

Reflections of Life

"He ain't heavy, he's my brother"
-Love, Sharon

There are few times in life when finding the right things to say about someone you love becomes more difficult than saying good-bye when they are gone.

Al-Shahim Malik Bethea, also known as "**Sha 1**", was born on March 9, 1976 in Newark, NJ to the late Robert Lorenzo (Shahim) Richardson and beloved mother, Bernida Bethea.

Shahim graduated from West Side High School in Newark, NJ in 1994. He later attended Rutgers University, then graduated from NJIT in Newark, NJ in 2005. He graduated at the top of his class receiving the Entrepreneurial Achievement Award.

He found his passion in cooking which he loved doing. He was employed at I-HOP in Union, NJ. Then became the head chef at TGI Fridays in the Newark Airport.

Shahim loved life and lived every day to the fullest. He was outgoing, funny and made you laugh or smile even if you didn't want to. His family meant everything to him. His presence sure lit up the room with his laughter and sense of humor, I can say he was truly the life of the party. What would I do to hear those same words that plays in my head "Let me get some money little Bernida."

He leaves to cherish precious memories: three wonderful children, his beloved daughter, Azhane Holston and two (soldiers) sons, Al-Sameen Bethea and Jibril Bethea; his loving parents, Bernida Bethea and the late Robert Lorenzo (Shahim) Richardson; his stepmother, Angela Richardson of St. Louis, Missouri; grandparents, the late Maudie and James Richardson and the late Sally May Bethea; five loving sisters, Sharon Bethea, Taheerah Bethea, Ieisha Bethea, Tamika Bethea and Haunani Ricardson; three wonderful brothers, Lorenzo Jr., Jamal Richardson and Naim Bethea; three precious nieces, Tayanna, Samiyah and Jamiyah; eight nephews, Sha'Quan, Samaad, Quahim, Taquil, QuaShawn, Armond, Taquan and Shakim; one aunt, Altur; four auntsin-law, Lucky, Robin, Sagirah and Alice; nine uncles, Rahman, Malik, Shacon, Rashid, Raboo, Martin, Fuquan, and the late Latif and Wilbert; one uncle-in-law, Tatat; his extended family, Doris, Yosheico, Shakimah Jenkins, Latasha Johnson and Cousin Butter; his close friends, True, Ali and Boo Hilton; and a host of aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

Order of Service

Musical Prelude

Processional

Opening Hymn

Scripture Readings

Old Testament New Testament

Prayer of Comfort

Letter to be read from Aunt Altur

Selection

Acknowledgments

Reflections

(2 minutes please)

Obituary

Poem

by Sagirah

Eulogy

Rev. Ron Christian

Recessional

Interment

Rosehill Cemetery Linden, New Jersey

Farewell

Farewell my family, don't weep for I'm at peace now, just asleep. Farewell my family, I'm not alone, the Mighty Maker has led me safely home. Just think back over the many years, how the family seemed so strong, holding back the tears. Yet, God somehow always made a way, thanking Him every night and day. Be good my family, always love each other. Be strong my family, strong in heart, the blood ties, no one can ever part. If at some time I made a mistake, as you live, many will you make. Farewell my family, I've been called away. Walk with God, trust in His word, for He is always by your side. 🤰

<u>Acknowledgments</u>

The family of Al-Shahim Malik Bethea would like to express their sincere appreciation and gratitude to the many family and friends for their expressions of compassion, prayers and sympathy during their period of bereavement. God Bless you all for your thoughtfulness and concerns.

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