

Iman Sheik Na'eem Muhammad May 23, 1941 - July 24, 1988

July 24th, the day God chose to bring me to this life is the same day he chose to take Brother Naeem to have life with him.

A sunburst of energy, that warmed you like a solarium. Always keeping the candle lit of greatly needed unity.

Check-mating his moves for yours, mine, ours. He was there as a reminder of just how much we need each other.

His way was paved with anthro-pocentric roads. Never converting people to his way, just conveying. He is taking some of us with him, and leaving some of him with us.

The words he wrote lives in our hearts, endlessly. With us also, sons that have chosen Islam as their shield against adversity, daughters of special concern.

Brother Naeem the alarm clock, to check us from over sleeping. The catalyst to have us rethink our

position, regarding a proper use of time. My son Alan Yusuf's words, "Allah chose him to be on the honor roll of eternal happines."

All praise is due to Allah, as he is the sole master of the universe and all things happen by the will of the most high.

My family salutes you, Imam Naeem I. Muhammad, for your deeds and intentions I understand, you my brother were a whole lotta man.

Keedah I. Fardhan Los Angeles, CA

Iman Sheik Na'eem Muhammad and son

Bismillah Irr Rahman Irr Rahim

his article is in memory of Iman Sheik Na'eem Muhammad born of May 23, 1941, passed July 24, 1988. Imam Muhammad was the leader of the Muslim Community in Portland, Oregon since July, 1987. He is an Imam that will be remembered for his kindness to all. He was a true friend and the first Imam in Portland to de-mystify the Office of Imam. He was accessible to all Believers, not just to a select few. He truly made an attempt to know his Uminat and encouraged us to do our best and strive for excellence in all our doings. Imam Muhammad showed genuine concern for all. May Allah have mercy upon him for he has inspired this Community to grow by leaps and bounds. Al Hamdulillah

He will be missed but his actions and words live on, especially his last Kutbah given on the day of his passing, Eid ul Adha. He expounded on the virtues of Hajj, and reminded us that those among us who might have more materially or intellectually than another Believer, not think of themselves as superior. He asked us to be patient with those who are still growing in intellect, but might be strong in the Faith. He asked us to show love and respect for each other for Allah's sake and not to allow ourselves to be divided by personality conflicts, intolerance, or impatience with each other. Brother Na'eem, v. ho is usually soft spoken, on the day of Eid ul Adha, spoke in a strong, clear voice. It was as if Allah had strengthened him especially for this day.

His message went straight to the heart of everyone within the sound of his voice, Believer, non-Believer, bystander, even the animals in the park seemed to stand at attention during the delivery of his Kutbah.

Under his leadership our young people blossomed and began to really understand the Deen of Al-Islam. He addressed our young people directly during several Kutbahs, this made them feel included in the Ummat as he was able to communicate with them on their own level. Imam Na'eem treated everyone with respect and equality.

May Allah grant him paradise, Inshallah, as he was a most humble servant.

As-Salaam-Alaikum Sister Na'lmah Shamsud-Din

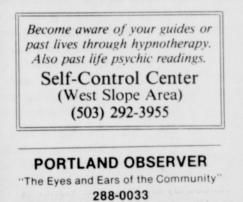
Expressions & Remembrance: The Fulfilling Merits Of Education

by Curley Massey

've just finished a very rewarding and meaningful year as a teacher. My year began with an assignment as a fourth grade teacher at Woodstock Elementary school in southeast Portland. The rewarding and meaningful elements were the interests and the involvement of the staff and the parents.

During open house the parent or parents of every student in my class was present. If there was a problem with a student in any way, I could send a note home or call on the phone and I would get an immediate response. I saw teachers on a daily basis interacting with students in a positive and constructive manner. They were concerned about how students conducted themselves and stressed being respectful and courteous. This to me is what school is all about.

The parents of the students in my class were represented 100% when it came time for parentteacher conferences. The second phase of my year came about when I was assigned as a fifth and sixth grade teacher with the Migrant Summer School Program at Rigler school for the second year. The students attending school in this program aren't required to attend summer school. They attend because of their com-



mittment to, and their parents understanding of the value of an education.

These students are some of the hardest working and courteous students I've had an opportunity to work with. They are from Southeast Asia and Mexico and countries in Central America. If they continue to approach education with the same kind of enthusiasm they can't help but succeed.

The third, and by no means the last significant episode that helped to make my year so gratifying was when my brothers Jim and Joe and I took a trip back to the small town we were born in and began our quest for an education. The things that have always been obvious to me are that in order for children to be successful in school and life doesn't have anything to do with the kind of building students attend school in or the newness of the books. The main ingredients are the committment parents, teachers and students are willing to educational make to excellence.

I saw parents, students and teachers doing this at Woodstock and the Summer Migrant Program. I know these are the ingredients that were given to me and my brothers and the many successful people we encountered at the school reunion of Norris High School in Commerce, Texas, on July 1, through July 4.

the wonderful Black teachers and residents of my hometown for your tender loving care. The school I attended was segregated. All of the students and teachers were Black, but we all had one common goal. We never expected to be treated fairly, and we didn't expect that being treated unfairly would stop us. America lived up to it's reputation and we lived up to our expectations. Segregation was set-up to harm and not help us. Instead, our common sense shielded us and created a cultural advantage. The teachers at Norris High School taught us that self-reliance is much stronger than racism. Racism depends on people who are non-reliant in order to survive. I have had the priviledge all of my life watching dignified and competent Blacks deal with racism. I know common sense is not very common, but students who attended Norris High School have it the cultural advantage gave it to

I would like to give thanks to

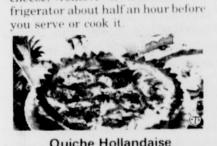


US.

FOOD IDEAS Making The Most Of Cheese If you're a "big cheese" when it comes to the foods you prepare and serve, here's a tasty idea: to savor the full flavor of your favorite cheese. remove it from the re-



August 3, 1988, Portland Observer, Page 7



450 grams (16 oz) Holland Imported MILD **GOUDA** cheese Sufficient pastry for 1 L (9-inch) pie crust or frozen pie shell 1 medium can pink or red salmon 3 eggs

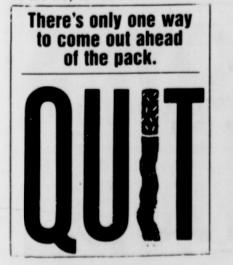
- 125 ml (4 oz.) whipping cream 1/2 can sliced pineapple (5 slices)
 - **Chopped parsley**

Drain salmon and remove bones. Drain pineapple and chop finely. In large mixing bowl combine eggs and whipping cream. Mix in salmon, pineapple, cubed mild Gouda cheese and parsley. Prepare pastry shell, punch a few holes in bottom. Spoon salmon/cheese mixture in pastry/shell. Bake in preheated oven 220° C (425°F) 45-50 minutes, until golden brown.

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