

# Order of Service



Musical Prelude ..... Soft Music  
Parting View ..... Family  
Prayer ..... Pastor Darnell Lee, Jr.  
Scripture ..... Pastor Darnell Lee, Jr.  
Selection .....  
Remarks ..... Two Minutes, Please  
Obituary ..... Read Silently  
Selection .....  
Eulogy ..... Pastor Darnell Lee, Jr.  
Benediction ..... Pastor Darnell Lee, Jr.  
Recessional ..... Clergy, Family, & Friends

## *Acknowledgements*

The family wishes to acknowledge with deep appreciation the many expressions of love, concern, prayers, and kindness shown to them during this hour of bereavement.  
- The family of John Lawrence Thompson



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Walker - Mt. Healthy Chapel  
7272 Hamilton Avenue  
Mt. Healthy OH 45213

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*In Loving Memory  
of*



*John Lawrence Thompson*

January 26, 1942 - May 18, 2025

Friday, May 30, 2025

Visitation: 2:00 pm

Funeral Service: 3:00 pm

Walker - Mt. Healthy Chapel

7272 Hamilton Avenue

Mt. Healthy, Ohio 45231

Pastor Darnell Lee, Jr., Officiating

## Obituary

John Lawrence Thompson departed this life on Sunday, May 18, 2025, at the age of 83, at Christ Hospital in Cincinnati, Ohio. He was born in Cincinnati to John and Louise Thompson on January 26, 1942, as their first son and the only one of their three children to survive tuberculosis (TB). His father would later die from the disease at the age of 38.

John spent his early years growing up in Avondale and attended Samuel Auch School Junior High, which was torn down in 1976. During his time there, he developed a love for drawing, especially cars, which eventually led him to work for Ford Motors in Rockford, Illinois, in 1966.

John met his wife, Lillie Mae Iverson, over 60 years ago, and they married on March 21, 1964. Together, they had six children: Lamont Aaron Thompson, Van Ness Thompson, Quentin Bristol Oliver Thompson, and twins John Lawrence Thompson Jr. (LJ) and Patricia Ann Thompson.

In 1972, John moved his family to Durham, NC, where they lived until 1982, when their mother moved half the family back to Cincinnati. He remained in the Durham area until April 2024, when his eldest son, LJ, moved him back to Cincinnati to reunite with his wife and live with her and his second son, Ethan, who took on the role of caregiver for both John and Lillie.

While in Durham, John initially worked in Christian ministry alongside his good friend Rev. Duffy, whom he had met in Rockford. He also worked in janitorial services, cleaning churches and Dunkin' Donuts, much to the delight of his family, who loved the day-old donuts and Munchkins. He often took his eldest sons with him, teaching them valuable skills that they would carry into their jobs later. His eldest son, LJ, even worked in the church's janitorial services.

John also worked as a paralegal with the Legal Side Society, a role that opened his eyes to the unjust treatment of Black Americans. He converted the family to the Nation

of Islam and became a member of Mosque #35 in Durham, where he made lifelong friends, starting with Brother Augusta Cotton (deceased) and Brother Michael Safir.

John was deeply involved in his community, working with the City Council and senior living centers, and serving as the superintendent of Henderson Towers from 2010 to 2017. He held jobs at Duke University and its hospital, and he helped start construction programs for young Black men at North Carolina Central University, a historically Black university.

He instilled in his children the importance of self-improvement, teaching them self-defense, the significance of Black history, and the strategies of chess. His granddaughter Jamila, the daughter of LJ, became a champion chess player in New York City, showcasing the groundwork he laid for his family.

John was preceded in death by his beloved parents, John James Thompson and Louise Dorsey, and one brother.

He passed away on the morning of Monday, May 19, 2025, at 7 a.m., in his hometown of Cincinnati. He is survived by his wife, Lillie Mae Thompson; his children: twins John Lawrence Thompson Jr. (LJ) and Patricia Ann Thompson, and sons Ethan Tyrone Thompson, Lamont Aaron Thompson, Van Ness Thompson, and Quentin Bristol Oliver Thompson; grandchildren: Candius, Scriber, Dominique Scriber from Cincinnati, Jamaal Hakeem, and Jamila from New York City, and Mercedes (Sadie) and Ryan from Portland, Oregon; great-grandchildren: Rylan, Ivorie, Valentina, and Emery (from Mercedes); daughters-in-law Lisa Middleton-Thompson and Tammy Thompson of Portland, Oregon; and second cousins Maria, Kelly, Katherine, and Jackie from his dear departed cousin, Diana, her husband, and all their grandchildren. He will also be missed by his Muslim family in Durham, especially Brother Michael Safir, Sister Cora, and Sister Karenthia Beard.

As Salaam Alaikum from them to their dear brother, Brother Aqiel u Malik al Shadaz.

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Allah! forgive him, have mercy upon him, give him peace and absolve him. Receive him with honour and make his grave spacious; wash him with water, snow and hail. Cleanse him from faults as Thou wouldst cleanse a white garment from impurity. Requite him with an abode more excellent than his abode, with a family better than his family, and with a mate better than his mate. Admit him to the Garden, and protect him from the torment of the grave and the torment of the Fire."