

Home Going  
Service  
for

Verdell  
"Mike"  
Leonard

**Sunrise**  
*December 25, 1942*

**Sunset**  
*February 3, 2013*

*Service*

Saturday, February 9, 2013 - 10:00 a.m.

**Cotton Funeral Service**

1025 Bergen Street  
Newark, New Jersey

**Bishop Hilton Rawls, Officiating**  
**Emory Lee, Organist**

## Obituary

**Verdell Leonard** was born on December 25, 1942, in Newark, NJ to the late Evelyn and Verdell Leonard. He departed this earthly place on February 3, 2013 in the presence of his loved ones.

Verdell (also known as Mike, Junior, PopPop, and Abdul) was raised in the City of Newark, and attended Newark Public Schools.

He worked for International Longshoreman's Association Local 1233, for forty-five years as a Longshoreman and retired as a Foreman at Sealand.

Verdell loved spending time with his family and seeing them enjoy his culinary skills on the grill. Especially his barbeque ribs. In his later years, he enjoyed going on cruises, and his favorite was to Alaska. His **last** trip was Thanksgiving to Savannah, Georgia.

He leaves to mourn his passing: his loving wife of forty-two years, Margie Faye; his children, David Robinson, Jr., Dana Robinson, Dennis (DeRoc) Leonard, and Chantei' Leonard; brothers, Dennis Leonard (Edna), Leo Leonard, Donald Herndon, predeceased by his brother, Ronald Leonard (Delois); sisters, Hattie Leonard-Bridges, Christina Leonard-Upshaw (Theodore), Jacqueline Leonard, Sharon Herndon and LaTasha Callahan; grandchildren, Ayanna, the late Rubin, Zya, Aamin, Samaya and Wynter; great grandchildren, Al-Yasir (Ya-Ya) and Toneyah; nieces, Linda Leonard-Nevels, Peggy (Mona) Leonard-McNeil and Tonja Leonard; nephews, Ronald Leonard Jr., Quintin Leonard, Sr.; special cousin, Brenda Findley (Bert); and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

He will always be remembered for his quiet sense of humor and his smile. Verdell will be missed by his family and friends.

# Order of Service

Processional

Prayer of Comfort

Scripture Reading

Old Testament

New Testament



Soloist ..... Gwen Mazyck

Acknowledgement .....Linda Leonard Nevels

Remarks .....(2 minutes each )

Soloist ..... Gwen Mazyck

Reading of Obituary ..... Zakiyyah Oglesby

Eulogy ..... Bishop Hilton Rawls

Closing Prayer

Recessional ..... Emory Lee

## Cremation

Rosedale Crematory

Orange, New Jersey

*Please join the family in the celebration of Verdell Leonard's Life.*

*The repast will be held at ILA Local 1233*

*731 South 10th Street • Newark, NJ 07106.*

### Pallbearers

David Robinson, Jr.   Robert Millard  
DeRoc Leonard        Antoine Leonard  
Terry Dale             Marquis Bragg  
Tyree Leonard

## He Needed The Quiet

*He needed the quiet, so God drew him aside,  
Into the shadows where they could confide.  
Away from the bustle, where all the day long  
He hurried and worried when active and strong.*

*He needed the quiet, though at first he rebelled,  
But gently, so gently, his cross God upheld.  
And whispered so sweetly of spiritual things.  
Though weakened in body, his spirit took wings  
To heights never dreamed of when active at play;  
God loved him so gently, He drew him away.*

*He needed the quiet; No prison, his bed,  
But a beautiful valley of blessing instead -  
A place to grow richer in Jesus to hide.  
He needed the quiet, so God drew him aside.*

### Acknowledgement

The family of **Verdell Leonard** would like to express their sincere appreciation for all of the acts of kindness shown to them during their time of bereavement.

#### Professional Services Provided By

COTTON FUNERAL SERVICE  
130 Main Street  
Orange, NJ  
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1025 Bergen Street  
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973-926-6400

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