



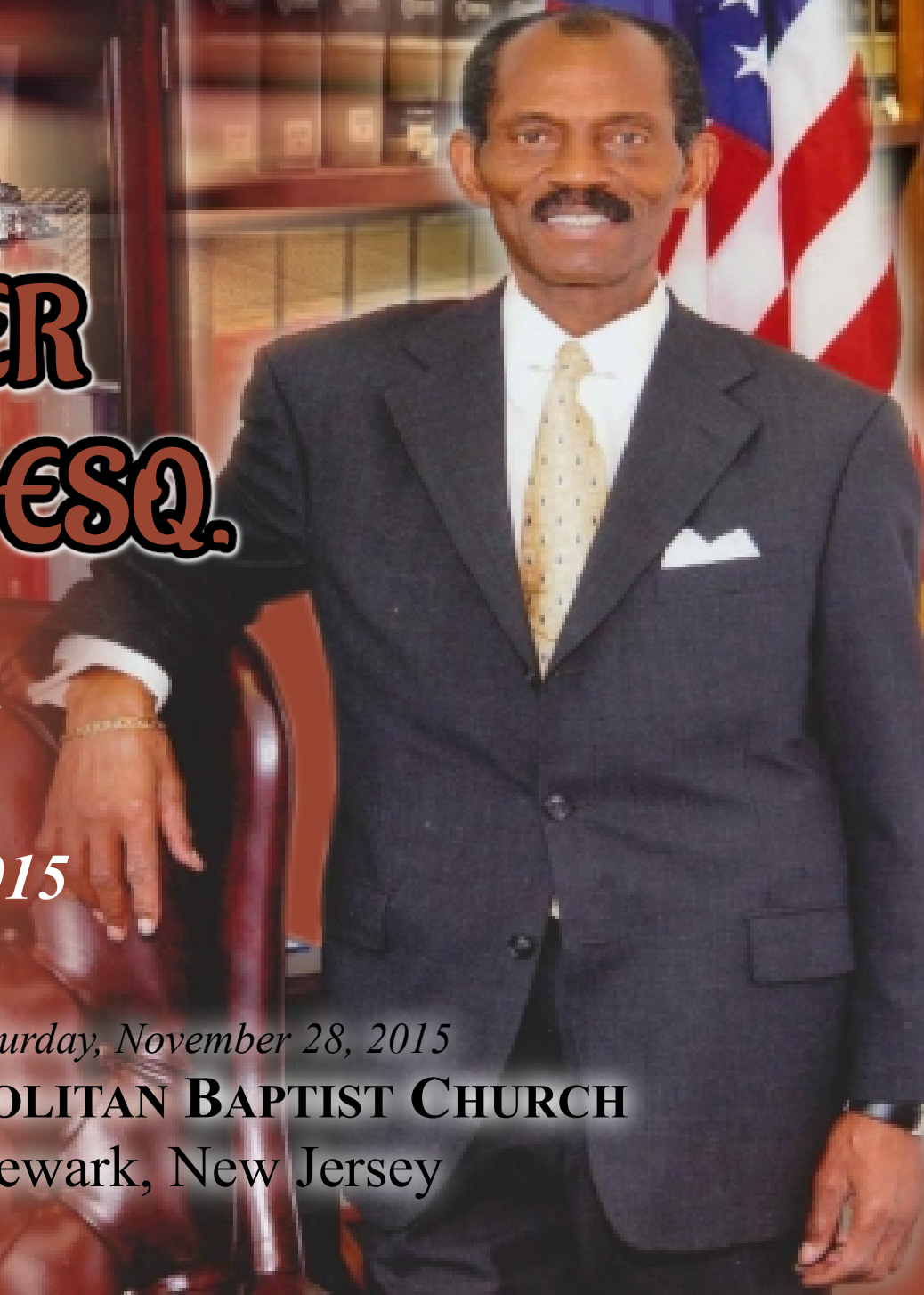
# **OLIVER LOFTON, ESQ.**

*April 24, 1934*

*November 22, 2015*

*Saturday, November 28, 2015*

**METROPOLITAN BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Newark, New Jersey



On April 24, 1934, in Neptune, New Jersey Minnie Lofton (nee Johnson) and Quillie Lofton, gave birth to a baby boy who was the youngest of eight siblings. As he once said “the last button on Gabriel’s Shirt” This baby grew to become a “Giant of a Man.” He received his early education in the Neptune Township Schools.

Veteran New Jersey Attorney, **OLIVER LOFTON**, graduated from Cheyney University (PA) 1956 with the highest grade point average in the history of the school. He subsequently earned a Master’s Degree in psychology from Howard University (D.C.) in 1958 with highest honors before graduating Magna Cum Laude from Howard’s Law School in 1961. While at the Law School, Lofton was an editor of the Law Journal, President of the Student Bar Association and Research Assistant to the faculty. As Research Assistant, he participated in the research and strategy of several of the civil rights cases presented to the United States Supreme Court by Thurgood Marshall and others.

Following Law School, Lofton served the legal profession with distinction, holding such positions as Special Assistant to former U.S. Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy, as Assistant U.S. Attorney for the District of New Jersey and Assistant Prosecutor in the Essex County Prosecutor’s Office; he received special commendations from Nicholas deB. Katzenbach, then U.S. Attorney General for his prosecutorial record and successful prosecution of a celebrated espionage case known as U.S. v. Butenko and Ivenov. As an aside, he and the late celebrated New Jersey Raymond A. Brown, Esq., hold the “national distinction” as, respectively, the first and only African-American prosecutor and African-American defense attorney on opposite sides in an espionage trial in the history of the United States.

As the first Administrator of the Newark Legal Services Project, Lofton also served as liaison between then N.J. Governor Richard Hughes’ Office and various community organizations during Newark’s 1968 civil disorders and has been credited for playing a leading role in its settlement. He also successfully defended, pro bono, the Newark cab driver, John Smith, whose arrest sparked the disorders.

In recognition of his commitment to civil rights, his keen intellect and prowess, he was appointed by Governor Hughes to serve on the Governor’s “Blue Ribbon Commission on Civil Disorders.”

Lofton, a personal friend of the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., who performed his marriage ceremony, also served as a close confidant and advisor to the late great civil rights leader.

In the year 2000, the Essex County Bar Association honored Lofton at its annual dinner as part of the Association's "Annual Achievement Awards." He received the Association's "Professional Achievement Award" and as was cited for his "Outstanding Commitment to the citizens of Essex County, who have benefitted from his leadership." The Association further recognized him as "one of the State's most able and competent attorneys who has used his professional and leadership skills to set an example for so many to follow." He has received numerous other awards and citations.

Lofton was a co-founder and past president of the 100 Black Men of New Jersey and a co-founder and former Executive Vice-President of the 100 Black Men of America.

He has maintained a well-known diverse private practice in New Jersey for the past 42 years and has been involved in numerous successful business ventures, and political elections.

Mr. Lofton leaves to cherish his memory: his beautiful daughter, Leslie; a Loving Companion, Mary Ribeiro; one nephew, Otis Lofton, Jr. (Maya); two nieces, Claudette McDonald Brown and Arnice Bostic Lofton-Allen (Michael); a life friend, O.T. Wells, Esq.; a devoted Personal Assistant, Merian Oliver Williams (Michael); and a host of nieces, nephews, great-nephew, other relatives and many Friends. He was predeceased by his mother and father, Minnie and Quillie Lofton; his sisters Hattie Lofton, Geneva Lofton, Biniere Lofton McDonald, Julie Lofton and Ann Lofton Mobley, as well as his brothers Otis Lofton and Levi Lofton.

***Your time on earth seemed all too brief because we wanted you in our lives forever. And although we really miss you, in our hearts we know that you are at peace. Still, countless times throughout the day we find ourselves remembering you. Although we cannot see or hear you, we know that you are with us. We'll feel you in the warmth of the summer sun. We'll see you in the brilliance of autumn leaves. You'll be beside us in the peacefulness of a gentle snowfall and rejoice with us at the emergence of the first flowers of spring. We're thankful for the times we shared and the priceless memories too; for those memories are a comfort now when we lovingly — Remember You.***

**PRE SERVICE ORDER OF CELEBRATION**

8:00 to 9:00 AM ..... *Remarks and Personal Tributes (2 min)*

9:30 AM ..... *Memorial*

*OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY, INC.*

*Beta Gamma Chapter*

**THE ORDER OF SERVICE**

**REV. DR. RALPH T. GRANT, JR.**

**VICE-PRESIDENT PILLAR COLLEGE—OFFICIATING**

ORGAN PRELUDE

PROCESSIONAL

INVOCATION ..... REV. DR. DAVID JEFFERSON, JR.  
PASTOR—METROPOLITAN BAPTIST CHURCH

MUSICAL TRIBUTE ..... ELDER SYLVIA KEARNEY  
THE CHURCH OF THE NEW COVENANT

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE

NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE

PRAYER OF COMFORT

TRIBUTES ..... 100 BLACK MEN OF NJ—CAREY HINES  
THE SUNDOWNERS  
DR. NIATHAN ALLEN  
JAMES H. WOLFE, III, ESQ. (PARTNER)

MINISTRY OF MUSIC ..... PASTOR HILTON RAWLS, JR.  
GREATER GRACE CHURCH

TRIBUTES ..... THE NEWARK MUNICIPAL COUNCIL  
HON. SHARPE JAMES  
CALVIN WEST  
CONGRESSMAN EDOLPHUS TOWNS (RTD)

THE FAMILY TRIBUTE ..... OTIS LOFTON, JR. - NEPHEW

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & RESOLUTIONS MERIAN OLIVER-WILLIAMS

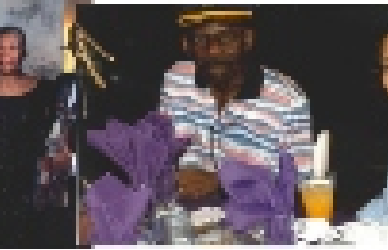
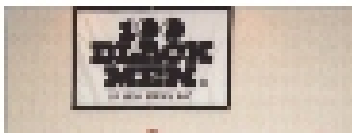
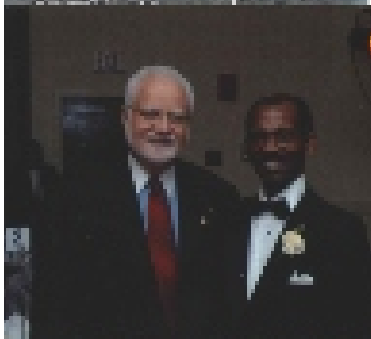
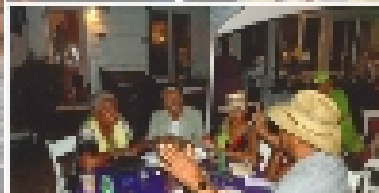
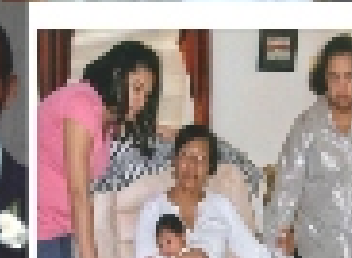
THE OBITUARY (READ SILENTLY)

HIS LIFE STORY IN EULOGY ..... O.T. WELLS, ESQ..

MINISTRY OF MUSIC ..... PASTOR HILTON RAWLS, JR.

SERMONIC SUMMATION ..... REV. DR. RALPH T. GRANT, JR.

RECESSIONAL





OLIVER LOFTON, ESQ.  
Attorney at Law  
Golden Streets - Golden Gates  
Heavenly Rest

In The Matter Of:  
OLIVER LOFTON, ESQ.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
COUNTY OF ESSEX

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on Sunday, November 22, 2015, the Undersigned, OLIVER LOFTON, ESQ., Attorney-At-Law, State of New Jersey, after a great battle, appeared before the Eternal Judge on his own behalf, requesting an Order for Change of Venue to a better place;

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that in support of this Motion, a proposed form of Order, Certifications of Friends and Family and supporting life works, are attached hereto and made a part hereof.

Respectfully submitted,  
  
OLIVER LOFTON, ESQ.

OL/mow

PALLBEARERS

MICHAEL WILLIAMS

WAYNE D. HARRIS

ANTHONY CONYERS

JUSTIN CONYERS

ROGER ROYSTER

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

THE FAMILY WISHES TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE MANY EXPRESSIONS OF SYMPATHY AND CONDOLENCES THEY HAVE RECEIVED. THE OUTPOURING OF LOVE HAS BEEN OVERWHELMING. GOD'S CONTINUED BLESSING TO YOU AND YOURS.



ENTOMBMENT

FAIRMOUNT CEMETARY & MAUSOLEM

Repass

The Robert Treat Hotel

Crystal Room

50 Park Place

Newark, New Jersey

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

