

*In Loving
Memory
of
James
Wright
Nettles
(Ali Shakoor)*

SUNRISE:
July 22, 1933

SUNSET:
August 30, 2025

Thursday, September 4, 2025 - 9am

Masjid Malcolm Shabazz
102 W. 116th Street, New York, NY 10026
Imam Izak-EL Pasha, Officiating



Obituary

James Wright Nettles was born to Annie Mae Nettles and James Wright, Sr. on July 22, 1933 in Florence, South Carolina. Born and raised in Florence, South Carolina, James relocated with his family to New York City at the age of 11. James attended Cooper JHS and New York Vocational H.S. where he learned to be a skilled auto mechanic. In 1956, James married his childhood sweetheart Vonzella Hall and they were blessed with 5 children, Raynard Nettles, Lenaire Nettles, Alina Nettles, Ali Nettles and Sherene Nettles.

For over 30 years, James worked as a mechanic for General Motors. After his tenor at General Motors. James became a bus driver for Logan Bus Company, driving children he began to love and cherish to school. James retired from Logan Bus Company in 2006.

In 1959, James studied Islam and became a Muslim through the teachings of the Honorable Elijah Muhammad, Malcolm X and Imam Wallace Deen Mohammed. He became James 105x, James 35X and Ali Shakoor. He loved being a Muslim at Malcolm Shabazz Masjid. He attended Islamic retreats and other religious programs. In 2001 and 2003, James made his Islamic Pilgrimage to Mecca and was able to complete his Hajj. Making him El Hajj brother Ali Shakoor.

James (Ali Shakoor) loved his family and was the most loving, kind, generous, supportive person that Allah has blessed us with. James (Ali) also loved playing drums, jazz, reading, boxing, martial arts, studying Islam, chatting with his friends and Muslim Brothers and Sisters especially after Jumah. On Saturday, August 30th, 2025, at 92 years old Allah called James (Ali Shakoor) to return to him in Paradise.

James (Ali Shakoor) is preceded in death by his wife, Vonzella; son, Raynard; parents, Annie Mae and James Sr.; siblings, Joseph, William and Gloria; and daughter-in-law, Vivian. James is survived by his children, Lenaire, Alina, Ali and Sherene; twelve grandchildren and nine great grandchildren; one daughter-in-law; a host of nieces and nephews; and friend, Liz Spencer.

Janazah Service

Reading of Obituary

Message of Janazah

Prayer Service

Passing of Mints

Final Respects

Interment

Rosehill Cemetery

Linden, New Jersey



In the name of Allah the Most Gracious, Most Merciful indeed we belong to ALLAH (swt) and indeed to HIM we return. (2:156) inna illahi wa inna ilayhi raji'un.



Acknowledgement

We the family would like to thank the Malcolm Shabazz Masjid for their support, along with many friends and family, also his neighbors at Canaan Houses. We would like to thank everyone for knowing, loving and celebrating the life of El Hajj Ali Shakoore.

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