spain, his daughter Lynetta Monay (Tonya), his son Jason Robert (April) Spain, McKenzie Alexandra Spain, Myles Kristopher Spain, (his oldest son Kris Ronell Spain preceded him in death April 1999); granddaughter Arayahna, grandson Anthony and Victoria Spain; all the rest of his family, nephews, nieces, friends, and the Wild Bunch.

Cemetery Details

Memorial Park

5200 Lucas and Hunt Rd
St. Louis, MO 63121

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 8. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Washington Metropolitan A.M.E. Zion Church
613 N. Garrison Ave
St. Louis, MO 63103

Service

SEP 8. 11:00 AM (CT)

Washington Metropolitan A.M.E. Zion Church
613 N. Garrison Ave
St. Louis, MO 63103

Tribute Wall

DP

“ I worked with Bob at Ralston Parina in the same lab where he did beta carotene assays and he was a really fun interesting person.
Another really special person in that lab was Marcy and Newton.
My name is David Persechini

David Persechini - July 21, 2022 at 07:02 PM

AD

“ Ann DeDeaux lit a candle in memory of Mr. Robert William Spain



Ann DeDeaux - January 21, 2021 at 08:00 PM

CC

“ No my name is Chris Coleman and I did not know Robert has passed you know Robert sold me one of my cars back in the '70s down at Yates Oldsmobile on Washington he said he named his son Christopher I never met him but always would keep in touch with Robert you know this is 2000 December and I just so happen to think about Robert and went to find him and there he was in the obituary of Randall funeral home I am so sorry to the family last time I sent him was out to plaza Cadillac when the two door CTS came out I want to see my condolences to his family I know he truly will be missed fun guy

Christopher Coleman - December 15, 2020 at 11:42 PM

TS

“ I remember when Spain told me he knew Gordon Anzalone from Vietnam and then they were selling cars together at Plaza. They kept me going for weeks on that story.

Tom Schellhase - September 11, 2018 at 08:43 PM

RW

“ I'll always remember your smile and friendship. Rest easy, brother.

Randy Wernig - September 09, 2018 at 01:02 PM

KH

“ KEITH AND DOROTHY HOWELL. *keeping you guys in prayer. I will miss my Brother.*

Keith Howell - September 05, 2018 at 01:53 PM

L3

You are in our thoughts and prayers during your time of mourning... With our deepest condolences... The Lucas Heights Phase III Family.

Lucas 3 - September 07, 2018 at 08:40 PM

RM

To Mrs Damitra Spain and Family, You are in our prayers as we express out our deepest condolences. May God strengthen you as you treasure the memory of your Husband, Father and Love One. The May Family of Gary Drive

Ruby May - September 08, 2018 at 07:47 PM