



Dr. Adrian T. Manley, Sr.

February 10, 1979 - August 26, 2021

u·ni·ty

1. The state of being united or joined as a whole.

“Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!” ~ Psalms 133:1

United in Family

Adrian was born on February 10, 1979, to his mother, Terry Davis and Jessie Manley, Jr. He was raised by his mother and grandparents, James and Ocrietto Anderson. They knew at an early age that Adrian was an extraordinary child. Always well-mannered, anyone who met Adrian knew he would go far in life. At the age of eight, Adrian accepted the role of “big brother” when Terry welcomed his new little sister “Sherry” into the family. Two years later, Adrian expanded his heart even more as he welcomed his stepfather, Tommie Davis.

United in Preparation

Anyone who met Adrian knew he was destined for greatness, and Adrian knew it would take preparation, dedication and determination to make it happen. After graduating from South Lake High School in 1997, Adrian proudly represented his family as a first generation college student at the University of Florida (UF) in Gainesville. Not only did he attend, but he left his footprint on the campus by earning four degrees: Bachelor of Health Science

(May 2001), Master of Education in Marriage & Family Therapy (December 2003), Specialist in Education (December 2003), and a Doctorate of Philosophy in Counselor Education (December 2006).

United in Christ

At the early age of four, Adrian accepted Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior. He was baptized and filled with the Holy Ghost and desired only to please the Lord. He was determined not to be influenced by any opposition; therefore, he immersed himself in the church. He could be found participating in the Church of God in Christ (COGIC) Sunshine Band, Purity Band, Sunday School and any church service taking place. He loved God and church and he made sure everyone knew it!

United in Marriage

Little did Adrian know, January 13, 2002, would be the day he would meet the love of his life, Katrina Collier at Williams Temple COGIC in Gainesville, FL. Katrina was invited to church by a friend and began to frequently attend the church and the Bible Study class where Adrian happened to be the teacher. Adrian was very interested in pursuing a relationship with Katrina, but at that time she was not interested and only saw him as “the Bible Study teacher.” What began as friendly hanging out during the summer of 2002 turned into something greater. The two officially began dating on July 15, 2002, and later, the college sweethearts united in holy matrimony on February 26, 2005. They welcomed their first son, Adrian Jr. (AJ) on April 2, 2009, followed by the birth of Joshua on October 6, 2011, and Noah on June 12, 2015. Adrian loved his family dearly and often reminded everyone that Katrina, AJ, Joshua and Noah were his greatest accomplishments. He showed his love for them not just in words but in action. He was a very present husband and father and he spoiled them every day.

1979 - 2021

The Life, The Legacy, The Labor of Dr. Adrian T. Manley, Sr. Continued...

United in Kingdom Work

He was ordained as an Elder in the Church of God in Christ under the recommendation of the late Superintendent Dr. D.R. Williams in August 2008. In January 2014, Dr. Manley heard and adhered to the Lord's calling to begin Christ Centered Fellowship in Clermont, FL, where he was a dedicated and committed pastor to his congregation and community. Pastor Manley faithfully served churches locally and throughout the state. He was often called upon to serve as worship leader, teach Bible study and serve in the capacity of Minister of Music. He labored in Prison Ministry, Street Ministry, the South Lake Male Chorus, the South Lake Unity Choir and anywhere else there was a need. Pastor Manley represented Christ well on several boards including The Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA), The United Way, South Lake Black Achievers and South Lake Association of Pastors (SLAP).

United in Vocation

Dr. Manley spent the majority of his professional career in Higher Education. He worked as a Graduate Instructor at The University of Florida in the Counseling Education Department, a Counseling Specialist and Adjunct Instructor at Santa Fe College, a Tenured Faculty Counselor at Valencia College and Associate Professor in Counseling Education at Southeastern University.

Dr. Manley's additional career and professional accolades includes:

- Private Practice Therapist and Owner/Operator of South Lake Family Counseling Services
- Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist with the State of Florida
- State Registered Supervisor for Marriage and Family Therapy and Mental

Health Counseling

- Certified EFT (Emotion Focused Therapy) Therapist
- Author of The Little Book of Wisdom for Dealing with Frustration: Godly Wisdom for Everyday Life
- Public Speaker and Workshop Facilitator

United in Glory

Dr. Adrian T. Manley, Sr. lived his entire life serving the Lord and on August 26, 2021, he submitted himself to the will of the Father and transitioned from this life of mortality, receiving his reward for his unwavering faith and work.

United with Precious Memories

He was preceded in death by his grandfathers, James Anderson and Isaac Lamar.

A lifetime of love and precious memories will forever be cherished by his beloved Wife and Best Friend Katrina; Sons and Pride and Joy: Adrian, Jr. "AJ", Joshua, and Noah; Mother and Stepfather: Terry and Tommie Davis of Mascotte, FL; Grandparents: Ocrietto "Bay" Anderson, Jessie and Betty Manley, Sr. of Groveland, FL; Sister, Sherry Davis of Mascotte, FL; Godmother, Patricia Wilson of Daytona Beach, FL; Special Aunt, Betty Curry of Groveland, FL; Father and Mother-in-Law: James and Alva Collier, Jr.; Sister-in-Law, Tameka Collier of Gainesville, FL; Close Nephews: James, Caleb, Nathan, and Nicholas Walden, all of Gainesville, FL; Godchildren: Elijah and Ethan Mitchell of Mascotte, FL, Oliana Herbert of Port Saint Lucie, FL, Charles Hunt Jr., and Carlee Hunt, both of Gainesville, FL; Christ Centered Fellowship church family; and a host of uncles, aunts, nephews, nieces, cousins, and sorrowing friends & colleagues.

Cemetery Details

Oak Hill Cemetery

801 East Avenue
Clermont, FL 34711

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 4. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Hope International Church
13806 FL-33
Groveland, FL 34736

Service

SEP 5. 3:00 PM (ET)

Family Christian Center
2500 S. Highway 27
Clermont, FL 34711

Tribute Wall



“ *Dr. Adrian T. Manley, Sr.*

October 22, 2023 at 05:49 PM



“ *Wow, shocking news as I had just learned of Dr. Manley's passing, my husband and I had only a handful of marriage counseling sessions with him in late 2020. Praying strength for his wife and children.*

D. King - January 16, 2022 at 01:06 AM



“ *Dr Manley entered my life as a therapist but left a mentor and friend. I deeply miss your presence in my life. I am just one of so many whom your legacy lives on. You were a heart of gold.*

David - October 08, 2021 at 12:08 PM

HN

“ I will never forget the impression Dr. Manley left on me the first time he walked into class at Southeastern University. He greeted everyone by singing a song- that was his opening! I thought to myself, wow this guy is cool. And he can sing too! Dr. Manley had a special way of connecting with young adults, and always inspired hope. He encouraged us to dream big, and to always keep God at the center. That is who he was- an encourager. My studies in Counseling at SEU were greatly impacted by Dr. Manley's presence, and I know without a shadow of a doubt there are so many others who would share the same sentiment. My thoughts and prayers are with the family, friends, and loved ones who had the pleasure of knowing Dr. Manley. Rest in Heaven, sir.



Heather Nunez-Rojas - September 08, 2021 at 08:20 AM

OS

“ My condolences goes out to the family. Dr. Manley was a rare gem and I know he touched many lives including mine. He will truly be missed.



Ozline Smart-Polanco - September 05, 2021 at 07:46 PM

TJ

“ Deepest sympathy

To the Manley Family
May God be with you during your bereavement. May you find comfort and peace in the loving memories you have of Adrian.

Tyron S. Johnson

Tyron Johnson - September 05, 2021 at 02:21 PM

TJ

“ *Tyron Johnson lit a candle in memory of Dr. Adrian T. Manley, Sr.*



Tyron Johnson - September 05, 2021 at 02:19 PM

LA

“ *I am sending up prayers for Katrina, the boys, the Manley's and my entire family. God will get us through this difficult time. Rest in peace Adrian.... You have done well!*



Lisa Anderson-Andrews - September 05, 2021 at 02:16 PM

PN

“ *The Newsome family lit a candle in memory of Dr. Adrian T. Manley Sr.*



Pam Newsome - September 03, 2021 at 06:23 PM

DG

“ *Dear Dr. Adrian Manley, no one could have ever asked for a better colleague or friend. So many hearts have been impacted because you showed Jesus' love so broadly. Love and prayers to the whole family and loved ones.*

Dr. Rosalind Goodrich - September 03, 2021 at 05:50 PM

TF

“ *The Cooper Family lit a candle in memory of Dr. Adrian T. Manley, Sr.*



The Cooper Family - September 03, 2021 at 12:28 PM

EH

“ *Elder Richard & Wanda Hall purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Dr. Adrian T. Manley, Sr..*



Elder Richard & Wanda Hall - September 03, 2021 at 07:43 AM

AM

“ *Family I am so heart broken right now. There are no words that can express the tremendous hit our family has suffered, this is a hard pill to swallow but with each other and the help of the Lord we will get through this.*

Trina my sincerest prayers are with you, the boys, my aunts and cousins. I pray you all will find strength and know your not alone. I Love you all and regret I am not able to be there with you all at this time.

Rob, Elaine and family

Alfreda Monroe - September 02, 2021 at 01:19 PM

2C

“ 2018-2020 SEU Counseling Cohort purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Dr. Adrian T. Manley, Sr..



2018-2020 SEU Counseling Cohort - September 02, 2021 at 12:56 PM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Dr. Adrian T. Manley, Sr..



September 01, 2021 at 06:04 PM

MM

“ To the Manley Family, we send our heart felt condolences to you all at this time of sorrow. Our experience with Dr. Manley truly displayed his love for Jesus Christ, in our conversations I would often say to Adrian "how I loved to see his love for Jesus and I did not want to see him any other way". I am so pleased to know that he lived his love for Christ always. I thankful for the example well lived. We are praying for his family, that God will give them peace that surpasses all understanding during this time. Rest well Dr. Manley We love you and your family so very much



The Carter family, Gainesville FL

Mary Marshall-Carter - September 01, 2021 at 05:07 PM

GW

“ *My Condolences and Payees to the Family.*



Gwen Wells - September 01, 2021 at 04:15 PM

JL

“ *Joyce Law lit a candle in memory of Dr. Adrian T. Manley, Sr.*



Joyce Law - September 01, 2021 at 02:37 PM

TU

“ *The Kirnes & Chandler Family Will Miss U lit a candle in memory of Dr. Adrian T. Manley, Sr.*



The Kirnes & Chandler Family will miss u - September 01, 2021 at 08:03 AM

PW

“ *Pastor Isaac & Margie Wilkes lit a candle in memory of Dr. Adrian T. Manley, Sr.*



Pastor Isaac & Margie Wilkes - August 31, 2021 at 11:51 PM

AR

“ Gonna miss the Prayers that you’ve prayed for me. Every time I was down and out you always messaged me and say I’m believing God for you and your purpose here on this earth. Rest Well, Mentor.

Ashley Roundtree - August 31, 2021 at 09:46 PM

TF

“ I would to offer my Condolences to the family of Adrian Manley he was my, god brother I know he was a sweet person I remember when he was growing up iam 2 yes older than him but he had that special thing about him that stuck with me. iam praying for his family, & wife Katrina, kids that god comforts them 🥹🙏❤️🕊️ forever loved.



Twanna Fedrick - August 31, 2021 at 08:50 PM

TF

Rest well Adrian you earned your wings. 🕊️🕊️

Twanna Fedrick - August 31, 2021 at 11:45 PM

VS

“ Vera Shepherd lit a candle in memory of Dr. Adrian T. Manley, Sr.



vera shepherd - August 31, 2021 at 08:37 PM

RF

“ Sending our love, prayers and condolences to the family. ❤️



Roldan Family - August 31, 2021 at 07:42 PM

SH

“ ❤️❤️❤️ So much to say, but knowing you, I know you would say, "Shica my soul is well." Even though you know "our hearts" will never be. Thank you for everything, your prayers and guidance most of all your genuine care and concern. You will never be forgotten.... Prayers for your lovely wife and family ❤️🕊️🕊️

Shica - August 31, 2021 at 06:37 PM

ND

“ We grew up together, through middle and high school we were in chorus together. You graduated a year ahead of me, but I found a friendship in this sweet loveable guy who loved God. I will always remember your voice, singing or speaking. All of us kids standing around the piano on chorus singing "His Eye Is On The Sparrow." At one point I thought it was so cool that we didn't get in trouble singing about God in school. You were not afraid to tell others about Him. So thankful for a friend like that. When my mom passed earlier this year, you reached out to me and sang a song to me, I will save that and cherish it as long as I can. You were a beautiful soul and I know that you are in heaven, without a doubt I know you are and I know you're standing next to my dad in heaven's choir singing....

*"His eye is on the sparrow,
and I know He watches me.
I sing because I'm happy,
I sing because I'm free,
For His eye is on the sparrow,
And I know He watches me"*

Love you always Adrian. Watch over all of us now. Thank you for being the beautiful person you were.

Nancy Hanks Dittrich - August 31, 2021 at 06:19 PM

DN

“ Dorothy Newsome lit a candle in memory of Dr. Adrian T. Manley Sr.



Dorothy Newsome - August 31, 2021 at 05:38 PM

TD

“ *Terric & Candace Durden lit a candle in memory of Dr. Adrian T. Manley Sr.*



Terric Durden - August 31, 2021 at 05:36 PM