

In Memoriam



Wesley Victor Montgomery

December 7, 1968 - May 24, 2011

Wesley Montgomery, chief operating officer of the National Performance Network, passed away on Tuesday, May 24, 2011. Born December 7, 1968 in Duarte, CA, his life's work centered on arts, culture and social justice. Wesley previously held positions as director of education for New York City's New Victory Theater and managing director of New WORLD Theater at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. He also served on the boards of directors of the National Performance Network, Amherst a Better Chance, ArtSpot Productions and the NAMES Project. Wesley became a vibrant part of the arts and cultural community in New Orleans, a city that he loved, and was a member of the Original Big 7 Social Aid and Pleasure Club. He leaves a legacy of artistry and excellence, and an indelible mark on the lives he touched as advocate, mentor, brother and friend. Wesley was preceded in death by his father, Edgar Henry Montgomery, Jr., his mother, MaryAnn Victoria Johnson Montgomery, and his brother, Gregory Johnson.

He is survived by brothers Darrell, Edgar, Peter and Paul Montgomery, sisters Sheryl, Janyce and Stephny Montgomery, sisters Apryl Leighton, Crystal McGee and Leanne Lewis, and a host of beloved nieces, nephews, extended family and friends across the United States and abroad.

A celebration of Wesley's life will take place at 1:00 PM on Saturday, May 28, 2011 at Ashé Cultural Arts Center, 1712 Oretha Castle Haley Boulevard in New Orleans. A donation has been made to establish an annual NPN Mentorship & Leadership award in Wesley Montgomery's name. Contributions can be made in support of this award, payable to the National Performance Network. Wesley can also be remembered through a donation to the Porch Cultural Organization through NPN, its fiscal sponsorship partner. In either case, checks should be made out and sent to:

National Performance Network
PO Box 56698
New Orleans, LA 70156

indicating "MLI award" or "Porch" on the memo line.