

<u>Service</u> Monday, June 7, 2021 • 11:00 a.m.

City of Maranatha Baptist Church
112-42 Springfield Blvd • Queens Village, NY 11429

# Order of Service

Processional	Roy L. Gilmore Funeral Home
	Pastor Anita
Song	Praise & Worship
Scripture Readings Adrienne March Tarnia March	Psalm 23 John 14: 1-3
Song	To God Be The Glory by Andre Crouch
Acknowledgements	Aunt Pat
Reading of Obituary	Omari March
Song	Steel Drum Band (And Effect)
Tribute by Grandchildren	Asante March, Owen March, Ohmir March & Fabia Thermidor
Tribute by Family Members	Uncle Palo & Uncle Leon
Eulogy	Omar, Jr, Priscilla, Sonia, & Keith
Song	Steel Drum Band (And Effect)
Benediction	N/ CV
Final Viewing	Roy L. Gilmore Funeral Home

<u>Interment</u>
Pinelawn Memorial Park
Farmingdale, New York

## Obituary

**Leonard Winston March** was born on July 3, 1949 in the town of Old Harbour, in the parish of St. Catherine, on the island of Jamaica, West Indies. On Tuesday, May 25th, 2021 the Lord called him home. Although he battled with serious medical issues in recent years, it showed us his strong will to live and what it means to face insurmountable challenges in life. This is what he lived by -to always push forward and never give up!

As a child, growing up on the island of Jamaica, he attended Old Harbour primary school and Kingsway Secondary School.. As a youngster it wasn't uncommon to see him playing football (Soccer) and spending time with his family.. He was loved by all of his siblings -Melvina (Aunt G), Calvert (Uncle Leon, Mello), Janet, Leroy (Uncle Alki), Auntie Sonia (who Auntie Sonia is named after), Everton (Uncle Fata), Lorise, Cleon (Uncle Linneous, Canon) and Auntie Valrie. After finishing his secondary studies he attended trade school and became a tailor. This led to his first job as a tailor on Orange Street in Kingston. Have you ever seen him in one of his suits? If you have, you would know that he was a master tailor. Even after he migrated to America his skills landed him a job working for a company who made Louis Vuitton products.

But just before the days of Louis Vuitton he toiled for the humble earnings of \$100 a week. Yes! You heard me right. This man, my grandfather, sustained himself on \$100 a week and he did it without quarrel. His motto back then?- Do the best you can with what you have! He did just that. He was a resourceful man who knew how to improvise. To him that \$100 was another step closer to his goal. He came to America looking for an opportunity and an open door. And when he walked through an open door he worked very hard to maintain it.

In Brooklyn, New York is where he met his wife, Florine Johnson. They were married on November 16, 1974. Together they endured the ups and downs of life, but remained married for over 46 years. They raised their five children Keith, Sonia, Priscilla, Leonard Jr. and Omar to love each other and to love God.

He was a gifted man and his creative genes showed up everywhere. Musical talent runs in the March family. His siblings play instruments, record music, and direct bands. His brother, Uncle Leon has a music radio show that he listened to faithfully every Sunday. And when Uncle Leon did not Big Up All New York crew he would call him on commercial breaks to chew him out. His children and grandchildren play instruments, sing, dance and DJ. He himself played the lead guitar, bass guitar, the acoustic guitar and the banjo. He played the harmonica and even picked up the piano in his later years. As you can see, he loved music. It was a ritual for the March family to hear records playing--no, blaring from his most-cherished sound system- you know the one-with the radio receiver, big equalizer and the record player in the big case that sits on the floor?-- Yes! That one.. Tapping everything in sight in order to add his version of percussion sounds to the song that was playing..

He was a man who loved God. Church ministry was a big part of his life and he held many roles in leadership such as an Elder, Sunday School Superintendent and a Missionary to many countries.

What many may not know is that he had a heart for the community. After working for Mass Transit Authority as a Bus Operator for over 30 years, He retired and then became an avid volunteer for the TWU Local 100 Union for Bus and Subway Operators. He helped to organize community events and the annual MTA employee picnic.

Leonard March Sr., is survived by his five children and 13 grandchildren: Kiara, Larry, Asia, NuNu, Heaven, Fabia, Asante, Immanuel, Naomi, Gina, Omari, Owen and Ohmir. Along with all of his many nieces, nephews and cousins whom he loved so much!

He was affectionately known by his mom as Leonard; by his wife as Winston. By his siblings, he was known as Brother March; To his nieces and nephews, Uncle Marchie. To his co-workers, Lenny.. To his children, he was daddy and to his grandchildren, he was grandpa.

Today we celebrate the life of Leonard Winston March Sr. with memories of love. The March family. Would like to thank all of you for sharing this time with us!



#### Pallbearers

Keith March • Leonard March Jr. • Omar March Omari March • Cleveland Clarke • Calvert March

### Gifte

All cards, flowers and other donations can be sent to: **The March Family**116-14 198th Street
St. Albans, NY 11412

#### <u> Heknowledgements</u>

The family wishes to acknowledge with deep appreciation the many expressions of love, concern and kindness shown to their family during this hour of bereavement.

May God Bless and Keep You!

Professional Services Provided By:

Roy L. Gilmore's Funeral Home, Inc. 📮

Angela Gilmore-Manning, *President*Ph (718) 529-3030 • (718) 528-7765
Fax (718) 712-2108 • (718) 528-2575
Email: royl.gilmorefuneralhome@verizon.net

191-02 Linden Blvd. • St. Albans, NY 11412

