



Benjamin Dawkins, III

December 9, 1965 - February 16, 2026

Benjamin Dawkins III, known as "D.J.Ben" was born on December 9, 1965, in Chicago, Illinois, Benjamin was a lifelong resident of the city he proudly called home. Benjamin graduated from Washburne Trade School where he pursued a career in electrician, and carpentry in 1983. He went on to dedicate over three decades of service as a Mail Handler with the United States Postal Service beginning in 1994. Benjamin put his talent to use by building equipment to make his job easier at the post office. He was known for his dedication, strong work ethic, and the genuine friendships he cultivated throughout his career. Music was one of Benjamin's greatest passion as a talented deejay. He brought energy and joy to countless family gatherings and celebrations. He also shared this passion with the community as a deejay at his second job

at Phase 2 Lounge, weddings, anniversaries and birthday parties where he was known for keeping the crowd moving and the atmosphere lively. He loved hosting parties, bringing people together, and making sure everyone had a good time. His laughter, rhythm, and love for fellowship will always be remembered. Benjamin kept his personal religious beliefs private, but he lived by a strong moral compass. He believed in treating others the way he wanted to be treated and carried himself with integrity, fairness, and convictions. His strength of character and unwavering principles were evident in the way he loved, supported, and stood up for those around him.

Benjamin was called home to be with the Lord on February 16, 2026. He was preceded in death by his parents, Julia Mae Dawkins (1996) and Ben Dawkins Jr. (2002), and his beloved son, Benjamin James Dawkins (2021).

Benjamin leaves to cherish his memories his beloved wife of 30 years, Shinnette; his children, Michael Bowdery (Naomi), Barbara Trimble-Pearson (Jamie), and Antoinette Trimble-Jones (Damon); his brothers Victor Dawkins (Sharon) and Anthony Dawkins (Barbara); his sisters

Delisa Blythe and Victoria Dawkins; (7) grandchildren, his loving Mother-in-law Barbara Hubbard and a host of uncles, aunts, nephews, and nieces, and other extended family, and friends.

Benjamin's legacy of love, music, integrity, and unity will live on in all who knew him.

Cemetery Details

Private

Previous Events

Public Viewing

MAR 6. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Calahan Funeral Home - Legacy Center
7046 S. Halsted
Chicago, IL 60621

Visitation

MAR 7. 12:30 PM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Calahan Funeral Home - Legacy Center
7046 S. Halsted
Chicago, IL 60621

Funeral Service

MAR 7. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Calahan Funeral Home - Legacy Center
7046 S. Halsted
Chicago, IL 60621

Repast

MAR 7. 2:30 PM - 4:30 PM (CT)

Kingdom Encounter Hope 1 Church
7023 S. Halsted Street
Chicago, IL 60621

Tribute Wall



“ To Shinnette and the rest of the family, my condolences to all of you, and you are all in my prayers.
Brother Ben was definitely one of my all-time favorite co-workers. We related on so many levels, especially tool talk. He was a great co-worker and friend, and Brother Ben will be truly missed.

Thomas Marbury - March 06 at 01:53 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Benjamin Dawkins, III.



March 06 at 01:18 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Benjamin Dawkins, III.

March 06 at 01:18 PM

AA

“ Brother Ben!!!! You are truly missed my brother..such an unexpected and devastating end to a great life..life cut short...you were such a great human being with a kind soul and giving heart..A heart of gold...always helping everyone without asking for anything in return..You were a gift to all of us that got to meet you..I for one , am very grateful I met you..Thank you for all the laughs and talks we had. Thank you for welcoming me and my wife to your great family..And everything you did for us at S.W.C.A.....May God embrace you in Paradise with open arms and may He give peace and comfort to your Wife and Children and ALL your loved ones...

alfredo alonso - March 06 at 11:49 AM

DH

“ My condolences to the wife and family I had the honor of meeting Ben at Lincoln park post office Ben was a good person with a heart of gold I was a loaner and Ben made me talk every time he saw me we grew to be friends cause like Ben I love music and he played music everyday at work and made the job easygoing he will truly be missed Denise Hines

Denise Hines - March 05 at 06:03 AM

DA

“ So sorry for your loss he was a wonderful person that I had the pleasure of getting to know while working with him at the post office he will truly be missed but always remembered by me he always made me laugh and kept up good vibes with his music while at work it's not the same without him
Love Always Ben your friend Dorothy

Dorothy Hughes from South West Carrier A - March 04 at 04:01 PM

KY

Condolences to the wife Shinnette and tge family of Ben Dawkins he will always be remembered for definitely cracking jokes and playing the best best of all music and lastly if you knew him you know he was good at making nothing into something once he got a idea to do something considered it done rest well friend.

Kim young - March 05 at 03:40 AM

MF

“ *Melody and Cheryl & Family purchased the Small Garden Dish for the family of Benjamin Dawkins, III.*



Melody and Cheryl & Family - March 04 at 12:01 AM

MF

“ *Melody and Cheryl & Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Benjamin Dawkins, III.*

Melody and Cheryl & Family - March 04 at 12:01 AM