



Michael Onaje Jackson

September 3, 1955 - August 31, 2022

Michael 'Onaje' Jackson

Sunrise: September 3, 1955 Sunset: August 31, 2022

The Journey

From: Passaic- Yale University- St. Croix, V.I.

Michael graduated from Passaic High School in 1973, entered Yale University with a major in architecture and later received double masters from MIT in architecture and urban planning. His first job was at the N.Y. Empire State Building with Steven Winters architecture firm.

Michael accepted a position as director of the Virgin Islands Renewable Energy Institute, breaking down for one of the nation's first renewable energy districts using full use of solar, wind and other renewable energy.

Not forgetting his roots in Passaic, he starred as "King" in #11 school's unforgettable production of "The King and I". He was president of his 1973 class and selected "YOUNG MAN OF THE YEAR" in Passaic. Michael formed a swim team at the Passaic Boys Club on 3rd street, which was preparation for him becoming a member of Yale University swim team.

Reaching out from the Yale Campus into the community, Yale provided a room on campus where Michael held FREE ADULT ART CLASSES. During that time, Passaic held ANNUAL ART EXHIBIT in the park. He entered his artwork and was awarded the JUNIOR DIVISION WINNER.

Focusing on his work in Energy, Michael formed his company SSDIE- Sustainable System + Design International. His company has taken him to many foreign countries as a speaker and work contracts. He was awarded the U.S. Environmental Protection. "MAN OF THE YEAR".

Michael 'Onaje' Jackson was preceded in death by his father - Passaic Supervisor of Music - Edward F. Jackson.

He is survived by his mother - Deloris Lightfoot Jackson of Passaic, sister Rise Jackson Evans of Frisco, Texas, daughter Zahra Jackson, a teacher in Richmond, California School System, son Major Lamin Jackson (Wife Kim) United States Air Force and 2 grandchildren Mela Jackson and Lea Kai Jackson.

Tribute Wall



“ Onaje, was great friend of mine in early 1980. I am a Gambian and was in New York at the time when I met him. He was a real revolutionary committed to the liberation of Africa at the time. Our friendship grew to the point that he named his son after me.(Lamin O. Jackson.

I am in dare need to get to his wife, Barbara and Lamin. If anyone happens to get this post and knows the family, pass on my details: Lamin Jammeh. Email: jammehnaney@gmail.com. Thanks

Lamin Jammeh - June 02, 2023 at 02:19 PM



“ *Michael Onaje Jackson*

November 27, 2022 at 05:57 PM



“ *Onaje was a great friend and colleague. I worked with him at Steven Winter. Always had a great time being with him. Visited him in St. Crix and in Passaic. I am saddened by his loss. I will always remember him fondly.*

MATTHEW M CANNIZZARO - November 26, 2022 at 05:24 PM



“ *Onaje was so kind and a visionary in sustainable energy. I always enjoyed seeing him at Yale's Afro-American Cultural Center during anniversary events. We once talked for two hours after an event and Onaje was enrapturing! Black Yale will miss you. I'll love your energy forever. ❤️💙 Pamela George*

Pamela Y George - September 26, 2022 at 09:54 AM

BG

“ *Michael was the only person I wanted to go to my Junior prom with. It was him or no one! I asked him and he gave me that dazzling smile and said yes. He gave me a beautiful corsage and Mr. Jackson served as our chauffeur for the evening. Michael even helped me prepare the prom decorations the night before at the high school. We danced the night away at the prom and had a great time.*

Coincidentally, I have been mounting a Tribute wall in my apartment of pics of memories of my life in Passaic and Jersey City where I lived and worked for many years. When I posted our junior prom pic it brought back memories of that night. I found out two days ago that he passed. I am still trying to wrap my head around it. When folks come over to my place I always brag about him when they see the pic.

Loved him then and always.

*Betty Gerena
PHS Class of '72*

Betty Gerena - September 18, 2022 at 09:33 PM

BA

*Dear Mrs. Jackson,
So sorry for the passing of your son. You raised a fine son who was a role model to many and who will deeply be missed.
Peace & Love,
Beryl Tomlinson Aikens, Brenda Tomlinson Stith, Robert Tomlinson and
Al/ Chris Tomlinson*

Beryl Tomlinson Aikens - September 22, 2022 at 09:59 AM

BA

*Rise,
My words cannot express how saddened I am by the passing of your brother Michael. My family and the community were so blessed to know him. Please give your husband and kids my condolences also. Special condolences to your mom who took the time to stay in contact with my mom until her passing.
Sincerely,
Beryl Tomlinson Aikens*

Beryl Tomlinson Aikens - September 22, 2022 at 10:15 AM

RM

*I just learned of Onaje's passing this morning. I am saddened by this news. I knew him in St Croix, US Virgin Islands where he was well known and well liked. He had a gentle spirit and was always a gentleman. It was a pleasure knowing him. The world has lost a wonderful being. I hope his passing was peaceful.
My condolences to his family and friends.
Blessings of peace and love always - Rosaleen Melone 1❤️*

Rosaleen Melone - October 22, 2022 at 03:56 PM

BG

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Betty Gerena - September 18, 2022 at 09:20 PM



“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



The Madonna Multinational Funeral home - September 16, 2022 at 03:32 PM

PR

“ Rise, I am so sorry for your loss of your brother Michael. We were so close when we were in the Passaic School system. I am praying for you and your mom and your brothers children. May he Rest In Peace. I tried to reach out to you Rise from the only telephone number that I had but didn't get through. Would love to chat.

Pamela Solomon Russell - September 15, 2022 at 07:34 PM

MB

“ I am deeply saddened by my dear friend Onaje's passing and myself, my wife Gertraud and all of the Baran family send the Jackson family our deepest condolences and love. Onaje and I were lifelong friends first meeting at the Passaic YMCA in 1966 where his father was my first swimming coach and "Mike" and I were teammates. We travelled far and wide together competing in NJ swimming and myself, my brother John and my family have wonderful memories of Onaje, his parents Ed and Deloris and sister Rise during those days. Onaje and I once again became team members at Yale as we swam and played water polo together during the mid 1970's and both studied architecture. RIP my dear friend Onaje and fellow teammate in life. Your faith and indomitable spirit is a lasting inspiration and testament to all you accomplished and all you touched during your journey.

Mark R. Baran

Mark R. Baran - September 13, 2022 at 04:54 PM

EG

“*Mrs. Lightfoot Jackson, Rise, please accept my sincere, heart-felt condolences and sympathies in the transition of your son and brother. He was so light-hearted, funny and nice. May the God of all Comfort, comfort you all with kind words, tender touches and warm hugs, as you embrace one another with smiles of cherished memories to treasure, now and forever.*

With Agape, Eva Powell Grant.

Eva P Grant - September 10, 2022 at 08:50 PM



“*Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Michael Onaje Jackson.*



September 09, 2022 at 11:28 PM



“*Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Michael Onaje Jackson.*



September 09, 2022 at 06:47 PM



“ 8 files added to the album Memories Album



The Madonna Multinational Funeral home - September 09, 2022 at 11:39 AM