



Mr. Omari Diallo Kali

August 16, 1949 - January 13, 2024

In Loving Memory Of

Omari Diallo Kali, beloved son, husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle, and friend joined the ancestors January 13, 2024.

A lifelong Detroiter, Omari was born Pernell Pinkard in Providence Hospital August 16, 1949 to Ruby Pinkard and George Ellis, Sr. He was educated in Detroit Public Schools, and graduated from Northeastern High School in 1967. He attended WCCC and Michigan Barber College.

Since childhood, Omari had an affinity for Black History and culture, and joined the Shrine of the Black Madonna in the early 1970s. He would later become a member of Zion Progress Baptist Church, where he sang in the choir.

It was during his time at the Shrine that he would change his name, which came about by way of the Shrine's "BTG," Basic Training Group. Names were chosen by how members appeared to the group's leaders: Omari (meaning Flourishing) Diallo (meaning Bold) and Kali (meaning Strong/Energetic). Indeed, he was each of these. "The Shrine gave me solace," he once said. "I was able to find myself."

Omari was a living example of the saying, "No one person is all one thing." A voracious reader, he was like a walking encyclopedia—always teaching and lecturing whether or not you wanted to hear what he had to say. He loved to sing and you could hear his beautiful voice on Thursday nights at Bert's Marketplace. He was a community advocate/outreach specialist and

counselor who retired from DCHC (Detroit Community Health Connection) in early 2000.

Previous Events

Visitation

Tuesday, Jan. **23**. 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

O. H. Pye, III Funeral Home
17600 Plymouth Road
Detroit, MI 48227
(313) 838-9770
info@pyefuneralhome.com

Family Hour / Visitation

Wednesday, Jan. **24**. 12:00 PM - 12:30 PM (ET)

O. H. Pye, III Funeral Home
17600 Plymouth Road
Detroit, MI 48227
(313) 838-9770
info@pyefuneralhome.com

Celebration of Life

Wednesday, Jan. **24**. 12:30 PM - 1:45 PM (ET)

O. H. Pye, III Funeral Home
17600 Plymouth Road
Detroit, MI 48227
(313) 838-9770
info@pyefuneralhome.com

Repast

Wednesday, Jan. **24**. 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Lathrup Village Community Center
27400 Southfield Rd.
Lathrup Village, MI 48076

Tribute Wall

AJ

“ Grandpa, your deep love for the music of Motown will be one of my greatest memories. That love will continue on with me. Promise. I love you <3 - Amber

Amber Jeffries - January 20, 2024 at 12:11 PM

DG

“ Sending love and light to the family. The memories will live on, Big Omari. Sing a song with my daddy (Bussie) when you see him up there, uncle.
--Dara Z 💜

Dara Gardner - January 19, 2024 at 07:24 PM

TF

“ Our condolences to the family of Mr. Kali. May God continue to comfort you and give you peace.



The Lewis and Chamberlain Families - January 17, 2024 at 08:18 PM

BM

“ My dearest Uncle Omari. It was always great seeing you. I loved seeing you & your smile. I always knew that you loved & was proud of me.

Your niece,
Brandy

Brandy J Macon - January 16, 2024 at 11:44 PM