



Rev. Dr. Kejuane Artez Bates

December 31, 1983 - April 1, 2020

Kejuane was born Dec. 31, 1983 in Natchez, the son of Dorothy Bates and Ventress Poole. He was a graduate of Natchez High School and Hope Bible Institute where he received his doctorate in Bible Psychology. Kejuane also attended Alcorn State University and was employed with the Vidalia Police Department. He was the pastor of Forest Aid Baptist Church, the Minister of Music at Mt. Carmel Baptist Church and Executive Director of the Youth Department of the Antioch Missionary Baptist Association. He was also a member of the Enoch Lodge #18. Kejuane loved Alcorn football and the band, Vidalia Vikings, loved all genres of music and enjoyed mentoring young people.

He was preceded in death by his mother, grandparents, Elijah and Pearlina Bates, and uncle, Darnell Bates.

Kejuane leaves to cherish his memories, his wife, Chelsea Bates; daughter, Madison Zion Bates; father; sisters, Danessa McCullen and husband Jamal, Dominique King and husband John and Monica Skipper; father and mother-in-law, Autry and Constance Clayton; brother-in-law, Autry Clayton III and sister-in-law, Brittany Clayton; Godsons, Tyler Polk and Khy'len Bush; Goddaughter, Kadesia Hughes; best friends, Brandon Warner, D.W. Howard, Jr., Raymond Riley, Jr., Karl Wilson, Jr., Gary Stewart, Jr., and a host of other special friends and family.

Tribute Wall



“ *Rev. Dr. Kejuane Artez Bates*

September 17, 2022 at 03:10 AM



“ *Deepest Sympathy, 1st Lady Chelsea , Madison, Family and Friends. May the Lord continue to comfort all of us. 🌹🌹 Pastor Kejuane Bates 🌹 will be missed. Love Sis Sheila Thomas*

Sheila Thomas - April 09, 2020 at 02:22 PM



“ *A very great man of god Rest In Peace bro*

james myles - April 08, 2020 at 01:03 PM



“ *Chelsea my heart and prayers are with you and your family. I remember when you were first engaged and planning your special day. Try to remember the happy times and know that y'all will share more in heaven one day. Thoughts and prayers Felice Fortenberry*

Felice Fortenberry - April 08, 2020 at 11:21 AM

AB

“ *Rev. Dr. Kejuane Bates, I refused to believe that you were down ill with COVID-19, and I refused to believe that it had taken your life. You were full of vitality and had a larger than life personality. You loved your family, your church family, youth, singing, and your job as SRO. I pray for Chelsea and Madison because I know what they meant to you. Condolences to all who mourn for you, and a light this candle as a tribute to the life you lived.*



Angela B. Brooks - April 07, 2020 at 01:36 AM

MT

“ *Rest in the arms of Jesus Pastor Bates. You are so loved by many. You will be missed!*



Margie L. Toles - April 06, 2020 at 09:16 PM

SM

“ *Shirley Mazique lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Kejuane Artez Bates*



Shirley Mazique - April 06, 2020 at 08:53 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Rev. Dr. Kejuane Artez Bates.*



April 06, 2020 at 07:18 PM



“ *Dr. Helen J. Wyatt lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Kejuane Artez Bates*



Dr. Helen J. Wyatt - April 06, 2020 at 07:14 PM



May you rest in heaven. My condolences goes out to your wife and daughter. Also to your family and church family as well. You will be truly missed.

Dr. Helen Wyatt - April 06, 2020 at 07:17 PM



“ *We express our deepest condolences and will be praying for your family. We will never forget the first time we heard him sing, such a beautiful voice. He never met a stranger and loved to make jokes. He was truly a God-fearing man and loved his family so very much. We love you! -Dunbar & Sellars Family*

Jelesia Sellars - April 06, 2020 at 06:33 PM

GC

“ It is with broken hearts 📍 that we express our deepest condolences. We will be praying for your family, Forest Aide Baptist Church, and the many special friends that are struggling with this tremendous loss. May God comfort and bring peace to your heavy hearts. May you hold onto All the joy your memories can bring of your beloved husband, son, father, Pastor, family and friend.



Pastor Wilsonni Johnson and the Greater St. James Missionary Baptist Church Family

Greater St. James Baptist Church - April 06, 2020 at 04:04 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Rev. Dr. Kejuane Artez Bates.



April 06, 2020 at 01:59 PM

DF

“ Rest on Kejuane! I will always remember the love you had for your mother during her time on earth and I always knew that one day you would marry and show your wife love and respect! Wake heaven up with that voice and tell your mom to sing something for me 🙏



Dr. Connie Fleming - April 06, 2020 at 01:19 PM

MA

“ *May you rest in heaven. My condolences goes out to your wife and daughter. Also to your family and church family as well. You will be truly missed.*



Melissa Ashley - April 06, 2020 at 12:38 PM

RO

“ *I know Kejuane and Dorothy have heaven rocking with singing and praises.*
Love,
Rose



Rose - April 06, 2020 at 10:52 AM

WH

“ *Due to safety precautions concerning COVID-19 and Mississippi's Shelter in Place Order; there will be no public visitation for Rev. Dr. Kejuane Bates. West Gate Funeral Home will host a Drive-By Visitation/ Acknowledgment for Chelsea & Maddison Bates on Monday, April 6, 2020, from 4:00 to 4:35 P.M. in front of the funeral home - 409 N. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Street, Natchez, MS 39120. You may drive by and drop off cards to the family. Online condolences may be sent to www.westgatefh.com where you can light a candle and share a memory in honor of Dr. Bates. Also, monetary donations may be sent to his wife via cash app at \$chelsbates08.*

West Gate Funeral Home - April 06, 2020 at 10:18 AM

NC

“ *Netasha Clayton-Knight lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Kejuane Artez Bates*



Netasha Clayton-Knight - April 06, 2020 at 10:18 AM

TF

“ *R.I.H. Cousin Kejuan. Chelsea and Madison, you are in our prayers.* 🙏🙏❤️🥺



Tracy Fleming - April 06, 2020 at 10:16 AM

CC

“ *Charlotte Cain lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Kejuane Artez Bates*



Charlotte Cain - April 06, 2020 at 09:01 AM

CC

“ *So sorry for the family and friends of Mr. Bates. I didn't really know him, but he is a neighbor of mine. My grandson, Cruse Cain knew him from working at Vidalia Jr. High. He would tell me things about him and I could tell he had great respect for him. He was very loved and respected by the whole town of Vidalia. My thoughts and prayers go up for his lovely wife and precious daughter. With great sympathy, Charlotte Cain*

Charlotte Cain - April 06, 2020 at 08:58 AM

RE

“ I had the honor of getting to know Kejuane at work when he would pick up his road crew at the Con. Work release building about 10 years ago. He always had a smile on his face and a positive attitude no matter what. He will be greatly missed. Praying for his family that God will give you peace in comfort during this difficult time!



Rebekah - April 06, 2020 at 07:34 AM

TC

“ Love and condolences sent to his family and friends.



Tequana Curtis - April 06, 2020 at 01:42 AM

CJ

“ Courtney Green Johnson lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Kejuane Artez Bates



Courtney Green Johnson - April 05, 2020 at 11:50 PM

TJ

“ Tracy R Jones lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Kejuane Artez Bates



Tracy R Jones - April 05, 2020 at 11:39 PM

RW

“ *Rosa Wilson lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Kejuane Artez Bates*



Rosa Wilson - April 05, 2020 at 11:03 PM

JM

I want to light a candle but I don't know how

Jacqueline Marsaw - April 06, 2020 at 06:14 AM

JM

I would like to light a candle for Pastor Bates

Jacqueline Marsaw - April 06, 2020 at 06:15 AM

AJ

“ *May God keep you in this difficult time. Kejuane will be truly missed. He is singing in the heavenly choir. We were blessed to have known him. To the family my God comfort you in this time and give you peace that surpasses all understanding. Till we meet again.*

Ashley Jernigan - April 05, 2020 at 10:58 PM

BJ

“ *Chelesa you have our deepest sympathy. Johnell and Brenda Jarvis*



Brenda Jarvis - April 05, 2020 at 10:49 PM

FD

“ *Flecea Davis lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Kejuane Artez Bates*



Flecea Davis - April 05, 2020 at 10:24 PM

EE

“ *Ellen Edwards lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Kejuane Artez Bates*



Ellen Edwards - April 05, 2020 at 10:22 PM

LT

“ *Luberta Thomas sent a virtual gift in memory of Rev. Dr. Kejuane Artez Bates*



luberta thomas - April 05, 2020 at 10:19 PM

CW

“ *Those we love don't go away, they walk beside us every day. Unseen, unheard, but always near, still loved, still missed and very dear. Author Unknown. My deepest condolences to you, your daughter, and family.*



Carolyn Wyatt - April 05, 2020 at 10:16 PM

EC

“ *The kids and I are really going to miss you. You always fussed about me working so much and needing some rest. I’m resting now and you aren’t here. You will forever be in our hearts Dr./Rev/Officer Bates.*



Eboni Campbell - April 05, 2020 at 10:05 PM

LW

“ *Chelsea and Madison, we know this a difficult time but just know that you are being prayed for and thought of. Kejuane and I were friends through music and he and I were the music ministry for Antioch BC so Magyar years ago. He knew music like he knew the gospel and he took it seriously. God bless him for being the MOG he was and the husband and father also. God bless you and your family. Love Ministers Clarence and Linda Fletcher White.*



Linda Fletcher White - April 05, 2020 at 09:40 PM

CP

“ *Catherine Pollard lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Kejuane Artez Bates*



Catherine Pollard - April 05, 2020 at 08:58 PM

IH

“ *India Bates Harris sent a virtual gift in memory of Rev. Dr. Kejuane Artez Bates*



India Bates Harris - April 05, 2020 at 08:56 PM

JF

“ *Rest peacefully my dear friend! I'm still in disbelief but I know god makes no mistakes. You made your mark here on earth & touched the lives of so many people. Fly high big guy, I know you're singing up there. Chelsea & Maddie I love you both & May god keep you in perfect peace!*



Jasmine Fitzgerald - April 05, 2020 at 08:55 PM

IH

“ *Mrs. Bates Champ want you and Madison to know that he loves you. Officer Bates as he call him was his hero and a 2nd father to him. He thank him for the time he has with him at VUE, he made sure Champ was good. Kejuane you will be missed. Love Champ*

India Bates Harris - April 05, 2020 at 08:53 PM

CM

“ *Praying for you Chelsey, Madison & family! Our hearts are broken. We lost a dear friend & coworker at VUE. He was one of a kind and will be truly missed. Chelsey I pray that god wraps his loving arms around you, guides you, strengthens you & comforts you and your family in the days ahead. Cindy Moore*



Cindy Moore - April 05, 2020 at 08:37 PM

CR

“ I love you cousin. Definitely going to miss you and our talks.

Crystal Robinson - April 05, 2020 at 08:34 PM

AG

“ Alfredia Green lit a candle in memory of Rev.
Dr. Kejuane Artez Bates



alfredia green - April 05, 2020 at 08:32 PM

AG

My condolences to you all.

alfredia green - April 05, 2020 at 08:33 PM

LM

“ RIH my friend 🥺💔



LaToya McCoy - April 05, 2020 at 08:22 PM

GJ

“ Rest In Peace Kejuane.



Gregory and Katrina Jackson - April 05, 2020 at 08:18 PM

SH

“ *Rest in Heaven Kejuane. You will forever be remembered.* ”



Shelia Hickingbottom - April 05, 2020 at 08:08 PM

BH

“ *Bre'Honor & Brenda Harris lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Kejuane Artez Bates* ”



Bre'Honor & Brenda Harris - April 05, 2020 at 08:00 PM

TW

“ *Tera Williams sent a virtual gift in memory of Rev. Dr. Kejuane Artez Bates* ”



Tera Williams - April 05, 2020 at 07:58 PM

TW

“ *My prayer and condolences to Chelsea, Maddison, and family. May God strengthen you all at this time.* ”

Tera Williams - April 05, 2020 at 07:57 PM

TW

“ *Tia Williams lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Kejuane Artez Bates*



Tia Williams - April 05, 2020 at 07:55 PM

LS

“ *Laura Smith lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Kejuane Artez Bates*



Laura Smith - April 05, 2020 at 07:46 PM

MC

“ *Martha Combs lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Kejuane Artez Bates*



Martha Combs - April 05, 2020 at 07:42 PM

TM

“ *Tracy Myles lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Kejuane Artez Bates*



Tracy Myles - April 05, 2020 at 07:40 PM

MS

“ *Melissa South lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Kejuane Artez Bates*



Melissa South - April 05, 2020 at 07:36 PM

DW

“ *Prayers for the Bates family*



Darlene Williams - April 05, 2020 at 07:35 PM

AM

“ *Alfredia McDowell-Ward lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Kejuane Artez Bates*



Alfredia McDowell-Ward - April 05, 2020 at 07:20 PM

CB

“ *Coretta Branch lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Kejuane Artez Bates*



Coretta Branch - April 05, 2020 at 07:16 PM

QB

“ Queen B lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Kejuane Artez Bates



Queen B - April 05, 2020 at 07:14 PM

MW

“ The Ursher Ministry of the AMB Association lights a candle in his memory. R.I.H



Maranda Woods - April 05, 2020 at 07:12 PM

JP

“ Jackie Posey lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Kejuane Artez Bates



Jackie Posey - April 05, 2020 at 07:10 PM



“ Maxine Railey sent a virtual gift in memory of Rev. Dr. Kejuane Artez Bates



Maxine Railey - April 05, 2020 at 01:22 AM

FW

“ Freddie & Bettie Ward lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Kejuane Artez Bates



Freddie & Bettie Ward - April 05, 2020 at 12:45 AM

MJ

“ With my condolences to the bates family and from the Johnson family we have you in our prayers



Marcus Johnson - April 04, 2020 at 08:38 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Rev. Dr. Kejuane Artez Bates.



April 04, 2020 at 07:15 PM

DJ

“ Dina Johnson lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Kejuane Artez Bates



Dina Johnson - April 04, 2020 at 06:56 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Rev. Dr. Kejuane Artez Bates.*



April 04, 2020 at 06:19 PM



“ *Ashley Henry-Walton lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Kejuane Artez Bates*



Ashley Henry-Walton - April 04, 2020 at 04:56 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Rev. Dr. Kejuane Artez Bates.*



April 04, 2020 at 02:30 PM



“ *Joyce Lewis lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Kejuane Artez Bates*



Joyce Lewis - April 04, 2020 at 12:33 PM

EH

“ Eddie Hobson lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Kejuane Artez Bates



Eddie Hobson - April 04, 2020 at 12:27 PM

RB

“ We love you and will miss you dearly Kejuane. ❤️



Rashaun Bates - April 04, 2020 at 11:20 AM

AW

“ Ann White lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Kejuane Artez Bates



Ann white - April 04, 2020 at 10:27 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Rev. Dr. Kejuane Artez Bates.



April 04, 2020 at 10:19 AM

EE

“ Essence Ellis lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Kejuane Artez Bates



Essence Ellis - April 04, 2020 at 09:43 AM

TA

“ He used to tease me so much! Rest easy my classmate! My mom just saw you 2 weeks ago. She told me about how proud your mother would be of you today. And here we are 2 weeks later. We'll never forget you Kejuane!! God bless you and the Bates family at this time!



Tanisha Abraham - April 04, 2020 at 03:36 AM

WH

“ West Gate Funeral Home and staff extends our deepest sympathy to your family. May the memories that you've shared with Kejuane bring you peace and joy during this difficult time. The sweet spirit of Pastor Bates will forever be in your hearts. We will continue to pray for you and Madison.

West Gate Funeral Home - April 03, 2020 at 11:38 PM

WH

“ West Gate Funeral Home lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Kejuane Artez Bates



West Gate Funeral Home - April 03, 2020 at 11:35 PM

EH

“ Eddie Hobson lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Kejuane Artez Bates



eddie hobson - April 03, 2020 at 05:38 PM

CS

“ Christina B. Smith purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Rev. Dr. Kejuane Artez Bates.



Christina B. Smith - April 02, 2020 at 04:25 PM

CS

“ Cousin/Godson
I reflect on the tiny baby that was place in my arms praying over you in church, standing beside your mom. Now you are in heaven with her. I miss you, love you and will always hold you close in my heart.



Christina B. Smith - April 02, 2020 at 03:59 PM

GG

“ Almighty Father, source of forgiveness and salvation, grant that our relatives who have passed from this life may come to share your Eternal happiness through Christ our Lord.
Amen
RIP Cousin



Gloria Prater Grennell - April 02, 2020 at 01:34 PM

KP

“ Rest in Love Cousin 💙



Kimberly Prater - April 02, 2020 at 11:50 AM

LM

“ *“My Cuz” is how we would greet each other when we talked. My cousin you will be truly missed especially your strong & touching spiritual singing voice. I know you & your mom are singing together beautifully in Heaven.*



Linda Bates Murray - April 02, 2020 at 11:22 AM

PB

“ In loving memory of my Cuz, Dr Kjuane Bates. Rest In Peace ❤️❤️❤️ 100



Peggy Bacon - April 02, 2020 at 11:00 AM

PP

“ Oh Keyuane how I remember the passion you would always sang with! You were so much like your mom Dorothy. RIP

Pastor Prater - April 02, 2020 at 10:48 AM

CS

“ *Cartrell Smith lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Kejuane Artez Bates*



Cartrell Smith - April 02, 2020 at 10:22 AM

MK

“ *Mary Ann King lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Kejuane Artez Bates*



Mary Ann King - April 02, 2020 at 09:51 AM

LB

“ *Larry Blackmon lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Kejuane Artez Bates*



Larry Blackmon - April 02, 2020 at 09:44 AM



“ 🙏 *miss you cousin lighting a candle for kejuan Bates!*



Glinda Hoggatt - April 02, 2020 at 09:34 AM



“ Oh how I will miss your singing cousin 🙏! Lighting a candle for Kejuan Bates

Glinda Hoggatt - April 02, 2020 at 09:31 AM



“ Pastor Eugene Prater lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Kejuane Artez Bates



Pastor Eugene Prater - April 02, 2020 at 09:01 AM



“ Dr. Chris Prater lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Kejuane Artez Bates



Dr. Chris prater - April 02, 2020 at 08:57 AM



“ Love You Kejuane ❤️



Anthony Bates - April 02, 2020 at 08:54 AM

CB

“ *Connie Matthews Blackmon lit a candle in memory of Rev. Dr. Kejuane Artez Bates*



Connie Matthews Blackmon - April 02, 2020 at 08:52 AM