

In Loving Memory of



Alean Johnson

Sunrise

September 30, 1934

Sunset

September 20, 2013

Service

Thursday, September 26, 2013 - 7:00 p.m.

UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.

2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY 10027

Rev. Dr. Ronald Williams Wells, Officiating

Brvon Neal, Organist

Obituary

Alean Conyers Johnson was born on September 30, 1934 in Pinewood, South Carolina to the late Silas and Carrie Conyers. She departed this life on September 20, 2013. In her early years, she attended Sumter County Public Schools and graduated from Pinewood High School. She attended New Hope UME Church, also in Pinewood, SC.

Alean met and married the love of her life, Joseph Johnson on September 25, 1955 and two months later, moved to New York City. From this union, they were blessed with eight children, four boys and four girls. They raised all eight children, all of whom are a credit to their parents and all of whom they were tremendously proud. Joseph Johnson preceded her in death in April, 1977.

Alean was affectionately known to many as Mrs. J. She walked in beauty, dignified and elegant. A consummate lady, she was traditional in many respects, yet was also decades ahead of her time. She was a seamstress, sewing all of her children's clothes. Her fashion sense rivaled that of professional designers. She was also a homemaker and business partner. She built, alongside her husband, a Harlem empire, two record stores on 125th Street and a restaurant, as well as, a Community Cultural Center and a Credit Union beginning in the early 1970's, an impressive feat.

Over the years, she and her husband, JJ, employed many young people, all the while encouraging them to work hard and stay in school. Mrs. J's home, as well as her table, was always open and many recall that no matter when you crossed her threshold, invited or merely dropping-in, a bountiful meal awaited you. Mrs. J, was lovable, but tough. Her advice was homespun and practical. She directed all eight of her children like a general, readying them to head into life's battles. She prepared them for hard work, taught them to stick together, to show love to one another, and stay away from drugs. Mrs. J spoke the truth about any situation, all with love. Her kind words and positive outlook on life will be remembered and emulated.

Her passing leaves a void for those whom she loved and cherished. She leaves to mourn: her eight children, Loretta, Almeta (Robert), Joseph, Jr. (Beverly), Jamal, also known as Ronald, Leshar (Trannie), Melvin, Calvin, and Verna Latrell (Christopher); two sisters, Carolyn Rouse of NYC, Malissa (Levi) Mashore of Thomasville, NC; one brother, Roger (Paulette) Conyers of Sumter, SC; five brothers-in-law, Earnest Armstrong, Eulonia, GA, George Davis, Richmond, VA, Larry (Vicky) Johnson, Leroy (Ella Mae) Johnson, Larnell (Aretha) Johnson all of Manning, SC; four sisters-in-law, Sadie (Willie) Sowell, Manning, SC, Betty (David) Heyward, Bronx, NY, Gloria (Daniel) Thames, Manning, SC, Phosia (Robert) McCray, Paxville, SC; eighteen grandchildren; twenty great-grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by two sisters, Ruth Armstrong and Daisy Davis; six brothers, Cornelius Conyers, Silas Conyers, Jr., Robert Lee Conyers, Allen Conyers, James Conyers, and Joe Nathan Conyers; a great-granddaughter, Daysha Thomas and a great-grandson, Justin Thomas.

Order of Service

The Rev. Dr. Ronald Williams Wells, Presiding

Organ Prelude

Processional

Selection.....“Precious Lord”

Scripture Readings

Old Testament

New Testament

Prayer

Selection.....“Let The Work I’ve Done”

Expressions of Love

Obituary

Poem

Selection.....“His Eye Is On The Sparrow”

Eulogy

Final Respects

Benediction

Recessional

Interment

Mt. Zero Missionary Baptist Church Cemetery
Manning, South Carolina

Repast

Dwyer Cultural Center
258 St. Nicholas Ave. • NY, NY @ West 123rd Street



*Do not stand at my grave and weep,
I am not there, I do not sleep;
I am a thousand winds that blow,
I am the diamond glints on snow.
I am the sunlight on ripened grain,
I am the gentle autumn rain;
When you awaken in the morning's hush
I am the swift, uplifting rush
Of quiet birds in circling flight,
I am the soft star that shines at night.
Do not stand at my grave and cry,
I am not there, I did not die.*

Acknowledgement

The family acknowledges with deep appreciation all acts of kindness extended to them during this bereavement hour. God bless you for all your thoughtfulness and concern.

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Clifford V. James, President & CEO

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Since

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