

Allah Knows Best

ALLAH knows what is best for us
So why should we complain
We always want the sunshine
But He knows there must be rain.
We always want laughter
And the merriment of cheer
But our heart will lose their tenderness
If we never shed a tear.
ALLAH tests us often
With suffering and sorrow
He tests us not to punish us
But to help us meet tomorrow.
For growing trees are strengthened
If they can withstand the storm
And the sharpness of the chisel
Gave the marble its grace and form.
ALLAH tests us often
And for every pain He gives us
Provided we are patient
Is followed by rich gain
So whenever we feel that everything is going wrong
It is just ALLAH'S way
To make our spirit strong.

Acknowledgements

For All the kindness you have shown, we thank you very much for sympathy and
sorrowing days, for friendships' healing touch with gratitude our hearts are full, the
words cannot convey the thoughts and thoughtfulness, we hold for you today
-The Family

Professional Services Entrusted To



Khadija Samad

Firdous Funeral Chapel - 579 Grove St, Irvington, NJ 07111
(973) 399-8400 - (973) 399- 8405



In Loving Memory of
Rahim A. Muhammad
aka Howard Brown Jr.
December 23, 1950 ~ January 16, 2022

Janaazah Prayer
Thursday, January 20, 2022 at 11am
Masjid NIA
231 Roseville Avenue, Newark, NJ, NJ 07107

Interment Following Funeral Service
Forest Green Park Cemetery
535 Texas Road, Morganville, NJ 07751

In Loving Memory of
Rahim A. Muhammad
aka Howard Brown Jr.

December 23, 1950 ~ January 16, 2022

Brother Howard Brown, affectionately known as Rahim Muhammad, husband of Deborah Muhammad Brown, was born on December 23, 1950, and returned to Allah on January 16, 2022. He was 71 years old. May Allah accept his good deeds and enter him into Janat ul Firdous. He was an only child of his mother, Alice Grace Edwards and father, Howard Brown Sr. of Cincinnati, Ohio. He loved his parents dearly, especially his mother, with whom he shared a close bond. Those who knew him will remember Rahim as a loving father, grandfather and friend.

As a child, Howard was born and raised in Cincinnati, OH. During the tail end of The Great Migration, he and his mother relocated to Newark, NJ where she re-married and obtained employment with General Motors. During this time, Howard would accept Islam early into his life at the age of 20 years old, after being introduced to it by his favorite uncle, Harry (Omar) Robinson. He would later take the Muslim name of Rahim ("Merciful", "Compassionate"). It is in New Jersey where Howard attended Weequahic High School. Although they attended high school at the same time, Howard and Deborah did not know one another. Yet, in 1972 by chance encounter at a Nation of Islam bakery, Howard and Deborah would begin their courtship. They would wed on August 2, 1975. From this union, Howard and Deborah would have two children, Omar Rahim Brown and Nadirah Brown-Griffin.

Howard was an employee for General Motors' Linden, NJ plant for over 15 years. Later, he would pursue an entrepreneurial endeavor with his close friend Abdul, in A&R jewelry. Sometime after this, he would move back to Cincinnati where he worked for the Kroger Corporation and later Formica Corporation, the latter of which he retired.

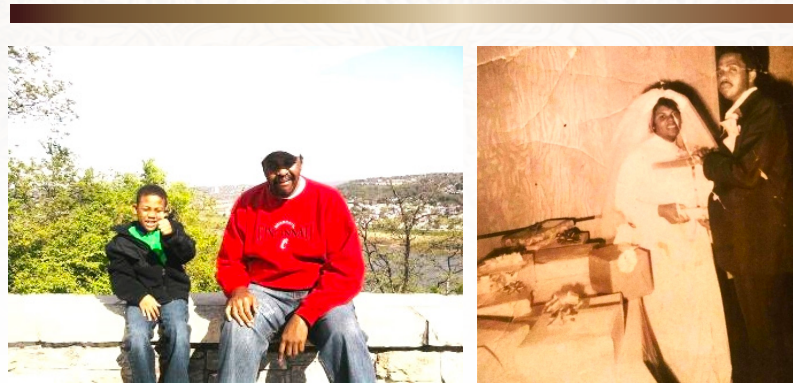
Those that knew Howard will remember him for his boisterous laughter, his longstanding love of Cadillacs and his affinity for the sharpest of clothes and alligator shoes. He also had a love for timeless music. Some of his favorite acts were The Isley Brothers, Frankie Beverly & Maze, Kool & The Gang and Paul Hardcastle.

Howard is survived by his wife Deborah Muhammad Brown, son Omar Rahim Brown (Jasmine Elliott), daughter Nadirah Brown-Griffin (Allen Griffin), Sister-in-law Jamillah Zeigler, Cousin William "Bill" Jones, Nephew Travis Smith, Great-Nieces: Angela D. Johnson and Gabrielle Johnson, dear friend and Godfather to his children, Rahman Shabazz. His Grandchildren include Amar Rahim, Mia Janan and Ibn Omar Rahim.



***“Blessed is He in Whose Hand is the
dominion; and He is Able to all things.
He Who created death and life, that He
may try which of you is best in deed; and
He is the Exalted in Might, Oft-Forgiving.”***

The Quran 67:01-02



JANAZAH PRAYER

The deceased Muslim is placed horizontally in front of the Imam who stands, according to the Sunnah, at the shoulder of the deceased. The believers stand behind the Imam. There is no Ruku (bowing) or Sujuud (prostration) in the prayer. The prayer is conducted in an upright standing position, Qiyam and contains four takbirs.

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 Surah Al Fatiha.

“In The Name of Allah, The Most Gracious, The Most Merciful .. All Praise is due to Allah, Lord of the worlds. The Most Gracious, The Most Merciful, Sovereign of the Day of Recompense. It is You we worship and You we ask for help. Guide us to the straight path - The path of those upon whom You have bestowed favor, not of those who have evoked Your anger or of those who are astray. Ameen”

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 Salatu '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, whomsoever 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 believers repeat. They then proceed with: "Oh Allah, do not deny the reward which is due him, do not expose us to temptation after his death. Forgive us and him.

The Imam concludes the prayer with:

*“As Salaamu 'Aiaikum wa Rahmatullahi”** and the believers repeat.

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

BURIAL

The deceased is then taken to the burial ground where, according to the Sunnah (tradition of the Prophet (SAW), he is placed facing the Qiblah (direction of prayer). While the body is being lowered into the grave, one may utter:

“In the Name of Allah, (we bury) according to the Sunnah of the Messenger of Allah. Witnesses may help fill the grave with dirt with two hands at least three times. Out of It we created you, And into it we deposit you. And from it we shall take you out once again.”

Surah Ta Ha:55