

**CELEBRATING THE LIFE
OF**



Thomas C. Sanders, Sr.

Sunrise: July 18, 1919
Sunset: November 2, 2017

Service:
Saturday, November 11, 2017 - 11:00 a.m.

COTTON FUNERAL SERVICE
1025 Bergen Street • Newark, New Jersey
Rev. Dr. George Blackwell, Officiating

Obituary

Early Years..

Thomas Common Sanders was born on July 18, 1919 to Cora and Thomas Sanders in Clayton, North Carolina. Thomas was the second youngest of six children,.

During his early years, he dropped out of school to help his mother manager the household. He discovered he had a love for tailoring and went on to pursue a career in that profession. He attended a special school in New York to perfect his craft. Thomas worked hard, bought his first car and dressed well.

Military Years..

Thomas entered into active service of the US Army on October 30, 1941. During his tenure there, he served as a military policeman in various towns while also working with civilian police. He maintained order, arrested offenders and was well trained in all light weapons that were required for specific jobs. Thomas served as a truck driver and drove all types of army vehicles, up to to 2½ ton trucks, hauling supplies.

Thomas was honorably discharged from the Army on October 30, 1945. Following the close of his Army career, he moved to the New Jersey where he settled down to raise a family. In 1945, he married Carrie Delores Walker. To this union, three children were born - Thomas Jr., Patricia Ann Juanita and La Mont Wilbur Sanders.

In 1958, Thomas lost his wife. He worked hard to rise his children as a single parent. He did so with the help of supportive family members.

On September 22, 1962, he married Mercedes Brewer. This union lasted 55 years.

Later Years..

Thomas worked as a tailor for many years, he owned and operated Madison Avenue Cleaners in Newark, NJ for 51 years. He did all of the cleaning, pressing and tailoring himself. The business was a neighborhood staple. Thomas left the business at the age of 94.

He played the lottery every Thursday which he considered his lucky day. His favorite activity when not working, was fishing. He loved to spend time fishing with his nephews and friends. The freezer was always filled with fresh fish.

On Thursday, November 2nd, Thomas quietly passed away in his sleep. He was predeceased by his youngest child, La Mont in 1990.

Thomas was good man with a good heart. He was strong, soft-spoken and kind. He will be sorely missed.

Thomas is survived by; his wife, Mercedes, his son, Thomas Jr., daughter, Patricia Ann J. Donaldson, granddaughter, Shasta Vigeo and her husband Dr. Darren Vigeo and their children, Bruce and Ever, daughter-in-law, Shirlene Powell-Sanders, and grandsons, Justin and Markus Sanders, and a host of relatives and friends.

Order of Service

Processional Organ Prelude

Honor Guard Presentation

Scripture Reading Juanita Parker

Prayer of Comfort Rev. Dr. George Blackwell

Selection.....Joshua Nelson

Reflections

Selection.....Joshua Nelson

Obituary Reading Shirlene Powell-Sanders

Musical Selection Organist

Eulogy Rev. Dr. George Blackwell

Benediction

Recessional Organist Postlude

INTERMENT

Brigadier General William C. Doyle Memorial Cemetery
Wrightstown, New Jersey



Miss Me, But Let Me Go

*When I come to the end of the
road and the sun has set for me,
I want no rites in a gloom filled room,
Why cry for a soul set free?
Miss me a little-but not too long,
and not with your head bowed low.
Remember the love that we once shared,
Miss me-but let me go.
For this is a journey that we all must take,
And each must go alone.
It's all part of the Master's plan,
A step on the road to home.
When you are lonely and sick at heart,
Go to the friends we know.
Laugh at the things we use to do
Miss me-but let me go.
-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



Funeral Home

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