

*Saluting The Life and Activism
of*



**PAKI MAHDEE
(Michael Travis)**

Co-Founder of the Universal African Peoples Organization (UAPO)

Sunrise-September 1, 1953

Sunset-January 22, 2006

***"Up You Mighty Race - Accomplish What You Will" -Marcus Garvey
Through Visions and Actions For Today and Tomorrow***

Zaki Baruti / Moderator

6:00 p.m.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 26, 2006

Ronald Jones Funeral Home

2161 East Fair Avenue

St. Louis, Missouri, 63107

• CELEBRATION OF LIFE •

PAKI MAHDEE

(MICHAEL TRAVIS)

Paki Mahdee (Michael Travis) was born September 1, 1952 at the St. Louis County Hospital in Clayton, Missouri, to the union of John and Pearl Lee Travis. He was the twelfth of thirteen children. His mother, father and several siblings have preceded him in death. Much of his early life was spent growing up in the diverse Pruitt Igoe housing complex.

As a young student at Carr Lane Elementary School, Paki took an avid interest in basketball. He was very proud of the fact that he helped lead his school to several winning seasons. His spirit of winning was reflected in him being a member of the Vashon High School State Basketball Champions in 1971.

Upon graduating from Vashon High School, Paki attended Webster University for a year. His employment included working at Krey Packing House, Walbridge Community Center and working a number of years in the St. Louis City Circuit Clerk's office under the administration of Mavis Thompson. Paki's talent as an entrepreneur / salesman led him to becoming an investor in the Power Learning System that led to the opening of Snoodles Restaurant at New Halls Ferry and Interstate 270. He was also an investor in the Corbin's Marinating Sauce Company and a top salesman for the African News World, a quarterly newspaper published by the Universal African Peoples Organization (UAPO) and other African centered products.

Paki's involvement as a community/political activist began with his support of the political candidacy of Virvus Jones for alderman in the late 1970's. In 1983, he became involved in the highly publicized movement for Marilyn Banks, a victim of a police shooting by Joseph Ferrario. His work in this particular case led him to meeting his longtime friend and comrade, Zaki Baruti (Lavoy Reed). When Zaki became a candidate for Governor in the State of Missouri in 1984, Paki was an integral part of the campaign serving as the Administrative Assistant and travelled extensively throughout the state.

When Zaki ran again for Governor in 1988 and 2000, Paki was right there, to help his friend/comrade, once again as the Administrative Assistant. He was very proud of the fact that in 1988, the campaign received 19% of the votes cast in the Democratic Primary Election and the fact that the campaign had gained the endorsement and support of the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan. Paki would readily share with others, that he was proud of making political history and being a political pioneer in state politics.

In 1987, Paki adopted his cultural name (Paki Mahdee) which meant 12th child and witness. It was in that spirit that he proudly proclaimed his name because surely he bore witness to many historical events and community oriented activities.

On April 4, 1989, Paki became one of the cofounders of his beloved Universal African Peoples Organization (UAPO). As a member of this activist organization, he worked diligently in various political campaigns, was an outspoken anti-war advocate, an international humanitarian and a critic of any injustice against his people. Paki had a supreme love for Black folks and constantly spoke to the need for us to unite.

His other community involvements included being a member / supporter of the New Generation Solidarity Consumers Union, the Coalition Against Police Crimes and Repression, and the Missouri Green Party. He was extremely proud of being in attendance at the Million Man March in 1995 and the Millions More Movement in 2005.

Finally, Paki had a zest for life. He was a spiritual person who believed in "One God-One Goal-One Destiny" for himself and his people. He enjoyed sports, having a strong affinity for the St. Louis Cardinals Baseball Team, St. Louis Rams Football Team and the Los Angeles Lakers Basketball Team. He enjoyed political discussions, good food and was known for his camaraderie and his fun loving, gregarious nature.

He leaves behind to cherish his memory; three sisters and three brothers; June (Joe), Patricia (Lester), Sandra, Stanley (Lois), Leon (Charlene), Randy; a host of aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, as well as his UAPO family and friends.

**PAKI - "A SOLDIER FOR THE COMMUNITY"
YOU WILL SURELY BE MISSED!!**

• PROGRAM •

Prayer.....	<i>Reverend Tommie Pierson Minister Ralph Muhammad</i>
Scripture Reading.....	<i>Imam Marvin Syed Reverend Elston McGowan Minister Donald Muhammad</i>
Lift Every Voice and Sing	<i>Unison</i>
Immediate Family Tribute	<i>Randy Travis</i>
Musical Selection	<i>Niasia Hatch</i>
UAPO Tribute.....	<i>Safiyah Chauvin Willie Marshall Rostand Darbouze Ameer Ali G.G. Owens</i>
Poem.....	<i>Bill Goodin (Read by Sauda Imiri)</i>
Community Tributes.....	<i>Susie Parker Betty Thompson Todd El Jamala Rogers Ibrahim Muhammad Lionel Wiggins Hassaan Shabazz Don Fitz Eugene Frison Ron Gregory Minister Akbar Muhammad</i>
Musical Selection	<i>Latroy Coleman</i>
Salute To Our Friend/Brother/Soldier.....	<i>Zaki Baruti</i>

Benediction

Holy Bible - Timothy: Chapter 4 v 7-8

"I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the Faith; Hence forth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day; and not to me only, but unto all them that also love his appearing."



Holy Quran - Surah 9 v 72

"God hath promised to Believers, men and women, Gardens under which rivers flow to dwell therein, and beautiful mansions in Gardens of everlasting bliss. But the greatest bliss is the good pleasure of God that is the supreme felicity."



Malcolm X - On Our Rights

"We declare our right on this earth to be a human being, to be given the rights of a human being, in this society, on this earth, in this day, which we intend to bring into existence. BY ANY MEANS NECESSARY."



Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. - Why We Can't Wait

"Freedom is never voluntarily given by the oppressor; it must be demanded by the oppressed."



The Travis and UAPO Family wish to express our sincere thanks and appreciation to the countless expressions of compassion and sympathy.

Interment

Lake Charles Memorial Park • 7775 St. Charles Rock Road • 63133

Friday, January 27

9:00 a.m.

Special Thanks To Ronald Jones Funeral Home