



## Mr. Timur Anum Baruti, M. D.

June 20, 1958 - August 17, 2020

### Obituary

Timur Anum Baruti, a physician, husband, friend, father, brother, son and community advocate. Timur made his transition on August 17, 2020 while at Henry Ford- Allegiance Hospital in Jackson, Michigan. (He fought the good fight and finished the race).

He was born June 20, 1958 in Detroit, Michigan to Thomas Gibson Sr. (deceased) and Jean H. Ward. He was the fifth of eight children and the second oldest son.

Timur's given name at birth was James Derrick Gibson; during an African naming ceremony he was named Timur Anum Baruti to reflect his value and appreciation of his African ancestry. Ironically, in addition to Sierra Leone being the first African country he visited, later when completing his "African Ancestry" genetic test he was elated to find out that he is a member of the Mende tribe in Sierra Leone.

He attended Bethel Apostolic Faith Church at 3381 Mack Avenue in Detroit, MI with his family and accepted Christ at an early age. He enjoyed spiritual mediation on a regular basis.

Timur, was a young man from humble beginnings. He was raised and attended school in the inner City of Detroit. He was highly motivated and driven to excel in academics. He was determined to make his life's work special and meaningful. Timur graduated from Martin Luther King high school where he was on the swim team and was recognized for his academic

excellence. He later became a lifeguard at River Rouge Park to help pay for his education.

Timur attended the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor and received a Bachelor's of Science in Biology . It was while a student at the University of Michigan that Timur became keenly aware of the existence of health disparities in the Black community. He went on to attend graduate school at Wayne State University School of Medicine in Detroit and graduated in 1986. While at the University of Michigan, he pledged Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Delta Rho, Ann Arbor Chapter. He crossed into frat the cold and snowy winter of 3/26/1977, aided by his only Sands. Together they commandeered a University of Michigan School of Engineering GMC Tour Bus as their secret hid-away, much to their Big Brothers Charging and later dismay.

He was a life-long learner and made sure he was informed of the changes in his discipline; consistently pursuing knowledge and enhancing his ability to provide care that was evidence based and equitable. After a one year surgery fellowship at Harlem Hospital Medical Center in New York, he pursued and completed the Family Medicine Residency and a fellowship in Gastroenterology and Obstetrics at Henry Ford Health Systems in Detroit, Michigan. Timur was a man who did not try to be politically correct, rather spent his life focused on improving the quality of healthcare for those who were disenfranchised.

Timur was joined in holy matrimony with LaToshia L. Love on July 4, 2009 and from this union they raised two children Branden (12) and Imani (14), of Rives Junction. Timur found his soul mate and kindred spirit in LaToshia. They were devoted to each other; allowing each other to explore and pursue their dreams to improve the delivery of health care. Together as entrepreneurs they developed several businesses both locally and globally. He owned and operated, Leslie Family Community Medical Center, an independent family medicine office in Leslie, Michigan. Previously, he was married to Dr. Amina Baruti and from that union 4 children; Akil Baruti (Texas), Anwar Baruti (deceased), Ayana Baruti (Texas) and Brook Smith (Detroit).

Timur enjoyed travelling especially to Africa – making more than 20 trips to the continent. It was here where he was able to achieve his objective of addressing health disparities and improve the quality of life for disadvantaged populations. Dr. Timur Baruti also served as Board Chair and Medical Director of Young Health Pioneers; an organization which strives to bridge healthcare disparity and facilitate access to quality healthcare in Africa and Asia.

While a medical student and during his travels to Sierra Leone, South Africa and Nigeria he observed the inequality in healthcare and became determined to do something about it. Through an NGO, Ghana West Africa Project – Help, started by his Mother Jean Ward, he began to provide support and care to the population at large. His interest was on preventative medicine and improving Africa's health system through capacity building of the human capital. As the Coordinator of the first Responders training program in Sierra Leone, West Africa he provided oversight to a significant number of newly certified trainers. Timur was both a dedicated board certified physician and a down to earth man. His family affectionately referred to him as a farmer at heart, that is a barefoot farmer, because he never liked to wear shoes. In his free time he enjoyed bidding on farm animals at the local auctions, tinkering with tractors and other farm equipment, watching documentaries, educating patients, family and friends on various health topics.

He leaves to cherish his memories: his wife, LaToshia L. Baruti, Children; Imani Love, Branden Love, of Rives Junction, Michigan, Michael Spencer, Westland, MI, Akil Baruti of Frisco, Texas Ayana Anderson of Mansfield, Texas and Brook Smith of Detroit, Michigan, Grandson Pax Anderson of Mansfield, Texas Grand-daughters Aliyah Baruti of Detroit, Michigan, Jazira Anderson, Samira Anderson of Mansfield, Texas and Madison Baruti of Frisco, Texas. Mother; Jean H. Ward; Siblings; Shirley Ali of Hartford, Connecticut, Edwina Gibson of Arlington, Texas, Bertha Gibson, Renae I. Gibson, Thomas Gibson Jr., Shawn Gibson and Orlando Gibson of Detroit, Michigan, and a host of nephews, nieces, cousins and friends. A special mention, Young Health

Pioneer's Board of Directors.

# Cemetery Details

## Elmwood Cemetery

1200 Elmwood Ave.  
Detroit, MI 48207

# Previous Events

## Family Hour

Friday, Aug. **28**. 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

Kadesh Full Gospel Baptist Church  
20361 Plymouth Road  
Detroit, MI 48228

## Funeral Service

Friday, Aug. **28**. 10:00 AM (ET)

Kadesh Full Gospel Baptist Church  
20361 Plymouth Road  
Detroit, MI 48228

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. Timur Anum Baruti, M. D.*

January 21, 2023 at 09:34 PM



“ *I loved working for Dr. Baruti. He always made me laugh, and he inspired me to have confidence in myself and others. I was so sad to hear this news! I was going through old papers over the weekend and found some going away cards that LaToshia had written to me from her and Dr. Baruti when I left LFMC to work in Jackson. They brought back such fond memories of the family unit we had at work and had me wondering what everyone was up to now. And, not two hours later, on that same day, I got a message from a friend that Dr. Baruti had passed away.*



*My best memory is the time that he showed up to work, without his shoes, and almost went in to see a patient barefoot! I asked him if he thought he should maybe put some shoes on and he smiled and said, "I hope I have some here" and went back to his office to find some. Such a down-to-earth man and very knowledgeable in so many things. I was always learning something from Dr. Baruti.*

*My thoughts are with you, his loving family, at this time.*

*Denise Cross*

Denise Brazil-Cross - September 21, 2020 at 03:07 PM

JC

“ Judge Terry L. Clark lit a candle in memory of Mr. Timur Anum Baruti, M. D.



---

**Judge Terry L. Clark** - September 04, 2020 at 02:54 PM

WD

“ Of Dr. Timur Baruti:

*A Spirit that will continue to inspire us from beyond to share in his vision to promote health in Africa, the world and among his people in America. A rising star whose contributions will continue to represent his memory to all of us. The African proverb says "We are alive as long as we are remembered". Rest in Peace and Power, Dear Brother.*

*Dr. Willie (Babakubwa Kweku) D. Davis Jr.*

---

**WILLIE DAVIS** - September 02, 2020 at 12:11 PM



“ Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Mr. Timur Anum Baruti, M. D..



---

August 27, 2020 at 05:23 PM

MT

“ Our deepest condolences in the loss of Dr. Timur Baruti. (Marc and Neva Taylor).

---

**Marc Taylor** - August 27, 2020 at 03:01 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr. Timur Anum Baruti, M. D..*



---

August 27, 2020 at 01:42 PM



“ *To LaToshia and family. Our deepest condolences to you in the loss of Timur. He was our classmate at University of Michigan and Wayne State University School of Medicine. He was always deeply committed to us as a people of African descent knowing our entire history and having a sense of cultural pride. Our prayers go with you*

*Lawrence & Sandra Lackey*

---

**Lawrence Lackey Jr** - August 26, 2020 at 07:04 PM



“ *My very smart and intelligent brother who always strived for more. Very driven and hard worker. I will never forget how you gently took the steering from my hand to avoid an accident when we were going to Mitch Housey's for Mother's Day. You saved our lives. I will never forget when you breath life back in my body when I fainted at the farm. You truly were an amazing Doctor. Love Bertha*

---

**Bertha Gibson** - August 26, 2020 at 03:39 PM

DP

“ Drs. Tony and Lorna Pinson purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mr. Timur Anum Baruti, M. D..



---

**Drs. Tony and Lorna Pinson** - August 25, 2020 at 08:57 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. Timur Anum Baruti, M. D..



---

August 25, 2020 at 02:02 PM

D3

“ Dallas Fire Rescue Station 37B purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Mr. Timur Anum Baruti, M. D..



---

**Dallas Fire Rescue Station 37B** - August 25, 2020 at 12:01 PM

DD

“ Dr. Baruti was my family doctor for many years. We all loved him, and was very sad when we had to find another doctor. Many condolences to the family. We are sorry for your loss.  
Diane Dishman

---

**Diane Dishman** - August 23, 2020 at 08:32 AM

AK

*Dr. Baruti was our Board Chairman for Young Health Pioneers global. We have lost a big and energetic man but God knows it best. Rest in Peace. From Abu Kamara - Director of operations, Sierra Leone chapter.*

**Abu Kamara** - August 24, 2020 at 06:10 AM

MS

*Dr. Baruti was exactly what Leslie needed. He was not only kind but highly professional. He and his Practice brought much needed diversity to our little town and his knowledge of vaccines to our homes. If it was not for Dr. Baruti my Children and I would still be polluting our bodies with them. Thank you Dr. Baruti. Condolences to his family.*

**Michelle Stepp** - August 24, 2020 at 12:24 PM

JC

*We were honored and blessed to have known Dr. Baruti. He was truly an inspiration and a blessing to the WARD/WRIGHT/SELF FAMILY. Please accept our sincere condolences....for as you grieve - so do we....*

*Jerri Conner  
Ward/Wright/Self Family Reunion*

**Jerri L Conner** - August 24, 2020 at 10:00 PM

MW

*Dr. Baruti was one of a kind. He will be greatly missed by this world. He was a man of honor and honesty. My heart breaks for his loved ones.*

**Mary Worman** - August 25, 2020 at 07:19 AM

BW

*Dr Baruti was first and foremost my friend and also my Physician. His wisdom of many things always found us deep into discussions that took many twists and turns. Those discussions made me a better listener and learner. Rest In Peace my friend and continue your discussions with God*

**Barbara J Winslow** - August 25, 2020 at 02:07 PM

PT

*Dr Baruti was our Dr. For many years and was also our neighbor. What a very special person he was. So sorry for Tasha and the children and his lovely mother and family. We will miss you Dr B. Love to you and your family*

penney adkins mitchell todd - August 25, 2020 at 03:21 PM

TK

*Dr. Baruti was a wonder person & neighbor Great Doctor. Had more caring of others than most. I was proud to call him friend. God's Speed Doc prayers to his family 🙏❤️*

Tammy Mitchell Kuerbitz - August 25, 2020 at 04:19 PM

RH

*I was so sorry to hear this news. When I first moved back to Michigan in 2010, and needed to choose a NEW Primary Care Physician, I ended up choosing Dr. Baruti. It wasn't just because I felt he was the RIGHT choice, but also because he, and Mrs. (Doctor) Baruti had a wonderful way of making sure I never felt like I was just a "patient," someone to be seen and then, on to the next one. Instead, I always left feeling like I had been "seen," if that makes any sense? Like they both had all the time in the world to make sure I felt "taken care of." Being someone with a chronic medical condition, who has had to spend far too much time with doctors, I appreciate that quality more than I can say. Of course, I was saddened to learn I'd need a NEW doctor, because he'd be pursuing other areas in which he could be of service. But I was happy for him, all the same. My deepest condolences to his family and friends, and I give thanks for his life and all of the good he accomplished in his life. Rest in peace, Dr. Baruti.*

R. Hempstead - August 25, 2020 at 06:15 PM

SA

*God has seen fit to call my brother Dr. Timur Baruti home to rest. Thanking God for allowing him to help so many people both far and near. Im very proud of all his accomplishments. Please continue to pray and lift up his wife Latosha, his children, our Mother Jean Ward and sisters and brothers. God is still good in spite of*

Shirley L. ALI - August 26, 2020 at 08:12 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of  
*Mr. Timur Anum Baruti, M. D..*



---

August 20, 2020 at 07:13 PM