

A photograph of a smiling man sitting on a set of wide, grey stone steps. He is wearing a light-colored, short-sleeved button-down shirt with a subtle pattern, light-colored shorts, a white baseball cap, and a watch on his left wrist. Behind him is a large, ornate golden gate with intricate scrollwork, set against a background of a blue sky with soft clouds. To the left of the man, two white doves are captured in flight, their wings spread. The overall scene is bright and peaceful.

*In Loving Memory of*  
*Daryl Letsome*

Sunrise: September 7, 1957 - Sunset: August 31, 2021

Saturday, September 11, 2021 - 4PM

**UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.**  
2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY 10027

# Obituary

**Daryl Leonard Letsome** was born on September 7, 1957 in New York City, to his proud parents Melford (who preceded him in death) and Io Letsome. He was the second of three children. Daryl was raised in Grant Houses with his siblings, Jennifer and Dave. He received his elementary education at New York City Public Schools and graduated from Louis D. Brandeis High School. He also took courses at John Jay College.

Daryl was very ambitious and had an excellent work ethic. He started working at the age of sixteen at Alexanders & Orbachs Department Stores. He began his career at the New York City Department of Corrections in 1982. Daryl was always punctual and kept a perfect attendance record. He was a dedicated officer and loved his job. He was passionate about becoming a union delegate to fight the injustices he witnessed on the job. He was elected union delegate in 1993. He took this position very seriously, as he represented his colleagues with his motto "When you're right, you must fight! But you can't be wrong and strong." Daryl strived hard to win his fellow co-workers' grievances because he enjoyed a great debate. He retired after 21 years of service in June 2003.



On May 29, 1983 Daryl married the love of his life Diane, whom he met in high school. From this union came two beautiful daughters LaToya and Sytonia. Daryl was a great family man, and always provided for his daughters. He adored his daughters and they made him very proud with their accomplishments. In 2005 he was overjoyed when his first grandchild Bria was born followed by Dylan then Jevon Jr. Affectionately known as Pop Pop, Daryl was overjoyed attending dance recitals, basketball games and school events.

Daryl was very giving to those he loved but his greatest love was Diane. For 45 years he shared his life with the girl who stole his heart back at Brandeis high school. He adored Diane and until he closed his eyes in death, his life was filled with memories they created by traveling, and watching their children and grandchildren grow. Chocolate and Vanilla aka the Huxtables, were nicknames affectionately given to them by the family. They shared many years of laughter, learning and loving. They were truly best friends.

Daryl took pride in his appearance and was always color coordinated from head to toe. He LOVED to SHOP! He never liked when his wife referred to him as a shopaholic but he enjoyed going to every designer sample sale to purchase his Hugo Boss suits & designer shoes. Daryl was a master at finding a good sale. He would inform everyone where to purchase great buys from Saks Fifth Ave to CVS. He reviewed everything before he purchased it, often traveling with his review magazines on electronics because it had to be the best. He always asked after his purchase "Guess how much I paid for this?"

Daryl was a lover of music. Throughout the week he would listen to his favorite R&B, Jazz and Calypso songs. When the song "Feeling Hot Hot Hot" came on, Daryl really came alive, or when a Temptations' song played, he swore he was a member of the group, singing the lyrics to "Ain't Too Proud to Beg". Sundays were dedicated to Gospel music and his favorite song was "The Best In Me" by Marvin Sapp. Daryl would make Jazz and Gospel CDs for anyone who enjoyed the music.

Daryl's life was full and he will be greatly missed. He leaves behind to cherish his memory, his devoted wife Diane, his loving daughters LaToya Johnson and Sytonia Letsome. His son in law Jevon, His grandchildren Bria, Dylan and Jevon Jr., his mother Io Letsome, siblings Jennifer and Dave, a loving and loyal cousin/brother Larry J, brothers-in-law Ronald & Tyrone, a sister-in-law Pamela, an honorary brother Harrison Stukes, nephews, nieces, aunts, cousins and a host of friends.

# Order of Service

Elder Harrison Stukes, Officiating

Processional

Selection..... “Open My Heart”

Scripture Readings

Old Testament - Psalm 23.....Yvonne Sturges

New Testament 1 John 4:7-12.....LaTisha Brown-Blakey

Prayer.....Reverend Dennis

Selection..... “Take Me to The King”

Poems.....Crystal Brooks

Sytonia Letsome

Bria Johnson, Dylan Parker & Jevon Johnson Jr.

Remarks .....(Two Minutes Please)

Obituary..... Jevon Johnson, Sr.

Selection..... “The Best of Me”

Eulogy.....Elder Harrison Stukes

Committal..... Elder Harrison Stukes

Viewing

Recessional.....“Never Would Have Made It”

## **FINAL DISPOSITION:**

Oxford Hills Crematory

Chester, New York

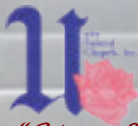
## THE DAY GOD TOOK YOU HOME

A million times  
I've needed you  
A million times I've cried,  
If love alone  
Could have saved you  
You never would have died.  
In life I loved you dearly;  
In death I love you still.  
In my heart you hold a space,  
Where no one can ever fill.  
It broke my heart to lose you,  
But you didn't go alone  
Part of me went with you,  
The day God took you home.

## *Acknowledgement*

*The Letsome Family extend their deepest appreciation to family and friends for their prayers, support, love and expressions of sympathy during this time of bereavement. May God continue to bless each of you.*

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