



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Cordell Cleare

Senator Cordell Cleare Mourns the Passing of Roberta Flack

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(New York, NY) – Senator Cordell Cleare released the following statement on the passing of legendary singer, songwriter, and educator Roberta Flack:

"I am deeply saddened that we are mourning the loss of Roberta Flack, one of the greatest vocalists and musicians of our lifetime. It is at least a small comfort to know that she passed peacefully on February 24, 2025, surrounded by her loving family.

"For decades, we have relied on Ms. Flack's soulful and poignant music to uplift us, to comfort us, and to inspire us through both joyous and challenging times. With her unmatched voice and profound lyrics, she touched the hearts of millions around the world. Songs like The First Time Ever I Saw Your Face, Killing Me Softly with His Song, and Where Is the Love became anthems of love, resilience, and the human experience.

"Beyond her remarkable career in music, Ms. Flack was also a dedicated educator and a beloved member of our community. Her contributions extended far beyond the stage, as she used her platform to support the arts, education, and social justice. We cherished her not just as a musical icon but as one of our own.

"With multiple Grammy Awards and collaborations with some of the greatest artists of all time, Roberta Flack's legacy is one of brilliance, passion, and an unwavering commitment to her craft and her people. She was a great New Yorker, and we are forever grateful for all she gave us.

"May she rest in power, and may her music continue to inspire generations to come."