



CELEBRATING THE LIFE  
OF  
**Westley Holmes, Sr.**

**Sunrise: March 5, 1923 - Sunset: April 7, 2017**



**Service:**

Thursday, April 13, 2017 - 11:00 AM

**COTTON FUNERAL SERVICE**

130 Main Street • Orange, New Jersey

**Rev. Edward Allen, Officiating**

**Minister Osmond Collins, Organist**

# Obituary

## **Westley Holmes**

Westley Holmes, Sr. was born on March 5, 1923 to the late Rev. Gussie and Ludie Johnson-Holmes in Newark, NJ. Westley passed away on April 7, 2017.

Westley Holmes Sr. was affectionately known in the community as “Mr. Holmes” or “Mr. Wes”. Every one that knew him, knew that he “didn’t play” and had no problem telling neighbors to get off his grass, stop cutting through his yard and don’t sit on his car! Westley was a strong, no nonsense man that felt that a true man should lead by example, however, outside of his stern ways, was a god fearing man that witnessed to the young men of our community. Our father served as an E5 Sergeant in the Army of the United States Military, where he was awarded the World War II Victory Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Service Medal and five bronze metals and “fluently” spoke five languages. After serving 20 years in the military, he was honorably discharged and moved on to pursue a career at Picattiny Arsenal to become a Weapons demolitions specialist, where he supervised for 35 years. In that time Westley met the love of his life and became the loving husband to Juanita Elva Holmes and father to four beautiful children, Sharon, Deborah, Eileen and Westley.

In his spare time, Westley had an avid talent for Carpentry, but he cherished God with every fiber of his being. As a child of god and family man, Westley always put his heavenly father FIRST while cherishing the love that he had for his family by taking care of them unconditionally, however, always speaking the truth (whether you wanted to hear it or not). Our family was not prefect, but Dad always encouraged us to speak with love, to give with love and to love one another like sisters and brothers should and to never give up on family. Our father taught us that if we trust in The Lord with all our heart and soul, we shall fear nothing standing behind the Cross. We will never forget our honorable father and will cherish his memory forever.

Westley is survived by his dear Daughters; Sharon Holmes- Casseus (Gerard), Deborah Holmes, Eileen Holmes- Gillespie (Kenneth), his Beloved Son; Westley Holmes Jr., Dear grandchildren, Diona Sophia Walker Wade (Paul), Lawrence and Curtis Casseus, Jasmine W. Holmes, Aaron Westley Walker and Kenny Gillespie. Great Grandson; Landon Mekhi Wade, Sister-in-law Natalie Holmes and a host of Nieces, Nephews other relatives and friends who loved Westley dearly.

Westley was predeceased in death by his parents Rev. Gussie and Ludie Johnson-Holmes; Step-mother, Amper Holmes. Wife; Juanita Elva Walker-Holmes. Siblings; Robert Holmes, Helen Slade, Betty Mae Jackson and Granddaughter Tamera L. Holmes-Willis.

# Order of Service

Organ Prelude .....Minister Osmond Collins

Processional

Selection.....“His Eye Is On The Sparrow”

Scripture Reading

Old Testament - Isaiah 41:10

New Testament - John 14:1-4

Prayer of Comfort

Selection.....“Spirit Fall Down”

Remarks.....(Two minutes each please)

Acknowledgements/Poem.....Lawrence Cassecus

Obituary.....Diona Walker-Wade

Selection.....“Precious Lord Take My Hand”

Eulogy.....Rev. Edward Allen

Recessional

**INTERMENT**  
Glendale Cemetery  
Bloomfield, New Jersey

**Repast**  
Chateau of Spain  
11 Franklin Street, Newark, NJ



# The Fallen Limb

A limb has fallen from the family tree.  
I keep hearing a voice that says, "Grieve not for me.  
Remember the best times, the laughter, the song.  
The good life I lived while I was strong.  
Continue my heritage, I'm counting on you.  
Keep smiling and surely the sun will shine through.  
My mind is at ease, my soul is at rest.  
Remembering all, how I truly was blessed.  
Continue traditions, no matter how small.  
Go on with your life, don't worry about falls  
I miss you all dearly, so keep up your chin.  
Until the day comes we're together again.

Author Unknown



## 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

