

*In Loving Memory of*



*Shirley Person*

*Sunset*  
*February 24, 2011*

*Wednesday, March 2, 2011 - 12:00 Noon*

**UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.**  
2352 8th Avenue  
New York, New York 10027

## Obituary

**Shirley Person** was born in Red Springs, North Carolina to the late Annie Lee Singleton on May 9th in the 20th century. Yes, we know the 20th century is a wide window of time, but Shirley considered herself ageless and always felt age was irrelevant. Shirley was the third of eight children and attended P.S. 2 and P.S. 55 in her formative years, ultimately graduating from Grace Dodge Vocational High School in the Bronx, NY.

In 1965, she was introduced to a young, handsome serviceman by the name of Warren Person. He quickly won her heart and they eventually married on July 11, 1969 with their lovely daughter, Vanessa co-starring in the momentous event.

Shirley's dream career was to be a psychiatrist. She had such a way with people, a way of listening attentively and dishing out the most on-time and pointed advice. While she never became a psychiatrist on paper, her passion for this work never waned and throughout the years her love and quiet gestures would prove useful to numerous friends and family members. Ultimately, she began her professional career as an administrative assistant working for many major corporations including J Walter Thompson Ad Agency, Mobile Oil and Saks Fifth Avenue. Her last job was with North General Hospital where she worked for thirteen years. She could have retired after she left North General, but retirement was not something to which she aspired. In fact, someone had mentioned the R word to her while she was in the hospital and --- even in her weakest and most fragile state --- she mustered up enough breath to correct that person, telling them emphatically, "I am not retired!"

In January, 2008 Shirley became a member of the Drifters Incorporated, a non-profit charitable and civic organization dedicated to serving the interests of the community at-large. She was also a volunteer at the Concourse Village Youth Center handling various projects, coordinating field trips and helping her young clients with homework and other projects. Shirl's work with the Drifters and community service were among her most important and proudest accomplishments.

Shirley was quite the social butterfly and had a myriad of friends of all ages. She did not believe in pretense and had a way of telling you exactly what was on her mind with a smile, without judgment and always from a place of love and concern for others. Shirley was the matriarch of her family, always looking out for everybody and doing what was necessary to keep her family connected and actively engaged. She loved all things creative and beautiful and her cooking... Wow... No one cooked like Shirl. If there was a food that you hated and then tried her version you became an instant convert.

Shirley touched so many lives and left us way too soon. We will miss her permanent smile, smart sense of humor and her infectious personality, forever feeling the void in our lives.

Sister Shirl was called home on Thursday, February 24th at 1:41 p.m. and leaves behind: her loving husband, Warren; beautiful daughter, Vanessa; seven sisters and brothers, Pete, Ann, Nell, Billy, Gloria, Mary and the late Jack; as well as a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, in-laws and a slew of friends.

Lovingly submitted, The Family

# Order of Service

Prelude

Processional ..... Clergy & Family

Selection ..... Organist

Scripture

Old Testament Scripture ..... 23rd Psalm

Belinda Dabney

New Testament Scripture ..... 1st Corinthians 15:50-58

Regina Exhem

Prayer

Selection ..... Organist

“Precious Lord”

Acknowledgements ..... Leon Williams

Obituary..... Leon Williams

Expressions of Love

Solo ..... Shalayne Adams

“His Eye Is On the Sparrow”

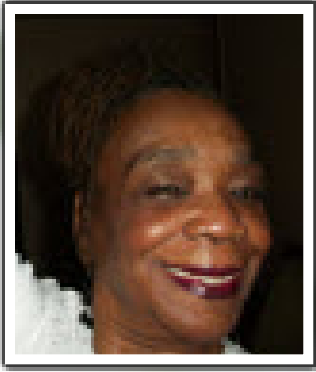
Eulogy

Benediction

## **Interment**

*Mount Rest Cemetery*

*Butler, New Jersey*



## *Miss Me, But Let Me Go!*

When I come to the end of the  
road and the sun  
has set for me,  
I want no rites in  
a gloom filled room,

Why cry for a soul set free?

Miss me a little-but not too long,  
and not with your head bowed low.

Remember the love that we once shared,  
Miss me-but let me go. For this is a journey that  
we all must take and each and every one of us  
must go alone. It's all part of the Master's plan,  
a step on the road to home. When you are  
lonely and sick at heart,  
go to the friends we know.  
And bury your sorrows  
in doing good deeds Miss me-but let me go.

### *Acknowledgement*

The family wishes to express their deep appreciation  
and sincere thanks for your kindness during a time of sorrow.