



To My Father

A father's love is special and everlasting. I will miss our laughs, talks, cooking and just our daily check-in calls. Thanks for everything you taught me and instilled in me to be the woman I am today.

Love your daughter



Acknowledgements

Perhaps you sent a lovely card or sat quietly in a chair.
Perhaps you sent a floral piece If so, we saw it there.
Perhaps you spoke the kindest words as any friend could say.
Perhaps you were not there at all just thought of us on that day.
Whatever you did to console our hearts, We Thank You, Whatever

Professional Services Provided By

COTTON FUNERAL SERVICE
130 Main Street
Orange, NJ
973-675-6400

COTTON-PARKER FUNERAL HOME
37 Clinton Avenue
Jersey City, NJ
201-433-1000



In Loving Memory of



Theotha Shanks

Sunrise
December 31, 1934

Sunset
May 23, 2013

Service

Friday, May 31, 2013 - 11:00 a.m.

Cotton Funeral Service
1025 Bergen Street
Newark, New Jersey

Order of Service

Musical Prelude

Opening Hymn

Scripture Reading

Old Testament

New Testament

Prayer of Comfort

Selection

Acknowledgement / Resolutions

Remarks (2 minutes please)

Obituary

Selection

Eulogy

Recessional

Interment

Graceland Memorial Park
Kenilworth, New Jersey

Obituary

Theotha Shanks was born December 31, 1934 to the late Carrie and George Shanks of Gastonia, NC.

He attended Reid High School in Gastonia, NC.

He relocated to Washington, DC with his brother and making his way to New York before making his permanent place in New Jersey where he built a home with his late wife of thirty-six years, Elizabeth Shanks.

Theotha loved spending time cooking with his daughter, Karen and preparing dinner for his grandson, Jamir and granddaughter, Camillia.

Theotha was employed at Newark Star Ledger as a Supervisor of Printing for over twenty years until he retired. His favorite pastime was cooking, trips to Atlantic City and playing cards with his friends until the wee hours in the morning. Theotha (Sweet Thang) was always in charge of making the coffee for his car club partners and also for the many events held at his residence.

Theotha was a funny, loving man with a heart of gold and a smile that would light up a room. He made everyone laugh with his funny jokes and sayings on a daily basis.

Theotha was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Elizabeth Shanks of thirty-six years, brothers, George Oscar and Bobby Shanks, sister, Mable and Corrine Shanks.

Theotha leaves to cherish his memory: daughters, Karen Shanks; Jannifer Shanks Browning (Ohio); sons, Calvin Shanks (NY) and Jeffrey Shanks; granddaughter, Camillia Shanks; grandsons, Jamir Shanks and Eugene Harrison, Jr.; sister, Mildred Shanks (Gastonia, NC); and a host of nieces and nephews.

In his final days he would often sing to his daughter how much he loved her and all his kids and family. He would sing "Lord I want to be free, let it be, free from the people."

Freedom

*Freedom to live and freedom to die
Freedom to laugh and freedom to cry
Freedom to speak and freedom to listen
Freedom to act based on wise decisions.
Freedom from hate and freedom to love
Freedom to choose and freedom to neglect
Freedom to imagine what there is to expect
Freedom from the body and freedom from the mind
Freedom of transcendence of the spiritual kind.*

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