

GRANDMASTER ROC RAIDA: 1972 – 2009 (accurate information straight from his wife about the funeral and other details)



Although his family called him “Ant” (short for Anthony), he became known worldwide as legendary DJ Roc Raida. In 1999, Grand Master status was bestowed upon him by a group of pioneering Hip Hop DJs, during a conference at the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame & Museum.

Before he passed, he asked his 10 yr. old daughter, Nyra, who was the most interested, of his children, in DJing to take over for him as a DJ. She agreed – so look out for Nyra!

With a very aggressive swagger on the turntables, those who knew Roc Raida were floored by his humbleness. His wife, Tyeasha said, “His notoriety amazed him every day!” He never took that for granted. Williams was also known to be very quiet, private and easy going. His self-control was admirable but if pushed to his limit – he would roar. In fact, Lord Finesse called his friend “the quiet lion” for this very reason. Those closest to him also have the pleasure of remembering him as a hilarious comedian who loved to joke and laugh.

Through battles, performances, recordings, documentaries, videos, dvds and even a Pepsi commercial, Roc Raida influenced thousands of DJs, both to partyrock as well as to battle. He took several aspiring DJs under his wing to mentor them personally. As a member of legendary turntablist crews, The X-

Men and later, The X-ecutioners, he along with his brothers-in-vinyl took the world by storm, innovating, influencing and inspiring at every turn. In 2006, to progress and contribute to the Hip Hop DJ battle scene, he founded Roc Raida's Gong DJ Battle, a national DJ battle that occurs annually, combining head to head turntablist dexterity with comedy and drama.

Not only was he a World Champion DJ, he was a dedicated father and husband as well as a loyal friend. Rest in Peace Roc Raida we are really going to miss you!

Funeral Arrangements and Viewing will take place on Thursday, September 24, 2009

The viewing for Anthony Williams will be held from 10am to 12 noon, immediately followed by the funeral beginning at 12noon at:

Mount Neboh Baptist Church

1883 Adam Clayton Powell Jr. Blvd. (W.114th St. & 7th Ave)

New York NY, 10026

Phone: 212.866.7880

<http://mountneboh.org>

For those intending to send flowers, please kindly have them delivered to the church on September 24th, 2009 only between 9am – 10am.

The family requests that no filming or photography take place within the church at all.

Directions: 2 or 3 train to W. 116th St. Walk West on 116th St towards Lenox Ave. or take the M11 bus to W 116th St and Adam C Powell Blvd. Try www.hopstop.com for more directions.

All accurate information, official tributes and fundraisers (approved by the family) will be posted at:

<http://www.myspace.com/rocraida>

<http://www.myspace.com/thegongdjbattle>

Because many have asked how to send support, a paypal.com account has been set up.

The email address associated with the account is:
ladietye@yahoo.com

Press, please contact toolsofwar@gmail.com for hi res or lo res photos of Roc Raida, more information, etc.

“As one of the Godfathers of Hip Hop, it is a tremendous loss to the Dj community. It’s sometimes rare to meet an individual who was a supertalent, but was so mild mannered and so calm. His skill level was admired worldwide. It was pleasure to see him in action. It was a pleasure to know him. I give my condolences to his family.” – Grandmaster Flash