



Mervin J. "Merv" Griffin

April 4, 1966 - December 17, 2018

Beloved husband, father and friend, Mervin "Merv" J. Griffin, peacefully passed away Tuesday, December 18, 2018. He will be terribly missed by all who knew him, because to know him was to love him.

Merv was born April 4, 1966 in New Orleans, Louisiana to the late August, Sr. and Shirley Griffin. He attended Phoenix High School and furthered his education at Huston-Tillotson College. While at HT, Merv was a dedicated athlete and participated on the school's baseball team under Coach James Wilson. Merv is the father of one daughter, Merissa Clark.

In 1993, Merv married the love of his life, Ardtria Brown, and immediately embraced her son, Quincy, as his own. Merv and Ardtria remained in holy matrimony for 25 years until death parted them. Merv was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers, August, Jr. and Anthony.

Merv was employed by the City of Austin for almost 30 years and was an integral part of the Parks and Recreation Department. Before his retirement earlier this year, Merv demonstrated his commitment to at-risk youth by creating a variety of programs that provided a safe environment and encouraged them to take their education seriously. He also coached many young boys and girls on softball and baseball teams, and a number of those players have gone on to succeed in professional sports leagues and other

careers.

Merv was not only dedicated to youth. He had a heart for all those in need. He was known to leave food and clothing near doorsteps where they could be found by those who needed them. At one point, he opened the showers at the rec center for homeless neighbors to use, even though it was against the rules. Merv also enjoyed assisting and providing companionship for elderly citizens who participated in the recreation center events.

Merv's passions were his family and friends, and he was a huge fan of Louisiana State University and the New Orleans Saints.

Merv is survived by his wife Ardtria, son Quincy (Maya), daughter Merissa, two brothers, Wilbert, Sr. and Eric Griffin (Jo Ann), two sisters, Sheila Thomas (Allen) and Margaret Duplessis, three uncles, two aunts and a host of cousins, nieces nephews and a set of very close friends.

Previous Events

Public Visitation

DEC 27. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

King-Tears Mortuary
1300 E 12th St
Austin, TX 78702
(512) 476-9128

Celebration Service

DEC 28. 1:00 PM (CT)

Metropolitan A.M.E. Church
1101 E 10th Street
Austin, TX 78702

Tribute Wall



“ *Mervin J. "Merv" Griffin*

October 06, 2023 at 07:08 AM



“ *Merv, I loved you more than life itself. Thanks for being a great Provider, husband, father and friend. I will hold on to the sweet memories that we shared. I thank God that he sent you to me and now he has called you home. Please continue to watch over me and protect me.*

I will always love you.

Your Wife

Ardtria Griffin - February 06, 2019 at 12:40 PM

JC

“ Our deepest condolences to Merv’s family, friends and baseball community.

Merv was an amazing man and touched many baseball families over the years, especially mine. He impressed us from the very beginning by knowing our boys names before we ever introduced ourselves. They thought they were too cool because the Blue knew who they were. Lol He never seemed to have a bad day at the ballpark, always smiling and giving the players, coaches and even parents a hard time. They just don’t make em like him anymore. ASB lost a legend that’s for sure. You’ll be missed dearly Blue!

*Much love,
The Castro Family
Jason, Jennifer, JJ and Jordan*

Jennifer Castro - December 27, 2018 at 11:00 PM

RT

“ Merv you will be missed. Even when I wasn’t in the mood, you would say something to make me laugh. You were a great supervisor, and an even Greater Friend. You will forever be remembered and loved.

Ms. Thomas

Rhonda Thomas - December 27, 2018 at 03:06 PM

SP

“ Deepest Sympathy to Tee & family May God Bless the family.
Shirley Polk

Shirley Polk - December 27, 2018 at 01:29 PM

MP

“ Our heartfelt condolences to the Griffin family, Merv will be missed. Our thoughts and prayers will continue it to be with you. Brian Moehlman and Michele Price

Michele Price - December 26, 2018 at 10:09 PM



“ Heart's Companion Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mervin J. "Merv" Griffin.



December 26, 2018 at 10:04 PM

DJ

“ I worked with Merv for many years with the Austin Parks and Recreation Department. He was a great employee who worked well with youth and seniors. His dedication to the Austin community and field of recreation was a blessing to all who encountered his energetic, helpful, joyful spirit. He will be greatly missed but always remembered for his contributions. Rest In Peace my friend until we meet again.



Dock Jackson - December 26, 2018 at 08:38 PM

JT

“ Rest in peace a friend to everyone he crossed, you are all ready missed Johnnie (JT) Tyler "who dat"

Johnnie Tyler - December 26, 2018 at 07:26 PM



“ To the family of Merv: Thank you for sharing Merv with the Austin community - I met Merv while attending college @ HTC/U - after our days in college Merv worked for Parks & Rec. - there were camps @ Givens Park & my son would attend-those camps with Merv - my son attended the camps prior to the camp & after the camp-meaning Merv watched my son until I got off from work. I know there are so many other kids in the community that has been helped by Merv - Merv was the real MVP - he served w/o wanting or expecting anything. Merv will be missed.



Helen Taylor - December 26, 2018 at 06:56 PM

RD

“ Merv, you've made us all laugh and smile on this earth, and now you're making God smile...you will be missed. Robin Simpson Deary

Robin Deary - December 26, 2018 at 04:24 PM



“ Much love to my dude Merv I'm going to miss you man

Tee

Tee Swist - December 25, 2018 at 03:03 PM

RT

“ Ron Trevino sent a virtual gift in memory of Mervin J. "Merv" Griffin



Ron Trevino - December 24, 2018 at 09:12 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Mervin J. "Merv" Griffin.



December 24, 2018 at 05:23 PM