Rod Bush Gallery

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Rod Bush Gallery
In Oviedo, Florida, Thembi, Rod and Melanie by one of the houses Rod lived in with his mother and next door, Aunt Honey and Uncle Ephrom
Rod and Momma (his mother, Margaret Janette Craddock Bush), age 13, 1958
Could be no prouder day than Rod’s Binghamton University doctoral graduation in 1992 with Momma

Rod with his mother and children, Malik, Thembi, Sojourner Truth and Sarafina
Annual birthday celebrations included carrot cake and a crown, here at Rod’s 50th celebration.
Rod Bush: Lessons from a Radical Black Scholar on Liberation, Love, and Justice

Rod as proud father, with Malik and Ringer on a camping trip in 1986
Rod with his most supremely favorite oldest daughter, Thembi

Rod loved his baby girl daughter, Sarafina—here at his Binghamton University doctoral graduation in 1992
Like father, like daughter—Rod and middle daughter Sojourner Truth (Soji), always shared their warmth with others
Rod and Sarafina relaxing in Barbados, circa 2009

Amongst Rod's favorite conversation partners was father-in-law Stanley. They could sit engaged for hours on end.
There was lots of love and playfulness when Rozzie and son-in-law, Rod were together.

Tajalia and Jedidiah could do anything and Rod would play along.
Tajalia, Angelo, Orlando, Jedidiah and Wisdom on Grandpa's lap, 2010

Rod was never happier than with grandchildren, here with Angelo, Orlando and Wisdom
Rod was devoted both to Ringer and the boom box carried everywhere, 1983

Rod's love for people extended to everyone and everything. Here, kittens Athena Olive Oil, Nefertiti Mozzarella and Zeus Tomato
Rod and Mel were nicknamed puzzle-pieces, evident in this photo.

Playfulness was a trademark of Rod and Mel's partnership, circa 1988.
Rod and Mel had several wedding celebrations. Here, starting our tradition of feeding each other first bites, Brooklyn, 1984.
Music and love were constants—here sharing a special moment, circa 1987
Dear World, and the people so fortunate to find the boat

1987 began with the unsettled search for a place to call home. Valentine’s Day brought us such a place and one of our goals—“settling down” was achieved. We are happy in our beautiful apartment, in Flatbush, Brooklyn, N.Y.

And we continued our tradition of casting the message onto the world. Although our years message tended to ruminate about our past, the real message is our own endurance through hard and difficult times. Our relationship has been a haven in a sometimes heartless period of time. We have endured because we have each other. So as things begin to look up and we become more settled, we take this time to continue our cherished tradition, and to look to the future with hope.

So here’s to our continuing traditions and everlasting love.

For Ever

Rod Bush & Melanie Bush

JANUARY 1988
for New Year’s 1987

Rod and Mel’s annual ritual, throwing a bottle with a note, into whatever body of water we were near, 1988
Rod loved to talk with everyone about politics—here, street organizing for the Grassroots Alliance proposition to tax the corporations, San Francisco circa 1980

Always ready to fight for justice, here against US foreign policy, San Francisco, around 1982
Participating in a U.S. Out of Central America (USOCA) Protest 1983

Whether at the Bastille in Paris; at the cross roads of Revolution and Independence Streets in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico; or at the Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, South Carolina, Rod always raised his fist for the struggle. Here, in the British Library 2005
Rod at the graduation party held in 1992, at Terence and Gloria Hopkins’s house

Rod officiates at the Bear Wedding of Herman and Rosie, with Betita Martinez, San Francisco, 2004
At the University of Ibadan, Nigeria with members of the Administration and Driver, 2007

Rod conversing with Rose Brewer at the United States Social Forum, Detroit 2010
At a Seminar on Race and Democracy, learning how to drum with a community organization in Salvador, Bahia, Brazil, 2011

Rod and Mel went to Grenada for a writing retreat to complete Tensions, and celebrate our anniversary, 2013
Rod Bush: Lessons from a Radical Black Scholar on Liberation, Love, and Justice

Completing the writing for Tensions in the American Dream, Shelter Island, July 2013

In Imbassai, Brazil 2011 on a few days retreat after the Seminar on Race and Democracy
Rod and Mel's traditions included graffiti and matching shirts—soulmates forever, 1990