

*In Loving Memory  
of  
Leonard Muhammad*

A portrait of Leonard Muhammad, a man with glasses, wearing a dark suit jacket, a light blue shirt, and a patterned tie. He is smiling slightly. The background of the entire page is a bright blue sky with white clouds and a sunburst effect in the upper right corner.

**Sunrise**  
*August 20, 1932*

**Sunset**  
*February 12, 2013*

*Service*  
*Saturday, February 16, 2013 - 9:30 a.m.*

**Cotton Funeral Service**  
130 Main Street • Orange, New Jersey

## Obituary

Our beloved **Leonard Muhammad** was born to the late Odesell Eastman and Robert Wesley Harris on August 20, 1932 in New York, NY.

Leonard received his elementary and secondary education in the New York City school system. Shortly before graduating, he joined the U.S. Air Force. He earned an Honorable Discharge after serving for more than 15 years as an enlisted administrative assistant during the war. He then began working for US Air in September of 1971 where he enjoyed a long and fruitful career until his retirement in 1997.

He met his first wife, Zakiyyah Muhammad (Betty Mitchell). They married in Topeka, Kansas and became the proud parents of two wonderful children, Qaasim Basheer, and Chonita Venice. During the course of their union, he converted to Islam. Later, he met and married his second wife, Baha Muhammad and they spent many years together in Chicago, Newark and Edison until she preceded him in death in 2004.

Leonard was a people person and a man of extraordinary generosity. He had an easy spirit and an infectious smile. As a patriarch, many turned to him for his wisdom and loving words, and his spirit and affection for his family was second to none. He enjoyed reading, jazz, traveling, and other pursuits.

After a long health struggle, he entered eternal life on Tuesday, February 12, 2013 at Centennial Hills Hospital in Las Vegas, Nevada. He joins his parents Odesell Eastman and Robert Wesley Harris, his wife, Baha Muhammad, his sisters Gloria Davis, Geraldine Lottman, Dolores Toyloy, and Lorraine Stevens, and his brother Melvin Harris.

Leonard is survived by his children, Qaasim and Chonita, his daughter in law, Christine who medically cared for him for the last two years of his life, stepchildren Stephanie and John, grandchildren Chanel, Jasmine, Aishah, Nina, Aaliyah, Nayilah and Daa'im, great grandchildren, Cordell and Samaria, his brothers Robert, Donald, and Rudolph, his sister Pearl, and a great number of nieces and nephews.

# Order of Service

## Opening Prayer

*Al- Fatihah*

*In the name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful.  
Praise be to Allah, Lord of the Worlds, The Beneficent,  
the Merciful. Master of the Day of Judgment, Thee  
(alone) we worship; Thee (alone) we ask for help.  
Show us the straight path, The path of those whom  
Thou hast favoured; Not the (path) of those who earn  
Thine anger nor of those who go astray.*

## Muslim Janazah

Remarks

### **Interment**

Forest Lawn Memorial Park  
Iselin, New Jersey

They believe in Allah and the Last Day, and enjoin right conduct and forbid indecency, and vie one with another in good works. These are of the righteous. And whatever good they do, they will not be denied the meed thereof. Allah is Aware of those who ward off (evil).

*The Holy Quran, Surah III: 114-115*

*Acknowledgement*

Perhaps you sent a lovely card or sat quietly in a chair.

Perhaps you sent a floral piece If so, we saw it there.

Perhaps you spoke the kindest words as any friend could say.

Perhaps you were not there at all just thought of us on that day.

Whatever you did to console our hearts, We Thank You, Whatever the part.

**Professional Services Provided By**

COTTON FUNERAL SERVICE  
130 Main Street  
Orange, NJ  
973-675-6400

1025 Bergen Street  
Newark, NJ  
973-926-6400

COTTON-PARKER FUNERAL HOME  
37 Clinton Avenue  
Jersey City, NJ  
201-433-1000