



## Arnold "A.J." Ward

October 16, 1983 - November 8, 2025

Arnold "A.J." Ward was born on October 16, 1983 at Einstein Hospital in The Bronx to Arnold Ward and Patricia Ward. On November 8, 2025, God chose to open the door and reveal the stairway to heaven.

A.J. moved to Wallkill, New York early in life, where he completed high school in 2001 graduating from Wallkill Senior High. Shortly thereafter, on October 15, 2001, he enlisted in the United States Airforce where he was a Fuel Systems Operator and rose to the rank of Staff Sergeant.

Moving to Wallkill proved to be fateful as that is where he met his soulmate and life's partner, Tina Ortiz. Arnold had many titles, grandson, son, brother, uncle, nephew and friend, but no title was more important to him than the title of Dad. Arnold was devoted to his family. He was protective, generous and yes, sometimes even stubborn. As a friend he was sociable and dependable. A.J. impacted many lives. He was such a presence. When he entered the room, you knew good things were about to happen.

His children meant everything to him. Although he was taken from them way too soon, we are thankful for all the great memories they have to hold onto. They will always remember their Dad, King of the Grill, red solo cup in hand, in total control and all the fun that went with it. Any family gathering with their Dad became a party and as he would always say " we outside ". Let us not

forget that laugh. Speaking with family and friends this past week, time and time again, his laugh was mentioned and how we can still hear it as we think of him.

Arnold aka Streets was an avid bike rider. His passion for riding began when Tina took him to get his first bike, he was 17. In 2017 he became a member of LOD. His love for riding continued to grow and in Orlando, his mentorship and leadership elevated him to the position of VP.

The loss of Arnold has touched us all more deeply than anyone could imagine, but he leaves a legacy that will flourish.

Miriam Ortiz, Tina's mother, passed away this Spring. She will be waiting at the Stairway to welcome Arnold into eternal peace.

A.J. is survived by his beloved Tina, their four children, Briyan, Ayannah, Marcus, and Antonio, his parents, Arnold and Patricia Ward, his grandmother Virginia Brown, his brother Christopher Ward, his Aunt Linda Kinloch-Jennings and her husband Dwight, his Uncle Kevin Brown and his wife Cheryl, Uncle Donald Ward and Aunt Sandra Ward, Tina's Father, Orlando Ortiz, sisters Ledis, Erica and Priscilla Ortiz, brothers Orlando and Juan Ortiz. Many, many nieces and nephews. May Arnold's light forever shine bright.

# Previous Events

## Live Streaming

NOV **22**. 2:00 PM (ET)

DeGusipe Funeral Home & Crematory West Orange Chapel

1400 Matthew Paris Blvd.

Ocoee, FL 34761

(407) 695-2273

todd@degusipe.com

<https://www.DeGusipeFuneralHome.com>

*FOR THOSE WHO CANNOT ATTEND THE SERVICE IN PERSON, PLEASE CLICK ON THE BELOW LINK TO VIEW THE LIVE STREAM. <https://www.youtube.com/live/7-WeUaaK-sE?si=p1qRnkEsnPf6RM1v>*

## Visitation & Reception

NOV **22**. 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

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# Tribute Wall



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Arnold "A.J." Ward.*



November 20, 2025 at 09:20 PM



“ *Nathaniel Johnson and family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Arnold "A.J." Ward.*

**Nathaniel Johnson and family** - November 20, 2025 at 09:20 PM



“ *Your uncle DONALD & TT SANDRA purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Arnold "A.J." Ward.*



**Your uncle DONALD & TT SANDRA** - November 19, 2025 at 02:54 PM



“ *Eddie Rivera and Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Arnold "A.J." Ward.*

**Eddie Rivera and Family** - November 17, 2025 at 03:37 PM

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“ *Eddie Rivera and Family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Arnold "A.J." Ward.*



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**Eddie Rivera and Family** - November 17, 2025 at 03:37 PM



“ *This definitely hit hard. Never in a million years would I have ever expected to get a call saying you're gone. You became a brother to me and every time we linked up it was definitely a good time, whether drinking or just talking it was a good time and you always showed me an amazing time. Now who will force me into taking nonstop shots lol. I will miss you so much "pookie". You hold a special place in my heart and I will forever remember that funny, cool person that you were. Until we meet again RIP Arnold aka my Pookie* ☐



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**Jasmine Gonzalez** - November 17, 2025 at 03:32 PM