



## **LAKEN COSBY, JR.**

December 6, 1930 - June 11, 2014

Laken Cosby, Jr., 83, passed Wednesday June 11, 2014.

Mr. Cosby was a member of St. Stephen Church, a graduate of Central High School and the University of Louisville, a U.S. Air Force Veteran, President of Laken Cosby Real Estate Company, member of the KY Commission of Human Rights Hall of Fame, and Who's Who: Most Notable African Americans in Kentucky.

He served as past president of the NAACP (Louisville Chapter) and served as the housing consultant for the state and national NAACP for many years.

Mr. Cosby persuaded Louisville and Jefferson County to create a unified Section 1 Program that aided in neighborhood integration and reduced the need for busing to achieve racial balance in Jefferson County Public Schools.

Mr. Cosby served as the first African American chairman of the the Jefferson County Public School Board (1988) and was appointed to the Kentucky State Board of Education (1994) by Gov. Brereton C. Jones and served as its vice-chairman for three terms.

He served as former Director of Housing and Community Services with the KY Commission on Human Rights, where he established one of the nation's first

state-wide programs to test for racial discrimination in housing and developed a training program for real estate professionals as a means of preventing discrimination from occurring in the sale and rental of housing.

Survivors include his wife, Barbara Cosby; children, Pamela Cosby, Janice Bridges (Jim), Terry Eubanks, Kevin W. Cosby (Barnetta), Sylvia Cosby, Laken III, Natalie, Matthew Cosby and Jonathan Cosby; siblings, Walter, David, Steve, Gary, Wayne, and Ernestine Cosby, Louise Douglas, Christine Jones, Beatrice Bush, Barbara Mimms, Joann Williams, and Donna Cleveland; and a host of extended family and friends.

Visitation: Sunday, June 15, 2014, 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. at his church, 1018 S. 15th Street. Funeral service: 11:00 a.m. Monday, June 16, 2014 at the church. Burial: Cave Hill Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family request contributions are made to Simmons College of Kentucky (1018 S. 7th Street Louisville, KY 40203) in Mr. Cosby's memory.

Arrangements entrusted to A. D. Porter & Sons, 1300 W. Chestnut Street.

# Tribute Wall

SC

“ *The sunshine of life is a blessing, often times sunset is difficult to muster. For some it's a bitter sweet process that will all venture through. May Allah bless the immediate family as well as the extended.*

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**Sidney Cosby** - June 20, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ *from the Cook family our prayers are with you all May God bless u all*

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**The Cook Family** - June 20, 2014 at 12:00 AM

OM

“ *We are sorry for your loss. We send our condolences. God Bless your Family. He will always LIVE IN THE LIGHT. God Bless you. The Marshall Family.*

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**Olive Marshall** - June 19, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RC

“ *May God bless your family at this time of bereavement. Me and my family will be praying for you.*

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**Raphael Cosby** - June 18, 2014 at 12:00 AM

CF

“ *to the family our prayers are with you all may God bless you all*

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**cook family** - June 17, 2014 at 12:00 AM

BH

“ So sorry to hear of your great loss. My love and sympathy to you all.

Barbara Harris - June 17, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ To Sweet Beatrice Bush and the Cosby Family,I am so sorry for your great loss. I am sure he is smiling down from heaven at his beautiful family. God bless you, and may he keep you in his arms, safe and secure, at this very difficult time.

Marisa Moss - June 17, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RE

“ I had the pleasure of knowing Laken since the early days of the late 60th, and always found him to be a pleasant person to be around and of which I gain much of my Civil knowledge..He represented true leadership...I was proud to be selected with him in the civil rights Hall of Fame..Richard Brown,

Richard E - June 17, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TC

“ To the family: Many Prayers are being sent your way during this time and thereafter.May God Bless and Keep you all in His Care!!

Terrylynn Cosby - June 17, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ President Cosby, Sis Barnetta, Dr Christine and Cosby Family-On behalf of SGA of Simmons, our prayers are and will continue to be with you in the passing of your precious loved one! Joy's coming ....in the morning!

Maxine Smith - June 16, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RW

“ *Agreast pioneer will be missed.*

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**Ron Wright** - June 16, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RE

“ *To the Family of Mr. Laken Cosby, Jr., You are in my thoughts and prayers.*

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**Rev** - June 16, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TB

“ *I am so sorry to hear about Laken. God Bless you and your family during this difficult time. May he rest in Peace.*  
*Tina Ashcraft Beckley*

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**Tina Beckley** - June 16, 2014 at 12:00 AM

EM

“ *Barbara & Rev. Cosby, your family and you are in our thoughts and prayers. We extend our deepest sympathy. Take comfort in knowing Laken's living was not in vain and his legacy will continue to positively impact lives and community.*

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**Emmett** - June 15, 2014 at 12:00 AM

EC

“ *Dear Cousins, May all of our hearts be filled with wonderful memories of joyful times of a life well lived. Love and peace.*

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**Ester Cosby** - June 15, 2014 at 12:00 AM

EC

“ *Dear Cousins, May all of our hearts be filled with wonderful memories of a life well lived. Love and Peace.*

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**Ester Cosby** - June 15, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SJ

“ Laken was the glue that held the board together as well as the various communities in Jefferson County. His calm leadership was invaluable; his insight and common sense saved us from chaos in 1984. After the negotiations on the new student assignment plan in 1984, as chair of the board, I urged Laken to join....and the board to appoint him. Under fire from the CJ, the board did appoint him to fill an empty seat. It was the best thing that board did. My condolences to the family. His memory will be cherished.  
Sherry Jelsma

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**Sherry Jelsma** - June 15, 2014 at 12:00 AM

BK

“ My prayers are with your entire family.

*"God never puts more on us than we can bear."*

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**Betty Jackson Kinzer** - June 15, 2014 at 12:00 AM

AJ

“ To Barbara Cosby, as your neighbor, let me express our deepest sympathy. As your church member, to Rev Cosby and the entire family, my prayers are with you.

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**Annette Strom Jun** - June 15, 2014 at 12:00 AM

WW

“ I am praying for you Pastor Cosby and family during your lost!

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**Wilma Washington** - June 15, 2014 at 12:00 AM

AF

“ Christine, know that you and your family are in our prayers and if at anytime we are needed please call at anytime. Gaither and Lusco family

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**A friendJun** - June 15, 2014 at 12:00 AM

AF

“ To the family, May you find comfort in the memories and joy in the acknowledgment of the beautiful, amazing and fulfilling life that was shared.

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**Amina Fakir** - June 15, 2014 at 12:00 AM

AF

“ My deepest sympathy to all the family members and friends of this very fine human being. I know this is a great loss for all who knew him. He cared deeply about the education of children and was responsive to the concerns of parents, both black and while. A very fine man indeed. Linda Rae Curry, Harrods Creek, Ky.

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**A friendJun** - June 15, 2014 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ Thoughts and prayers are with you at this time of your great loss. Carrie Bennett-Stewart

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**Carrie Stewart** - June 14, 2014 at 12:00 AM

AF

“ To The Family: Our prayers are with during you sorrowful time. The Dorsey's Herbert-Roulin and Anita

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**A friendJun** - June 14, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ Kevin & Family:Please accept my deepest sympathy on your great loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you during this extremely difficult period.

James Codell - June 14, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ My deepest sympathies for the Cosby family. I appreciated Laken's wisdom and advice over the years.

Michael Hicks - June 14, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ The good Lord blessed us with Laken and his wonderful family. Louisville, Kentucky and our Country give thanks. PTL

Joseph Medley - June 14, 2014 at 12:00 AM

LC

“ To the entire Cosby family, you are in my prayers. Pokey, will be missed.

Lynda Clay - June 14, 2014 at 12:00 AM

GR

“ To Barbara and the Cosby family,My thoughts and prayers are with you at this time! I'm here if you need me! God bless and keep you! His love and mine.

Garnetta R - June 14, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SD

“ laken we will miss you .....till we meet again love ms ann Brenda,sharon davis

sharon davis - June 14, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JR

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with you during your time of lost. Janice Ramsey and Valerie Thomas*

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**Janice Ramsey** - June 14, 2014 at 12:00 AM

AF

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with you in your time of lost. Janice Ramsey and Valerie Thomas*

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**A friendJun** - June 14, 2014 at 12:00 AM

AF

“ *Lamont Bush and the Cosby family, We extend our deepest sympathy to the family. We pray that God will keep and comfort you. May his memories bring you comfort and joy. Earth has no sorrow that heaven can not heal. The Muiir and Jefferson families*

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**A friendJun** - June 14, 2014 at 12:00 AM

LB

“ *I will not BE able to travel to the services on Monday due to my husband's recent medical issues. I will always remember your trips to Alabama to see my mother(aunt Elizabeth)*

*I will keep the family in my prayers.*

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**Lucinda jones Bassham** - June 13, 2014 at 12:00 AM