



From the Desk of the *Grand Polemarch*

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Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.® Mourns the Death of a Premier Journalist and Renowned Musician

FROM THE GRAND POLEMARCH

Brothers:

After day-break Monday, November 3, 2014, Brother Jonathan P. Hicks transitioned into Chapter Invisible. Brother Hicks penned his last story as Editor of the Kappa Journal. Brother Hicks was a renowned journalist and civic leader of Brooklyn, NY. Brother Hicks, serving his second term as Kappa Journal Editor, raised the editorial quality of the Journal to be competitive to any similar publication in the world.

Brother Hicks was born December 4, 1955. He was initiated into Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. at the University Missouri Chapter, the Delta Omega of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, on January 3, 1977. He received the Elder Watson Diggs award during the 81st Grand Chapter Meeting in Houston, Texas on August 7, 2013, the second highest competitive honor awarded a member of the fraternity. At his death, Brother Hicks was a member of the New York Alumni Chapter.

Members of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity throughout the world remember Brother Jonathan P. Hicks as the premier soloist of the fraternity, who traveled regularly as guest soloist and keynote speaker to chapters everywhere.

Brother Hicks was an award-winning writer and journalist with more than 30 years of experience covering politics, business, industry and the role of people of color in the world of business. At his death Brother Hicks was a senior national correspondent with BET.com as well as a columnist with The New York Amsterdam News, the oldest and largest black newspaper in New York City.

For nearly 25 years, he worked for The New York Times, where he covered the politics of New York State and New York City. During that time, he developed a reputation as one of the foremost authorities on the inner workings of the political culture in New York City and New York State. He has been a frequent guest on local radio and television news programs where he regularly offered political analysis and commentary. He was also the author of the Politics 5-B column for The Times' website. After leaving The Times, he worked as a senior fellow at the DuBois Bunche Center for Public Policy at Medgar Evers College in Brooklyn.

As you read more about the life of Brother Hicks in the days to come, remember that he was for many the Kappa that Grand Polemarch Dr. W. Henry Greene wrote about in his poem "Kappa of My Dreams". We know that the brothers in Chapter Invisible have heard the alarm at the gate, and will be waiting for our "songbird" to join that Kappa choir.

The family has requested that their privacy be respected at this time. Further notice will be provided as we receive it. Please defer telephone calls and visits until such notice.

