

*The Bridge's Imani Center staff collaborated to write this beautiful eulogy, which celebrates and honors the life of Billy Ray.*

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Sorrow and sadness fills our hearts at this moment. There is a deep and personal pain that is felt with the closing of a door. Our dear Billy Ray Lynn has closed the door to the final chapter of his life with so many of us still knocking to enter. With his closure, our lives will not be the same because we were never denied entry. One of his favorite quotes etched inside his writing journal was by Albert Einstein and the quote stated, "The value of a man should be seen in what he gives and not what he is able to receive". Those words exemplify who Billy Ray Lynn was as a man. He would go above and beyond to help others only to inspire others to help themselves. To us, he gave his all.

He gave so much to his work, his family, the staff and most importantly to the students and families he served in the community. He contributed so much to the development of the services and existence of The Bridge Inc., SBYSP Imani Center. He was highly intelligent and used sound judgment when making decisions. He worked diligently with dedication, integrity and passion. He generously shared his knowledge and his skills with compassion and purpose. He was a funny man whose sense of humor was as pleasing as the first ray of sunshine shining through a window at the start of the day. His jokes were more like dad jokes and was his way of expressing his love for us. He also had a unique way of making up words, defining them and using them in sentences leaving us with laughter to last our lifetime.

All who knew him will miss a vibrant individual with a rare friendliness and much personal charm. We will miss him because he was such an intricate part of our lives and remember the amazing person who played a unique and special role. So today, we honor him by celebrating having known him. We will forever mourn him with our profound feelings of loss. Rest in peace until we meet again. Country music rocks!

We at The Bridge Inc., SBYSP Imani Center have collaborated to write this short eulogy in remembrance of Billy Ray Lynn. Please share. The family is taking donations. If anyone would like to contribute, a check or money order can be made out to Larry Young III and sent to the address 90-92 Wainwright Street APT 2, Newark, NJ 07112.

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Thank you.