

*In Loving Memory of
John W. Addison, Sr.*



Sunrise
January 2, 1937

Sunset
December 7, 2014

Monday, December 15, 2014 - 12:00 Noon

Allen A.M.E. Church

56 19th Avenue

Newark, New Jersey

Rev. Cynthia D. Jackson, Pastor

Obituary

John Wesley Addison was born in Terrell County Georgia to Lucy Alston-Addison & Jethro Addison. As a child he enjoyed spending time with his grandfather and cousins. John affectionately known as Jay or J.W. left school at the age of 12 after his father's death. John refused to work on the family farm & sought work outside of the farm in order to earn money to pay someone else to work the farm. At age 16 John joined the United States Army and served in Germany.

Upon returning to Georgia he met Margie. John & Margie married in 1959 and left Georgia with \$36 and car that shut off each time it hit a bump. John was offered a job at the Veterans Cemetery in Long Island NY where he purchased his first home a brand new ranch for his wife, kids & mother. John's mother passed away during a family vacation in GA. In preparation for his mother's funeral John & Margie went to Sears to purchase items needed for the service. While waiting in line at Sears John pulled out his charge plate. Others in line began to complain about this black man with a charge plate. While they were using payment coupons to make their transaction. At this time it was clear John had successfully made a life for himself & his family that exceeded the prejudices of the south. John was a man that stood his ground against prejudice & racism. He believed a woman should be paid equal pay for equal work.

The circumstances surrounding the death of his mother prompted John & Margie to relocate to Newark NJ where he found work at Tasty Bakery. With a wife and 5 children John had trouble finding a place to live. So he purchased his second home at 650 S. 18th Street in Newark. He worked nights as a Janitor at S. 17th St School, & as an Auxiliary Police Officer with the City of Newark. John opened Addison Grocery at 634 15th Avenue in the early 70's. As John continued to search for additional income to provide for his growing family he joined the National Guard and began a career at the United States Post Office. John obtained his high school diploma from the Parsippany Adult Night School at the age of 37. He reached the ranks of Sergeant E-5 in the National Guards. John also served as a recruiter for the National Guard & helped lots of young men change their path. He would take his sons & their friends to Boy Scout meetings & to the Armory in West Orange on Saturdays.

On any given Saturday, John would say load up & we would all pile up in the green hornet for a road trip. Breaker breaker one nine as we traveled various highways. John went on to own two other businesses 1 in Newark & 1 in Irvington before retiring from the United States Post Office. He purchased two additional properties including the family home on Oakland Terrace.

Mr. Addison was the devoted husband of Margie Addison; loving father of Ronald Addison, Stacey A. Lawrence (Shelton), Jackey Addison (Diane), Tonja A. Wilson (Jerome), Theleah Addison, Tyra Addison, Jelani Addison, the late Sharif Muhammad, and Randy Addison. He also leaves to cherish his memory, 25 grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren, and a host of family and friends.

Order of Service

Processional

Selection

Scripture Readings

Prayer

Selection

Acknowledgements

Remarks

Obituary

Selection

Eulogy

Recessional





I'm Free

*Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free
I'm following the path God laid for me
I took his hand when I heard Him call
I turned my back and left it all.
I could not stay another day.
To laugh, to love, to work or play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way,
I found that peace at the close of day.
If my parting has left a void,*

*Then fill it up with remembered joy.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,
Oh, yes these things I too will miss.
Be not burdened with times of sorrow,
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.
My life's been full, I savored much.
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.
Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your heart and share with me,
God wanted me now, He set me free!*

-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

