

*In Loving Memory*  
*Of*  
**Ronnie D. Spates**  
*Also*  
**Kareem Ali Muhammad**

Sunrise: February 3, 1962 - Sunset: June 29, 2017



Saturday, July 1, 2017 - 9:00 a.m.

**COTTON FUNERAL SERVICE**  
1025 Bergen Street • Newark, New Jersey  
**Imam Abdul Kareem Muhammad**

# Obituary

**Ronnie Darnell Spates**, also known as Kareem Ali Muhammad, was born February 3rd, 1962 in Orlando, Fl., to Baseemah Muhammad and the late, Harry Price. Soon after his birth, mother and son relocated to the city of Newark, NJ.

While living in the city of Newark, Kareem attended several public elementary and secondary schools, but later completed his education at the University of Islam.

During his working career, Kareem proved to be a hard working floor manager, solely committed to safety and exemplary work ethics.

He also enjoyed working as a highly competent fork lift driver and crane operator.

Kareem valued his community and expressed his concerns for his neighborhood by participating as president and Vice President of the Treacy Ave. Block Association.

Because he loved his family and community, he made himself available to assist with various events over the years sponsored by Bible Temple Church, Family United Household of Faith, Pastor Dawn J. Dennis.

He was also committed to his Masjid, the Masjid Al-Hagg, where he proved his faithfulness and devotion for many years.

He was a devoted family man who truly loved his family and who ever he came into contact with, and he will most assuredly be missed by all.

Kareem departed this life on Thursday, June 29th, 2017 at 10:31 am and he leaves to mourn him, his faithful and committed companion, Sheila Brooks-Spates, his only son, Kareem Ali Brooks, his mother, Baseemah Muhammad, his only granddaughter, Makayla Brooks, and a host of uncles, aunts, cousins, friends and well wishers.

# Janaazah Prayer

(Funeral Prayer)

## Obituary Reading

## Reading of Poem

## Janaazah Prayer

**FIRST TAKBIR:** The Imam says “Allahu Akbar’ (God is Greatest), raising his hands to his ears and placing them between the chest and the navel. The followers do the same. The Imam recites the Al-Fatihah, The Opening, *In the name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Most Merciful, Praise be to Allah, the Lord of the worlds; The all Merciful, the ever Merciful, The Possessor of the Day of Judgement. You only we Worship and only Your help we Seek. Guide us to the straight Path; the path of those whom you Bestowed your grace and mercy And not of those who encourage Your wrath.*

**SECOND TAKBIR:** The Imam says “*Allahu Akbar*” without raising his hands. The followers repeat. They then invoke Allah’s blessings upon the Prophet Muhammad (SAW) by reciting Salaatu ‘Alan Nabiyy. “*O Allah, shower Your Mercy upon Muhammad and the followers of Muhammad, as You showered Your Mercy upon Ibrahim and the followers of Ibrahim. Behold You are Praiseworthy. Glorious, Oh Allah, shower Your Blessings upon Muhammad and the followers of Muhammad as You showered Your Blessings upon Ibrahim and the followers of Ibrahim. Behold, You are Praiseworthy, Glorious.*”

**THIRD TAKBIR:** After the third takbir, the Imam and believers pray for the deceased by saying the following:

*“Oh Allah, forgive those of us that are alive and those of us that are dead, those of us that are present and those of us who are absent; our minors and our elders; Oh Allah, whomever of us you keep alive, let him live as a follower of Islam and whomsoever of us you cause to die, let him die as a believer.”*

**FOURTH TAKBIR:** The Imam says “Allahu Akbar and the believer repeat.

***\*Peace and Mercy of Allah be upon you.***

### INTERMENT

Forest Lawn Memorial Gardens  
Iselin, New Jersey

# *Where Love Abides*

written by  
Sharen M. Butler-Martin

Long time love, our destinies entwined  
First blush, first kiss, a love story combined  
Your hand, my heart, walking side by side  
Never a day without you, and our love still abides

Lie here beside me, oh my strength, my life  
Let us rejoice in our story of joy, not strife  
Come closer, my dear, place your lips to my ears  
We will speak of days of laughter, and not those filled with tears

We had thoughts of forever and plans to fulfill  
Not knowing that our forever was not in Gods' will  
My darling, we will meet again, when our worlds re-collide  
Until then, nothing can fill this place, where our true love abides

## *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  
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37 Clinton Avenue  
Jersey City, NJ  
201-433-1000

