

In Loving Memory of
Suni Waheed Bey

Sunrise
July 2, 1941

Sunset
May 6, 2015



Service

Thursday, May 14, 2015 - 12:00 Noon

UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.

2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY 10027

Iman Haasan, Officiating

Obituary

James Leroy Nelson was born July 2, 1941, to the late Gwendolyn Washington and Leroy Nelson, at Harlem Hospital, in Manhattan, New York.

As a teenager, James attended Benjamin Franklin High School, and furthered his education at Kerpel School of Dental Technology and Medgar Evers College. He joined the U.S. Marine Corps in 1959 and served until 1963.

James later became a student of The Most Honorable Elijah Muhammad and a member of the Nation of Islam. James became known as James 96X. In 1977, James 96X changed his name to Suni Waheed Bey.

Suni worked for the Metropolitan Transit Authority from 1967-1987, and the United States Postal Service from 1983 until he retired in 2003. Suni studied and was a Martial Arts (Kung Fu) instructor. He took great pleasure in listening to jazz music and watching old movies. Suni was a life time member of New Amsterdam Musical Association Inc. and participated in dance classes at the Kennedy center. Throughout his life, Suni enjoyed researching African American history and empowering young people by teaching them their history.

Suni was a strong, devoted, loving, caring and compassionate father, son, nephew, uncle, cousin, mentor and friend.

Suni was the proud father of eight children, three preceding him in death: Hakim, Jamal and Hasan.

He leaves to mourn: five children, Karima, Jamilah, Murad, Shadeed and Malukah; mothers, Jean and Carolyn; grandchildren, Hasan, Ziare and Kaiden; his brother, Lenny; sisters, Valerie and Leslie; a host of nieces, nephews and cousins including Shawn, Diane, Henry and Vanessa; and numerous friends.

Order of Service

Opening Prayer

Obituary

Remarks

Janazah Prayer

Final View

Interment

*Long Island National Cemetery
Farmingdale, New York*

You Can Shed A Tear

*You can shed tears that I've gone
or you can smile because I've lived.*

*You can close your eyes and pray that I'll come back
or you can open your eyes and see all I've left.*

*Your heart can be empty because you can't see me
or you can be full of the love we shared.*

*You can turn your back on tomorrow and live yesterday
or you can be happy for tomorrow because of yesterday.*

*You can remember me and only that I've gone
or you can cherish my memory and let it live on.*

*You can cry and close your mind, be empty and turn your back
or you can do what I'd want: smile, open your eyes, love and go on.*

Acknowledgements

Daddy I am going to miss our three hour conversations and the trips to 125th Street for lunch. I will always treasure the bracelets you bought me 25 years ago from Mart 125. I admired how intelligent you were and thank you for teaching me how to be the successful black woman I am today. God bless you. Love you right back.

Jamilah

"Friendship is not about whom you have known the longest. It is about who came and never left."

Uncle David

Thank you for always being a great friend to our father, Suni. For many years, both of you shared information about history, debated politics, and dedicated much of your lives to making sure African American people knew that they mattered! When Suni became ill, you visited him at home and was a constant fixture at the nursing home; listened, brought a smile, and encouragement when there was frustration; and offered possible solutions to any challenges that arose. We thank you and appreciate you for the friend and brother you were to our father.

*With love and appreciation,
Shadeed and Malikah*

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