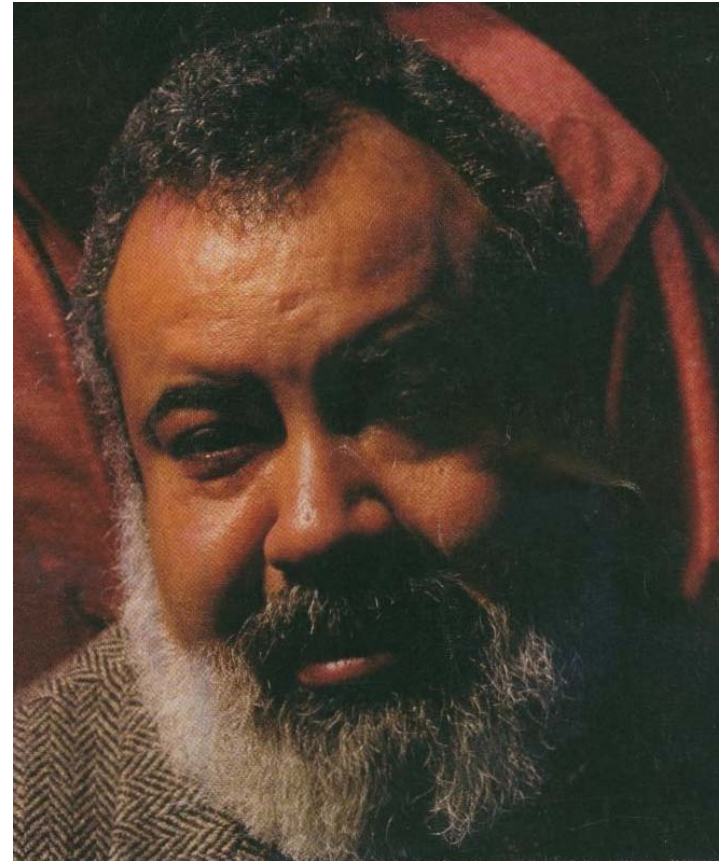


## **A TIME TO HONOR**

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The family wishes to extend love, thanks and blessings to all who have offered their support during this time. Your visits, phone calls, cards, thoughts and prayers strengthen and encourage us. Thank you very much.

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**RHETT S. JONES**

August 6, 2008

We look forward to gathering again in the Fall to celebrate the life and work of Rhett S. Jones.

**RHETT S. JONES**

**AUGUST 9, 1940 – JULY 30, 2008**

On a hot summer day in Chicago, Rhett S. Jones came into this life as the first born son of Jessie and Leonard Jones to begin his extraordinary journey. He spent part of his early years with his maternal grandparents, George and Bertha Tolbert, in the tiny town of Carmi, Illinois and forever honored these graceful formative years. Delightfully, but with some admitted reservation, he shared these happy times with his only brother Gary.

He moved quickly through the Chicago public school system and early on was recognized as an uncommonly intellectually gifted student. He graduated from elementary school with ribbons and honors, setting the die for his entire academic experience. Honors, honors and more honors were piled high. His mom beamed, his dad sighed, and his little brother . . . well. BA with Honors and Distinction, Sociology, University of Illinois; MA Sociology, University of Connecticut; AM, PhD History, Brown University.

In the Spring of 1967, Rhett married Allegra Matthews. The union was blessed with two loving daughters, Jennifer and Ariana, who brought him much joy. In the early 1970s, he became a member of the faculty of Brown University, quickly becoming a popular and admired campus character among colleagues and students. When he signed on as Research Director for Rites and Reason Theatre, his renown and reputation grew. On retirement, he was the grand ‘ole man’, Professor Emeritus of Africana Studies and History. By that time the list of honors and published works had become too numerous to mention, almost an embarrassment of riches.

Beyond all of this, his most cherished and joyous moments were spent with his grandsons – Terrance, Alexander and Colin. His most recent auto purchase, a convertible, was selected with them in mind. Rhett’s story lives also in his beloved Aunt Reba who at age 93 still vividly recounts tales of her first nephew. Others in his surviving family of aunts, cousins and relatives hold him aloft into infinity.

**A TIME TO HONOR**

**RHETT S. JONES**

August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2008

Africana Studies Department/Rites and Reason Theatre  
Brown University  
155 Angell Street  
Providence, Rhode Island 02912

**ORDER OF HONORS**

- MUSIC PRELUDE.....Clarice LaVerne Thompson
- WELCOME.....Anthony Bogues
- LIBATION.....Anani Dzidzienyo
- AN HONOR.....Corey D.B. Walker
- MUSIC HONOR.....Grandsons, Terrance and  
Alexander, and brother, Gary
- THOUGHTS of HONOR.....Daughter, Ariana Louro
- ANOTHER BIG HONOR.....Levi Adams
- PRINCETON PARK DU-WOP HONOR.....Brother, Gary and  
Volunteers
- AN HONORARY READING.....Daughter, Jennifer Jones
- RHETT’S HONOR MESSAGE.....Nomi Hurwitz
- FINAL MUSIC HONOR.....Brother, Gary and volunteers

*Please join family, friends and colleague*

*in the lower level for lunch.*