

<u>Obituary</u>

Azeeza Nurradin Hurston was born the oldest of two children on July 23, 1935 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to the late John H. Marshall, Sr. and Elizabeth Smith Marshall. Very peacefully and quietly, she entered into eternal rest on Thursday morning, December 27, 2012 after a brief illness.

Azeeza was educated in the Philadelphia Public School System. As a young adult, she relocated to New York City and adopted "Harlem" as her home. Azeeza loved Harlem and was blessed to develop an inclusive family and a myriad of close friends. Azeeza practiced as a "Devout Muslim", since the age of 21. In 1981, Azeeza joined the Mosque of Islamic Brotherhood where she initially served as the treasurer of the MIB Sisterhood for many years. She was extremely efficient in this capacity that she was asked to fulfill the obligation of treasurer of the Mosque. Azeeza took this responsibility very seriously and performed her duties with honesty, pride and integrity.

In 1985, she successfully pursued and received a B.S. degree in Accounting at Lehman College of the City University of New York. While matriculating at Lehman College, Azeeza founded the Lehman Jazz Club and was instrumental in bringing notable jazz bands and artists to perform at the University.

She experienced an exceptional career in the field of Financial Management. Azeeza was employed for many years at Arthur C. Logan Hospital, formerly known as Knickerbocker Hospital in escalating capacities of Medical Biller, Financial Investigator, Special Assistant for the Director of Fiscal Affairs and as Internal Auditor. She continued her career at the New York City Community Development Agency of HRA where she served as Staff Analyst for both, the Fiscal Audit Unit, and Program Planning and Development, as well as Acting Chairperson for DYCD Panel. In this capacity, Azeeza had the responsibility of making written recommendations to the Deputy Commissioner on programmatic and budgetary modifications. She retired from the Department of Youth and Community Development in February 2000.

Azeeza knew the importance of giving back to her community and we can only describe her many activities as her "second career". She has served in many capacities at the Mid-Manhattan Branch of the NAACP, including the Executive Board, Treasurer, Youth Advisor, and Chairman of its ACT-SO Committee. She followed in her mother's footsteps and held the position of Youth Council President as a youngster. In addition she also served on many ad hoc committees whenever needed. Azeeza spent more than fifteen years as a Youth Advisor at the Mid-Manhattan Branch of the NAACP. Azeeza served on the New York City ACT-SO Committee as Assistant Treasurer, In-House Notary, Local Competition Coordinator and as National Competition Chaperone. She was elected and served as the State Youth Advisor for New York State Youth and College Division of the NAACP.

Moreover, Azeeza served as Treasurer of the Manhattan Community Board 10. Azeeza was a founding member and Treasurer of African American Women of Harlem PAC, Former President of the 1801-05 Seventh Avenue Tenants' Association, Financial Secretary of Frederick E. Samuel Community Democratic Club, a member of the Organization of Staff Analysts, New York Coalition of 100 Black Women and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc.

Azeeza was a loving mother, grandmother and friend. She shared her pearls of wisdom and love with a plethora of family and friends with patience and grace. She held a special place in the hearts of those who were blessed to know her. She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, Robert French Hurston, her brother, John H. Marshall, Jr., and niece, Rhonda Fleming. Her memory will forever be cherished by her son, Ahmad; daughter, Yasmin; four grandchildren, Naimah, Jeffrey, Tchiyuka Jr., and Ajani; two aunts, Bessie Jackson and Lenore Savage; nieces Blinda, Valerie and Zina; special daughter, Zainab; God-daughter, Habibah; and a host of other nieces, nephews, cousins, sister-friends and friends.

Janazah Service

Prayer



Interment

Rosehill Cemetery Linden, New Jersey

No one dies except by Allah's leave, at a predetermined time. Whoever seeks the vanities of this world, we give him there from, and whoever seeks the rewards of the hereafter, we bless him therein. We reward those who are appreciative.

Holy Quran 3:145

Al-Fatiha

Bismillaah ar-Rahman ar-Raheem
Al hamdu lillaahi rabbil 'alameen
Ar-Rahman ar-Raheem Maaliki yaumid Deen
lyyaaka na'abudu wa iyyaaka nasta'een
Ihdinas siraatal mustaqeem
Siraatal ladheena an 'amta' alaihim
Ghairil maghduubi' alaihim waladaaleen
Aameen

In the name of God, the infinitely
Compassionate and Merciful.
Praise be to God, Lord of all the worlds.

The Compassionate, the Merciful.

Ruler on the Day of Reckoning.

You alone do we worship, and

You alone do we ask for help.

Guide us on the straight path,

the path of those who have received your grace; not the path of those who have brought down wrath, nor of those who wander astray.

Amen.

<u>Acknowledgement</u>

The family acknowledges with deep appreciation all acts of kindness extended to them during this bereavement hour.

Thank you for all your thoughtfulness and concern.

2352 8th Avenue • Manhattan, NY • (212) 666-8300

1406 Pitkin Avenue • Brooklyn, NY • (718) 774-1023 1018 Prospect Avenue • Bronx, NY • (718) 542-3833

Clifford V. James, President & CEO www.unityfuneralchapels.com email: unityfc@aol.com

"Your Loved Ones Deserve The Best - Unity"

