

Celebrating the Life of
Irma Gabrielle Grant

February 19, 1923 - June 20, 2014



Mass Service

Friday, June 27, 2014 - 10:30 a.m.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

754 East Gun Hill Road • Bronx, NY 10467

Obituary

Irma Gabrielle Grant was the second of six children born to Milton and Amy Grant. She was born in Harlem, New York on February 19th, 1923. She attended the schools and parish of the Church of St. Thomas, the Apostle. A child of the Roaring Twenties, the Harlem Renaissance, and the Great Depression, Irma sought self-improvement, and by her indomitable will transformed and renamed herself and became the intelligent, cosmopolitan, intellectual and stylish Gabrielle Grant that we mourn so much today.

She attended the Sorbonne in Paris and the University of Barcelona in 1960. She graduated from Columbia University with a B.S. in Communications and English in 1964 and received her Master's Degree from Columbia's Teachers College in 1966. She received a fellowship from Atlanta University in 1974 and fellowships from New York University in 1987 and 1988. Her research culminated in an original theatrical work, a play entitled "Cain".

She taught English at LaGuardia High School for thirty-one years until her retirement in July 2006. She began her teaching career in 1967 at Junior High School 145 in the Bronx, and also taught at Cooper JHS and Frederick Douglas Intermediate School.

Gabrielle was a woman cut from the same cloth as her Mother Amy. Upon Amy's passing, she embraced the role of Grant family confidant and protector. From a perch in the Bronx at 1701 Undercliff Avenue, she raised our intellect, our hopes and many of our family members with a love that knew no bounds. Gabrielle travelled the world extensively with her son, nieces and nephews along. She broadened our horizons, taught so many of us how to ski and introduced tennis and gymnastics into our lives. Gabrielle gave herself to her family and enriched and bound our lives in ways that will resound in the Grant family for generations.

Gabrielle is survived by her son Michael Peter and his wife and children Denise, Kyle, Madison, Dylann, and Makenzie, her beloved Arnold; her brother Francis and his wife Eudella; Clara and Henrietta, wives of her dearly departed brothers Rudolph and Ernest Grant. Left to mourn are her nieces and nephews Michael, Pam, Keith and his wife Tonya, Francis, David, William, Kevin, Martin, Amy, Jason, Jordan and his wife and children Marisa, Ajani, and Adisi. Bereft also are her grand-nieces and nephews Andrea, Mollette, Khyren, Tamara and her daughter Kailee, Tamir and Nicole.

She Is Gone

You can shed tears that she is gone,
Or you can smile because she lived,
You can close your eyes and pray that
 she will come back,
Or you can open your eyes
and see all that she has left.
Your heart can be empty
because you can't see her
Or you can be full of the
 love that you shared,
You can turn your back on tomorrow
 and live yesterday,
Or you can be happy for
tomorrow because of yesterday.
You can remember her and only that she is gone
Or you can cherish her memory
 and let it live on,
You can cry and close your mind
 be empty and turn your back,
Or you can do what she would want: smile,
 open your eyes,
 love and go on.

Interment

*St. Raymond's Cemetery
Bronx, New York*



Acknowledgement

*The family of **Irma Gabrielle Grant** acknowledges with great appreciation all acts of kindness, sympathy and love extended to us during this time of bereavement.*



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