

*In Loving Memory of  
Akil A. Holder*



**Sunrise**  
March 24, 1975

**Sunset**  
March 10, 2017

*Saturday, March 18, 2017 - 9:30 A.M.*

**Cotton Funeral Service**

1025 Bergen Street  
Newark, New Jersey

*Reverend James H. Breese, Officiating  
Joshua Nelson, Organist*

## *Obituary*

**Akil Al-Shams Holder** was born March 24, 1975 to the late Thelma K. Holder and Frank R. Earl, Jr. He lived and grew up in Newark, NJ with his mother and late brother, Na-il Naim Holder, Sr in the Felix Fuld Apartments, better known as the Little Bricks.

He and his brother attended 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue Elementary School and he went on to graduate from Malcom X. Shabazz High School. He then went on to study at Essex County College, Newark, NJ where he earned his Associates Degree in Business Administration with honors. He was on the Deans List for three semesters from 2003 through 2005. After completing his studies at Essex County College, Akil went on to attain his Bachelor of Science Degree in Management from Rutgers University, Newark, NJ, Dean's List Fall 2006-Spring 2007 and graduating 2007. While going through college Akil worked various driving jobs until he secured a permanent position as a bus operator for New Jersey Corporation in 2002. Akil worked his way up through the ranks of New Jersey Transit and moved to NY Port Authority where he was a Terminal Supervisor until he took ill.

Akil loved the Baltimore Ravens and the Knicks. In his spare time, he liked playing dominos.

Akil was a kind, generous, dependable, and a family oriented man. He loved his family and his friends whom he considered his family. There was nothing he wouldn't do for the people he loved. He was also a funny guy. Always had a joke or something funny to say and would laugh at his own jokes with the brightest smile you'd ever seen. A smile that will be missed tremendously.

He leaves to cherish his memory: fiance, Cheryice Henderson, who made him an even better man; stepdaughter, Tiyanah Brown, who loved him dearly; sisters, Kawona Fox-Grant and Sequoia-Earl; stepmother, Cynthia Earl; his nieces, Nyeisha Peoples, Da'nae Lloyd and Amina Grant; nephews, Na-il Naim Holder, Jr and Amari Grant; his two best friends, Antwon Shark and Antone Green, who were like brothers and a host of extended family and friends.

Order of Service

Masonic Ritual.....9:10am-9:30am at Doric Lodge #6

Prayer of Comfort.....Ms. Robin Green

Scripture

Old Testament: Psalm 23

New Testament: John 14:1-6.....Mr. Michael Murrell

Selection

Reflections.....(2 minutes please)

Obituary.....Mrs. Lori Brooks Toure

Acknowledgements.....Mrs. Lori Brooks Toure

Solo.....Ms. Keva Holman

Eulogy.....Reverend James H. Breese

1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church of Pittston, PA  
Pittston, PA

Recessional

**INTERMENT**  
Fairmount Cemetery  
Newark, New Jersey



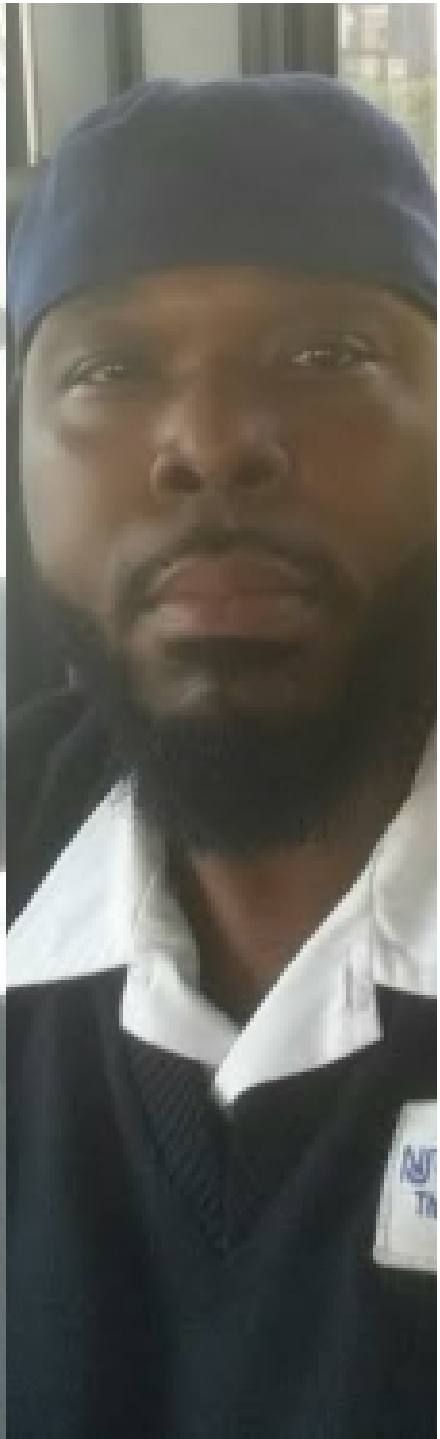
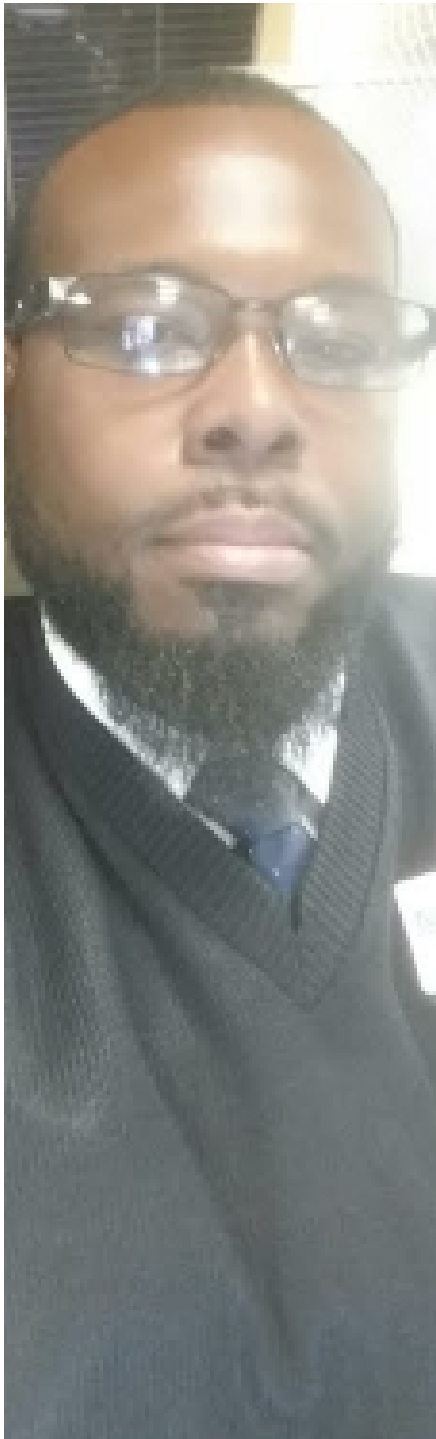


### Al-Baqara

“It is not righteousness that you turn your faces towards the East and the West, but righteous is the one who believes in Allah, and the Last Day, and the angels and the Book and the prophets, and gives away wealth out of love for Him to the near of kin and the orphans and the needy and the wayfarer and to those who ask and to set slaves free and keeps up prayer and pays the poor-rate; and the performers of their promise when they make promise, and the patient in distress and affliction and in the time of conflict.

These are they who are truthful; and these are they who keep their duty.” Ch. 2:177







*I was supposed to spend the rest  
of my life with you  
And then I realized...  
you spent the rest of your life with me  
I smile because I know you loved me  
till the day you went away  
And will keep loving me...  
till the day we're together again.*



### **More Than A Friend**

Friendship isn't about who you've known the longest, it's about who walked into your life, said, "I'm here for you", and proved it. You were more than a friend, stayed by our side until the end. Our bond was so tight we couldn't pretend. Our brother, our doctor, our teacher, our lawyer, our friend. We love you brother, continue to rest.

- From your brothers, Antwon & Antone



**Pall Bearers**

Antone Green  
Antwon Shark  
Darnell Jackson  
Gerod Barnes  
Jerell Locke  
William Shipley



***Acknowledgement***

A special thank you to all of the family and friends who have helped support and comfort the Holder Family in our time of sorrow.

**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

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