



Celebrating the Life of
Michael Jackson

August 29, 1958 - June 25, 2009

Michael I'm sitting here pondering over what to write as my final good bye to you in print and it had dawned on me that you have generated a wave of unity across this globe. There was so much love in the Staple's Center the night of July 7th, 2009. Everyone there felt your presence, spirit and love. It was magical, but a lot of things you did were magical.

Michael you've done so many great things for others globally that many of us will never be aware of. That's alright because you and the lord know. All of those who have judged you the lord has removed all judgements against you, he has cast out your enemies and will renew you in his love. I catch myself sometimes smiling every so often knowing that you have received the ultimate reward of being in our creator's presence.

Michael you will always stand for love to many people around the world and remember that many people learned the true meaning of love through your example. The way you've helped those in need and helped many of us to be unafraid to show such love to others. The Lord lent you to the world for a short visit during that time you have unified countries in harmony. Now the lord has called for you to return home and has given you a new set of wings. Fly Michael fly and spread love in ways you have never imagine.

You've improved the world greatly during your visit and left us with the tools to continue to positively change. Your impact is only beginning to be felt and will last forever.

I LOVE YOU AND MISS YOU,

Study Peace, Marlon Jackson Sr.

What is a Brother?

My Brother Michael was just that in every sense of the word. Loyal, Honest, Giving, Trustworthy, a true friend, caring and most of all loving. Michael possessed all of these wonderful characteristics and so many more. I greatly miss his laughter, that angelic voice but most of all I miss his beautiful smile.

I love you madly,
Rest in peace
Tito

I've always been proud of you as my brother, and of your accomplishments as the world's greatest entertainer, writer, creator, and humanitarian, and above all a great father and a kindhearted human being. I miss you Michael, and the world misses you as well.

Your big brother, Jackie

Michael I always think about the time when you and I were in our bedroom in Indiana and it was snowing outside, we had our faces pressed against the window singing x-mas songs. It was the innocence and joy that made us sing as the snow was falling. I feel you all the time, your spirit is very much alive and the love and joy to billions of people around the world, its only the beginning of your duties for Allah. He has you now, and he will keep you safe because this world was never meant for someone as beautiful as you.

Jermaine

To the world Michael is an icon
To me Michael is family
He will forever live in all of our hearts
I miss you Mike and I love you.

Dunk

You've lived your dream, you've proven to us all that if you believe, you will achieve; you believed, and oh my, did you achieve! What you've accomplished is astounding - no one can ever possibly follow! Your dreams were so incredible that it made the world a much happier place to live, and the world wouldn't let you rest because they demanded your dreams to transport them to another place!

You've done your work here Michael, you've entertained us for decades and there's nothing else that you can prove or accomplish here on earth. You taught us how to laugh, how to love and how to believe. God has now called for you to come home, collect your wings and to fulfill your demands in Heaven and continue your magic amongst the angels.

Mike I love you deeply and I can't wait to see you perform again.

KEEP THE MAGIC GOING !!!

La Toya

I love you so much and I'm looking forward to the time when I'll see you again on Earth (John 5:28-29). I know this is something you not only cherished but talked about with others.

Then the world will be a paradise, a place free from corruption and poverty.

Then the world will be a place of true peace and serenity.

This is what we were all looking to, then I'll see you again.

Sleep in peace, because as the bible says, your just asleep,

and I look forward to life without end at last (Psalm 37:28)

Your sister Rebbie

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OPENING PRAYER

SONG

CALL FOR REMARKS & STORIES

SONG

PROCESSIONAL

PASTOR LUCIUS SMITH

GLADYS KNIGHT
Accom GREG PHILLINGANES

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GLADYS KNIGHT
Accom GREG PHILLINGANES

PALL BEARERS:

Jackie Jackson,
Tito Jackson,
Jermaine Jackson,
Marlon Jackson,
Randy Jackson

Internment

September 3, 2009

Forest Lawn Memorial Park
Glendale, California

Repass

Villa Sorriso

168 Colorado Blvd., Pasadena, California

Acknowledgment

Perhaps you made a comforting call or sat quietly in a chair
Perhaps you sent a card or a dish of food; If so we saw it there

Perhaps you spoke the kindest words any friend could say

Perhaps you were not there at all, just thought of us that day

Whatever you did to console our hearts, we thank you so much

Whatever the part, may God bless you

The Jackson Family



Michael Joseph Jackson was born on August 29, 1958. He was the seventh child of Joseph and Katherine Jackson. Michael and his older brothers (Jackie, Tito, Jermaine, and Marlon) were thrust into the spotlight when their father, Joseph Jackson, a steel mill worker in Gary, Indiana, formed a singing group out of his sons and called them The Jackson 5. Even though Michael was the youngest, it became immediately obvious that he had something special. Armed with a magical voice mature beyond its tender years and a crowd-charming charisma that rivaled any seasoned entertainer, little Michael led his brothers from winning local talent contests to a recording contract with Motown Records in the late 1960's. The group quickly began turning out hit after hit for their new record label and remained a hit-making machine throughout the '70's. During their time at Motown, Michael also began a successful solo recording career that would run parallel to his work with his brothers.

In 1976, the Jacksons left Motown and signed with Epic Records where they continued to crank out one hit after another. Michael ventured into film when, in 1978 he starred opposite Diana Ross in *The Wiz*, an African-American remake of the *Wizard of Oz*. The film put Michael on a collision course with destiny because it introduced him to legendary producer Quincy Jones who arranged the film's score.

Michael and Quincy collaborated on his next solo project, 'Off The Wall.' And with that album Michael was immediately transformed into an adult superstar. The album was released in 1979 to critical praise for its crossover blending of soul and rock and its non-stop boogie groove. With the help of number one hits "Don't Stop 'Til You Get Enough" and "Rock With You", the album sold 10 million copies and went multi platinum. It's hard to believe that any artist could top a success like that.

But in 1982, that's just what Michael did with the release of a monster album called 'Thriller.' 'Thriller' broke all kinds of records. To date, it has sold more than 108 million copies worldwide (that's more than any other album before it or since). The album spawned a record six top ten singles and spent a record breaking 37 weeks at number one. It remains the best selling album of all time. That year Michael also won an unprecedented eight Grammy Awards - 7 for 'Thriller' and 1 for 'E.T.-The Storybook Album.' Much of Thriller's success was due, in part, to the advent of music videos. Hits like "Billie Jean," "Beat It," and "Thriller" came alive before our very eyes when paired with a cool story line and Michael's amazing dancing ability. Michael's short films not only helped pioneer the video medium but also broke MTV's color barrier in the process. "Thriller" made Michael Jackson an American pop icon.

At the same time as his unprecedented success with 'Thriller,' Michael and his brothers recorded a new album and in 1984 they launched the Victory Tour, a show that would prove to be the biggest selling and most extravagant in the history of the music business up to that time. This was to be the Jacksons final tour together.

Michael's 'Bad,' was released in 1987, selling over 25 million copies worldwide, it included the hit singles "I Just Can't Stop Loving You," "The Way You Make Me Feel," and "Man In The Mirror." Accompanied by his first ever solo world tour (the biggest concert tour in history), the Bad album generated 5 consecutive number one hits (a feat unequalled since).

In 1991, with his next album, 'Dangerous,' Michael continued the astronomical sales figures with 23 million copies sold worldwide. With Dangerous came more state of the art videos and another amazing concert tour in 1992.

In 1993 Michael became the first major recording artist to perform the Super Bowl halftime show, giving the Super Bowl it's largest television audience to date.

In 1995, Michael released his most ambitious project yet. 'HIStory Past, Present and Future Book I' was a massive double album containing 15 of Michael's greatest hits from his previous four albums and 15 brand new songs. 'HIStory' saw Michael turning a corner creatively as the 15 new songs were some of the most personal songs he has ever recorded. By January of 1996, 'HIStory' had been certified six times platinum in the United States alone and it is still the most successful double album of all time.

In May of 1997 Michael released 'Blood On The Dance floor: HIStory In The Mix.' The album contained 5 new songs (some of the best work he's ever done, according to many critics), and 8 remixes from 'HIStory.' Some saw this remix CD as a brilliant idea because it brought a two-year-old album back to the forefront. Also in the spring of 1997, Michael and his brothers (the Jackson 5) were inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. Artists become eligible for induction 25 years after the release of their first record. In December of 1997 Michael's most ambitious video ever was released.

A short film, 'Ghosts' included one song from the 'HIStory' album and two songs from the 'Blood On The Dancefloor' album and Michael played several of the main characters himself. 1997 also saw the beginning of a whole new world for Michael on a personal level. In February of that year Michael's son named Prince Michael Joseph Jackson Jr. was born. A daughter, Paris-Michael Katherine Jackson, followed in April of 1998. Michael has said that fatherhood is his greatest dream come true.

2001 was another big year for Michael. First, in the spring of that year, Michael was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame for the second time; this time as a solo artist. Then, in celebration of his 30th Anniversary as a solo artist, Michael attended two "tribute" concerts on the 7th and 10th of September. Some of the biggest names in the music industry paid tribute to him by performing his songs. The real treat for fans however, came toward the end of the concerts when the King of Pop took to the stage himself; performing first with his brothers and then with such stars as N'Sync, Britney Spears and Usher. In October of 2001 Michael finally released his long awaited new album, 'Invincible.'

In 2002 Michael became a father again when his third child was born; a son named Prince Michael II, known affectionately as 'Blanket.' In November of 2003, Michael released a Greatest Hits compilation called 'Number 1's.' This album included 16 previously released tracks spanning his career from 'Off The Wall' through 'Invincible;' plus the new single, "One More Chance." It also included a live version of his #1 hit "Ben" on the US pressing and "Blood On The Dance Floor" on the European pressing.

2004 was yet another busy year. March saw the release of the DVD 'Michael Jackson-The One.' The DVD featured 44 minutes taken from a CBS special, footage from the HIStory Tour and behind-the-scenes footage. In April Michael was presented with a Golden Elephant for his work fighting AIDS in Africa by the AASA (African Ambassadors' Spouses Association). In November the eagerly awaited 'Michael Jackson: The Ultimate Collection' arrived. This 5 disc anthology is packed with songs that span the entire extraordinary career of the King of Pop (from 1969-2004). It also includes early demos of some favorite hits plus several rare gems never released before. Also in November, Michael was inducted into the UK's first Hall Of Fame for Music.

In 2006 Sony-BMG Europe released 20 of Michael's greatest hits on the new CD/DVD format. The box set was called 'Visionary: The Video Singles.' The singles were released over a five month period and the new "dual disc" format features the single on one side with the video on the other. In November, Michael received the prestigious Diamond Award at the World Music Awards in London. 2007 saw much preparation for the 25th Anniversary of the biggest selling album of all time. In celebration of 'Thriller;' 25 years later, Michael appeared on the cover of several magazines around the world; among them Ebony (USA), L'Umo Vogue (Italy) and Rolling Stone (Japan).

In January of 2008, as part of the 25th Anniversary celebration, Michael allowed the song "Thriller" be used in an ad campaign for Sobe Life Water. The commercial, which featured cute little lizards (the logo for Sobe) doing the Thriller dance with supermodel Naomi Campbell, aired during the Super Bowl and was voted as one of the favorites of the evening. The album, 'Thriller 25,' was released worldwide in early February 2008. This new release featured the original album plus 7 new bonus tracks, 6 of them previously unreleased. Some of the new bonus tracks featured remixes by Akon, will.i.am, Kanye West, and Fergie. 'Thriller' has definitely stood the test of time because this 25 year old album held on to the number one or number two position on album charts around the world for the first three weeks of it's release, proving once again that Michael Jackson truly is, and will always remain, the one and only King of Pop!

2009 promised to be a special year for Michael and his millions of fans all over the world. In March of that year, Michael announced that he would be performing his last concerts in London during the summer of '09 at the O2 Arena. The set of shows was to be called "This Is It," and fan response was so overwhelming that the announced number of shows quickly grew from 10 to 50 and all 50 shows sold out within a few hours. Fans around the world were filled with excitement and anticipation as this would be the King of Pop's first concert tour in 12 years.

Sadly, the "This Is It" tour was not meant to be. Just two weeks before opening night, on June 25, 2009 Michael Jackson passed away. The world lost not only the greatest entertainer of our time but also a wonderful father, friend, and humanitarian. Michael is survived by his 3 children (Prince Michael, Paris, and Blanket), his parents (Joseph and Katherine), 5 brothers (Jackie, Tito, Jermaine, Marlon, and Randy), 3 sisters (Rebbie, LaToya, and Janet), 27 nieces and nephews, and 6 grandnieces and nephews.