



James Jean-Louis

September 20, 1988 - May 8, 2025

It is with profound sadness we mourn the passing of James “Tank” Jean-Louis, who entered into eternal rest in the early hours of May 8, 2025. James’s life, though cut tragically short at the age of 36, was a vibrant tapestry woven with threads of faith, athleticism, adventure, and unwavering love for his family and community.

Born in Cambridge, Massachusetts, to Haitian parents Pastor Jean Jean-Louis and Marie Jocelyn St. Surin, James was the third of five children. He embodied the strength and resilience of his Haitian heritage, forging a path marked by extraordinary achievement and an infectious zest for life.

As a teenager, the best gift that God could bestow upon James was fatherhood. James has repeatedly said that having children saved and changed his life for the better. The love for his two children superseded everything. Semaj, his namesake and muse, was the catalyst to James seeking more for his legacy. He persevered all odds to provide a life that Semaj could be proud of. Two years ago, James welcomed his second son, Atreus. James was so elated to have the chance to become a father again. He doted on his children with tough but necessary love. He never wanted them to struggle when he could be there to provide for them.

James was a magnetic force both in personality and presence. At 36, he had

accomplished feats that most people only dream of. At an early age, James knew his athleticism would take him far if he continued to develop his craft. His passion for people and fitness led to his career as a fitness and personal trainer.

His career took a tremendous leap when he decided to invest in himself and his passion for fitness which he landed a spot on a fitness competition show. James went on to compete against dozens of talented fitness professionals to become the season one winner of the NBC's Titan Games.

James's life was a vibrant adventure. He wasn't just a fitness expert; he was a passionate adventurer, traversing the globe and immersing himself in diverse cultures. His love for motorcycles, hiking, biking, and skydiving reflected his bold spirit and outrageous embrace of life's thrills. But beyond these achievements, James's true legacy lies in the impact he had on the people around him. He was a charismatic and magnetic force, a jokester with a booming laugh and a heart full of compassion. He built a strong community around himself, cherishing his chosen family and always pushing others to reach their full potential, both physically and personally. He inspired countless individuals to pursue their dreams with the same dedication and passion he exhibited.

The void left by James's passing is immeasurable. He leaves behind an enduring legacy, his two beloved sons: Semaj and Atreus, who will carry on his spirit of strength and resilience. He is also survived by his siblings: Samuel, Jennifer, Hussein, and Jasmine; his sister-in-law: Jirdelle; his niece and nephews: Tahnegsa, Isaiah, and Isaac; his extended family: The Jean-Louis (stateside and abroad), Nelson, Joseph, Desruisseaux, Charles, St. Surin, Louis, Augustin, Adain, Poulard, Gibson, Sylney, Peltrop, Laferve, Rosemond, Bimin, and Fleurme.

He is met by the loving embrace of several family members who preceded him in eternal rest, including his grandmothers, Lucienne Poulard and Ermise Lafleche, Aunt Marie Yolene Joseph, and cousins Al and Netopha Joseph.

Cemetery Details

CABALLERO RIVERO SOUTHERN

15000 WEST DIXIE HIGHWAY
MIAMI, FL 33181

Previous Events

VIEWING

MAY **23**. 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM (ET)

St Forts Funeral Home
16480 N.E. 19th Avenue
North Miami Beach, FL 33162
info@stfortsfuneralhome.com
<https://www.stfortsfuneralhome.com/>

Service

MAY **24**. 9:00 AM (ET)

Bethel Evangelical Baptist Church
17601 NW 2nd Ave
Miami Gardens, FL 33169

Repass

MAY **24**. 1:30 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Bethel Evangelical Baptist Church
17601 NW 2nd Ave
Miami Gardens, FL 33169-5001
(305) 280-0534

Tribute Wall



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of James Jean-Louis.

May 24, 2025 at 11:51 AM



“ My deepest condolences to the Jean-Louis family and all who are affected by this profound loss. May "Tank" rest in eternal peace, and may you find strength and comfort during this difficult time.

Karen Jean-Louis - May 22, 2025 at 07:50 PM

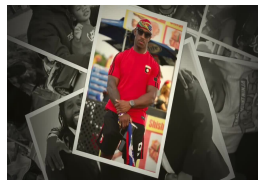


“ Karen J. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James Jean-Louis.

Karen J. - May 22, 2025 at 07:46 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



St. Forts Funeral Home - May 21, 2025 at 10:30 AM



“ North Miami Senior High planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of James Jean-Louis.

North Miami Senior High - May 20, 2025 at 01:00 PM

NH

“ *North Miami Senior High purchased the Shades of Purple for the family of James Jean-Louis.* ”



North Miami Senior High - May 20, 2025 at 01:00 PM