



Mr. Darryl Ammons, Sr.

April 10, 1961 - July 5, 2025

Darryl Antoine Ammons Sr., beloved father, educator, musician, and community servant, departed this life on Saturday, July 5, 2025, at the age of 64. He was born on April 10, 1961, in Kansas City, Missouri, to Annie Jean Ammons and Willie Shelton Ammons Sr.

Darryl was the devoted brother of Willie S. Ammons Jr. (Denrick), Terry Ammons, Jessica Ammons, and Latonia C. Ammons. He was a proud and loving father to five sons: Darryl Ammons Jr. (Keisha), Jason Betts (Angeline), Justin Betts (Jessica), Derrick Henderson, and Brian Henderson (Monica). He leaves behind a host of cherished grandchildren and great-grandchildren, whose lives he touched deeply.

Darryl's educational journey began in the Kansas City Missouri Public Schools, where he attended Henry C. Kumpf Elementary, Manual High School, and graduated from Paseo High School. He continued his education at Lincoln University in Jefferson City, Missouri, from 1979 to 1983. During his time there, he distinguished himself as a leader and musician: elected as Student Government Association President for two terms, Student Conductor of the Lincoln University Vocal Ensemble "LUVE," and Drum Major of the Marching Storm. He was a proud member of the LU Band all four years.

Upon returning to Kansas City, Darryl began a 27-year career at DST Systems

Inc. While still at DST, he followed his passion for teaching by joining Kansas City Missouri Public Schools, where he taught at Northeast Middle School. Later, he continued his teaching career at F.L. Schlagle High School in Kansas City, Kansas. There, he served not only as a teacher but as a mentor and father figure to countless students. His choral groups, lovingly named “SUAVE,” were known city-wide for their musical excellence and annual trips to places such as New York City, Toronto, Chicago, Atlanta, Memphis, and beyond. His tireless dedication to his students went far beyond the classroom—providing financial support, transportation, and guidance whenever needed.

Darryl’s faith was a guiding force in his life. A childhood member of Rising Star Baptist Church, he later served as Minister of Music at Greystone Heights Missionary Baptist Church for over 30 years. He also served faithfully on the church’s board until his health began to decline.

Darryl was an active member of the Lincoln University Alumni Chapter in Kansas City and the Esquires of Lincoln University. A gifted vocalist and choral director, he performed with many groups including “The Individuals,” later known as “The Kclassics,” “The Ammons Brothers,” and “The 2 D’s and 1 T.” These groups sang regularly throughout the city, bringing joy and inspiration to countless community events and congregations.

Darryl’s life was a testament to selfless giving. Whether through music, mentorship, ministry, or education, he poured himself into the lives of others. He offered his time, resources, wisdom, and heart to students, churches, schools, families, and fellow musicians. His sacrifices—too many to list—were always made quietly, generously, and with great love.

Funeral Services will be held Saturday, July 19, 2025, 11:00am at Forest Grove Baptist Church. Interment Forest Hill Cemetery. Visitation 9:00am - 11:00am at the church. Arrangements entrusted to Lawrence A. Jones &

Sons. Condolences may be shared on our website. live stream www.MSTCsunset.com.

"lieu of flowers please make contributions to the Lincoln University Vocal Ensemble"

Cemetery Details

Forest Hill Cemetery

6901 Troost Ave.
Kansas City, MO 64131

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 19. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Forest Grove Baptist Church
1417 N. 9th Street
Kansas City, KS 66101

Funeral Service

JUL 19. 11:00 AM (CT)

Forest Grove Baptist Church
1417 N. 9th Street
Kansas City, KS 66101

Tribute Wall

TW

“ I met you in my 6th grade year. We spoke regularly in my adult years, and then lost contact. I learned of your passing just weeks ago. I thought of you moments ago. My heart saddened that you are absent from the body but prayerfully present with our Lord & Savior.

Tyiesha White - November 08, 2025 at 10:50 PM

MK

“ My deepest condolence to the Ammons family, Mr. Ammons was truly one in a Million. Rest well, we know you were singing in the heaven choir

Margie Theus Kimbrel - July 19, 2025 at 01:34 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. Darryl Ammons, Sr..



July 17, 2025 at 01:46 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mr. Darryl Ammons, Sr..

July 17, 2025 at 01:46 PM

DF

“ Deborah Grigsby and Family purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Mr. Darryl Ammons, Sr..



Deborah Grigsby and Family - July 17, 2025 at 10:39 AM

AN

“ Sing on Darryl. Praying for the family 🙏



Ang - July 16, 2025 at 10:55 PM

AN

“ Prayers for the entire family. I remember Darryl from Kumpf school and the neighborhood. I also remember him singing in the talent show at Manual High. Rest in Peace 🕊

Ang - July 16, 2025 at 10:47 PM

PC

“ My sincere condolences to the Ammons family..Darryl is a Manual Cardinal Brother,whom I will never forget..Stealing the show at our "Talent Shows" as an "Individuals" along with Terry,Philip,& James...His smile and personality lit up any room...R.I.H. DA 🙏

Paul Cosby - July 16, 2025 at 04:18 PM

JC

“ Joyce/Tayro Christiano purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Mr. Darryl Ammons, Sr..



Joyce/Tayro Christiano - July 16, 2025 at 10:47 AM

JC

“ Joyce/Tayro Christiano planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Darryl Ammons, Sr..

Joyce/Tayro Christiano - July 16, 2025 at 10:47 AM

RM

“ I met you through my friends when I was in high school throughout the times of 1997 until 2001 & reintroduced through my sister from 2004 until 2008.. Every time we met it was a pleasure, simply genuine.. I appreciated you for always being 100% real.. You will be truly missed!! Thank you!!!

Richelle Miller - July 15, 2025 at 01:29 PM

RS

I, Ronald knew Daryl all of his life his family father mother and grandmother aunt and uncles what a gifted individual truly and giving person sorry for the loss to the family my memories and conversations with him we always remain with me blessed be the family

Ronald Smith - July 15, 2025 at 03:58 PM

HM

“ *Much love and respect to Darryl Ammons family. A kind nod to Terry Ammons, his beloved brother.*



As kids we met at our grandparents house Berry and Alice Ammons. You cannot imagine how much fun we would have in the summers putting sand in old tires and rolling them down the hill leaving a trail of dust as we went. The contrast is striking, because he grew up to be clean cut and dressed to the nine.

Thanks to God for the many gifts and talents shared through Darryl and the wonderfully positive influence he had in the lives of many.

Always kin, always friends and always loved

Harold and Robin Madison

Harold W. Madison - July 14, 2025 at 08:06 AM

TF

“ *The Greystone Family purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Mr. Darryl Ammons, Sr..*



The Greystone Family - July 13, 2025 at 08:27 PM

TF

“ The Greystone Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mr. Darryl Ammons, Sr..

The Greystone Family - July 13, 2025 at 08:27 PM

KB

“ Like most others here, you made a huge impact in my life. I was a young I, shy freshman but you saw me. You saw my potential and unlocked something in me I never knew I had. The charisma. The charm.

The belief—in us all that we had something that if we believed just as much as you, we could unlock our true potential. My heart is broken. But I know you had a faith so unshakeable that you are comfortable now and right where you should be. I'll miss you forever. Thank you for the music. Thank you for the memories. Thank you for being you to us all. I love you. May you rest in peace.

Kishae Brooks (Colding)

Kishae Brooks - July 13, 2025 at 01:24 PM




D.

“ I love you always, D.A.

D.H. - July 13, 2025 at 05:44 AM

CI

“ The last time we spoke we stayed on the phone for 9 hours reminiscing. You were a second father to me, the first person who took me out of the country, the first person who took me to my now home of 15 years in NYC. You argued with your late wife for the time commitment of taking young people like me to state and National competitions, helping us see the size of a world not yet explored. You saw my potential and nurtured it, spoke life into it, encouraged me. You knew I was different, but you called it special, remarkable, rare. In truth it was you who was the talented remarkable rare one. The type to lift responsibility and not wince, the type to encourage, teach, and sacrifice. You worked two jobs to help your students experience more than what this city could show us. You were not just a teacher, you became an extended family member, a GIANT! My heart is broken. You once told me that in this life we are either going through something or getting over something we had to go through..... how true. I'll never get over the void your transition has left in the world, a gulf has rippled across the hearts of the generations you touched, inspired, lead. Mr Ammons to me you were family, a voice I have carried in the years since my adolescence, a village elder who loved and supported children you never made but loved as if you did. A thousand memories flood my mind, all with you in the center of the image. I'm glad you are resting, you deserve that, you deserved so much more than the vapor of your incarnation could afford. I hope the heavenly hosts receive you as you did so many, with warmth, with love, with splendor. To me you will always be magical, a blessing that found me when I was becoming, developing, not yet self sustaining. You helped me get there..... here. To become an image of a dream I never thought possible for myself. You saw my potential and nurtured it, and not just me but so many others. I pray that spirit kept score, kept count of all the children you inspired, sacrificed and directed. May eternity welcome you as warmly and lovingly as you did me all those years ago. I will love you always. Thank you for everything, truly. The world will miss you. You left an indelible mark that can never be forgotten. Peace to you. 

Charles Pennington III - July 13, 2025 at 02:48 AM

TJ

*My good friend Darryl, rest well now, take your seat at the throne, as our God welcomes you uttering these words "Job well Done thy Good and Faithful Servant"
Continous Prayers for the Family..*

Tracy Johnson - July 15, 2025 at 11:38 AM

JS

“*Mr. Ammons, even though this is a solemn occasion; my heart is glad that you no longer have to struggle. Your influence has been paramount to my musical journey. You pushed me to greater heights. You would not allow us to be just singers, but to be musicians. You gave up yourself completely to bettering the lives of the students. I am grateful to have had you as my teacher. Even though you have passed from this world, your words will live on. “ Good, Better, Best, Never let it rest; until you’re good is your better, and you’re better is your personal best”*

Thank you, and rest well, my Mentor

Jonathan Saunders - July 12, 2025 at 10:20 PM

CY

Mr. Ammons has left so much with us, it doesn't leave, just because he's not here in the flesh. His power to touch our individual self's in a meaningful way, lives on. He had a way of living and giving that was charismatic. His spirit lives within us... because he let his shine through us.

Christine Young - July 14, 2025 at 12:54 PM

MH

“ This is definitely a tough one! Before I ever attended F.L. Schlagle as a student. My mom worked with you at DST, and I was always told about the amazing job you were doing with the choir at F.L. Schlagle. You and your mom would cook to raise money for upcoming choir events, you were very passionate about pouring into your students! I will forever remember being in mixed choir, women's ensemble and chambers. It gave me structure, motivation in school and overall a great high-school experience! Thank you for caring and going above and beyond for your students. You will greatly be missed, but your legacy will live on!

Marketa Harris - July 12, 2025 at 05:59 PM

TK

“ I will always remember Darryl, before I relocated to Texas. He will always be remembered for the amazing person he was. May his memory bring you comfort and peace.



Teresa Kinsey, Dallas, Texas

Teresa Kinsey-Carson - July 12, 2025 at 05:49 PM

JL

“ I remember my Freshmen Year at FL Schlagle we enter his class didnt know what to expect but once he got to talking gave us his expectations, I was like oh he's gonna be one of them special teachers he use to always say "Good Better Best Never Let It Rest Until Your Good Is Better And Your Better Is Your Personal Best" That stuck with us even as young teenagers throughout my time at Schlagle I personally had conversations with him he was a great teacher, a great role model and he loved directing the Choir he encouraged me to sing even though I wasn't the best singer at the time he worked with me on how to hit the notes thank you Mr Ammons, Thank You for being the positive black male role model we needed.

Justin Long - July 12, 2025 at 03:45 PM

LA

“ I didn't know him personally. From all the recognition and flowers while he was yet alive. He was an awesome man. God bless you family. May his memories and legacy continue to live on forever.

lavita - July 12, 2025 at 02:49 PM

RO

“ Rest in Heaven Mr. Ammons. he always knew how to control the students during and all school assembly at Schlagle. when we would get loud while he was speaking, all he calmly would is "you respect me I respect you" til we got quiet. never raised his voice. my the comfort wings of heaven wrap themselves around his family and friends during this time.

*Roger Riggans Jr. (RJ)
Schlage class of 2003*

Roger - July 12, 2025 at 01:06 PM

MC

“ My heart wasn't ready to except, God wanted another one of his song birds. You were placed on this earth for a job, few people couldnty do. Our boys needed someone like your crazy self to check, fold up and mold into the men we need. This world is so lost and selfless, without men like y'all. I thank you for making a great great impression on the boys of mines. I remember showing up to meet Mr. May, Mr. Thompson and Mr. Ammons. A strong singing voice came from the hallway. You had a strong message for me to hush and let real men handle the boys. I never felt so willing to step aside and let the crew deal with my boys. I must say y'all did so well with teaching and modeling, real men. Thank you for not only helping my boys, by thousands of boys in the district. Even when devious Folks, in hirer places, didn't have a clue about the power y'all had for the boys in the hood. They tried to get rid of all the special forces God sent to heal the hood, but y'all never bowed to that trap, nor did it stop y'all from educationing our young folks. Thank you for all you did, for my mental. You will never be forgotten.
A King Got His Wings ..
Much Love, Mrs. Cawthon



Mrs. Cawthon - July 12, 2025 at 12:55 PM

RH

“ I will miss my Classmate and Friend. We shared our love for music being music majors, Darryl was Vocal and I was Instrumental! But with his unique personality, Darryl became Drum Major of The Lincoln University Blue Tiger Band! We shared great memories, that still rings today in my heart and in my families heart. Our Band Director, Dr. Sylvester Young sends his Sincerest Condolences as well. Until we meet again, Rest Well. 🎵🎵 Your Sister In Love, Rhonda Harper ☐😭

Rhonda Harper - July 12, 2025 at 12:48 PM

HC

“ Today, I said goodbye to someone who helped shape not just my music, but my heart. My teacher, my mentor, and my friend thank you for the lessons that reached far beyond the notes on the page.

You didn't just teach music. You taught presence. You taught patience. You believed in me when I hit the wrong notes and reminded me that even mistakes can be beautiful if we learn from them. You shared your love of music in a way that lit a fire in me & I carry that flame forward.

Your influence echoes in every melody & in the quiet moments when music fills a room, I'll think of you. You've left a legacy not only in my life but in every student, every heart you touched.

Though you may be gone, your song continues in me, & in all of us who were lucky enough to learn from you.

*Thank you for everything.
Darryl Ammons Sr. Darryl Ammons*

H.T. Cooperwood - July 12, 2025 at 11:25 AM

DH

“ Just remembering the high school days of being in disbelief of the beautiful sound of your voice. You were such a powerful influence in so many lives and you will always be remembered. God bless you DA. 🙏🌹🙏

Debra Hudspeth - July 12, 2025 at 11:13 AM

PC

“ *Paula E Collins lit a candle in memory of Mr. Darryl Ammons, Sr.*

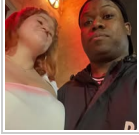


Paula E Collins - July 12, 2025 at 10:39 AM

PC

“ *Darryl, what a pleasure it was knowing you. You gave us our first nephew, music, singing, dancing and laughter. You left a mark on this world Darryl Ammons. Rest well. ~*

Paula E Collins - July 12, 2025 at 10:38 AM



“ I remember the first time I met Mr. Ammons it was my sophomore year of high school I started out in his mixed course class and I remember him calling the girl on the back row G C’s Gum chewers telling them to sit at the edge of their seats and put their sisters up to be able to breathe properly and sing properly Mr. Darryl Ammons was all about posture and poise. The last time I talked to Mr. Ammons was at the drumlin competition and asked him did I do right by him and the man he taught me to be and he said ThiCk you have always done right by me and I’ve always been a exceptional young man and father. I told Mr Ammons I had started my own business and I had started a scholarship fund to honor his legacy and Mr. May. And Mr. Ammons gave me the biggest hug and told me well done ThiCK well done. I will always cherish him and that moment with him and he told me he missed teaching and being in the classroom. Before we sing remember to tap the to feel the flow that’s the tempo. Sign Mr Darryl Ammons



Musically yours Ron Richard (Aka) Thicky and family

Ron Richard - July 12, 2025 at 08:46 AM



“ Darryl thank you for singing the Lord's prayer in my wedding. I will never forget growing up at Rising Star and watching you bring the students at our job at DST. You will be missed.

Malva - July 12, 2025 at 12:17 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mr. Darryl Ammons.

July 11, 2025 at 06:04 PM

DL

“ Thinking of you and wishing you moments of peace and comfort as you remember someone who was so close to you. I'm glad I was able to see and hug you last year, although brief it will always be a lasting memory.

Debra Williams Lockett and Family

Debra Lockett - July 11, 2025 at 04:54 PM

AY

We were class mates you were a very talented kind young man. Enjoyed the times we had going to Paseo now I must say rest in peace my friend. No more pain. From one pirate to another job well done. Your soul says yes. ❤️👍

Alison young - July 12, 2025 at 12:06 AM

AC

“ Ammons would always say:

"Good, better, best... never let it rest... until your good is your better, and your better is your PERSONAL best."

I like to think that this statement was ingrained in me and drove me to always push myself.

I was blessed to be one of his choir students. The cherry on top was also getting to be his co-worker.

Thank you for being an amazing educator.

Rest well D.A. 🕊️

Ashley Campbell - July 11, 2025 at 09:35 AM

BD

“ Please accept our heartfelt sympathy!Darryl was an exceptional young man! He wore so many hats,,,musician,choir director,singer,and outstanding teacher He will be missed.I remember his rendition of “Stormy Monday”at Northeast Middle School,,,,one line says “I go to church on Sunday and pray” Our prayers are with him and his family.
Bob Drake

Bob Drake - July 10, 2025 at 03:17 PM