Ronald's Story

Ronald Anthony Manson was born on August 3, 1949 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to the late Betty and Clarence Manson, Sr. He was the second oldest of five sons and one daughter. His brother Steven and sister Janis preceded him in death. Ronald transitioned from this life on Sunday, June 27th, 2021, following a brief illness.

Ronald was educated in the School District of Philadelphia and was a proud 1967 alumnus of Thomas Edison High School. Ronald often shared memories from his time in the halls of the school's original Lehigh Avenue location. In 1968, Ronald enrolled in the United States Air Force, allowing him to travel the world. Ronald would often send home letters, pictures, and special gifts to his family in Philadelphia. The Air Force took Ronald from Oregon to Okinawa, and he cherished his military experience. Okinawa always held a special place in his heart, as it was during this time that he raised a family with his love, Linda. While serving as a Military Police Officer and family man, Ronald developed his passion for the martial arts, studying under some of the great international masters. It was not uncommon for Ronald to share martial arts techniques or a greeting in Japanese with just about anyone.

Upon completing his military service, he was able to showcase his artistic talents as a glassworker, working on projects all over the city. The most well-known example of Ronald's handiwork is the iconic One Liberty Place building in Center City. Everyone in the family has seen famous photographs of Ronald installing glass panes from over 900 feet above the city. A member of the Glaziers Local Union 252 since 1980, Ronald was known as a consummate professional throughout his career. By 1989, Ronald was employed with the School District of Philadelphia, from which he would successfully retire after over 20 years of service. During this time in his life story, Ronald's immediate family was extended through his love, Mary

True to his genuine character, Ronald was a man of the people who could match wits with those from all walks of life. Whether it was philosophy, politics, or debating the best era for jazz music, Ronald enjoyed intellectually-stimulating conversation. Whether you called him Pop, Pop-Pop, Brother, Uncle or Friend, Ronald's wit, charm, humor and class will be treasured forever.

Ronald leaves to cherish his memory: his sons: Montay (Camille), Lamar Sr., and Roland; his daughters: Rhonda, Shannon and Ericka; his brothers: Phillip (Janice), Clarence Jr. and Alfred; his grandchildren: Shakerra, Lamar Jr., Leilani, Omari, Kaden, Kamren, Effie and Elijah; his great-grandchildren: Jordyn and Jayden; his present love Naja "Tonia" Muhammad, and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, family and friends.

Prayerfully submitted,
The Family