

*In Loving  
Memory  
of*



*Leona Cooke*

*Sunrise*

December 29, 1942

*Sunset*

January 18, 2015

Service

Saturday, January 24, 2015 - 12:00 Noon

**UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.**

2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY 10027

## Obituary

**Leona Allen Cooke** was born on December 29, 1942 in New York City. She was the fifth child of Egbert and Gertrude Allen, which predeceased her.

“Le”, as she was affectionately called by family and friends, grew up in Harlem. She attended Stitt Jr. High School and she graduated from George Washington High School in 1960.

On July 31, 1965, she married Arthur H. Cooke. From this union were born two sons, Artdy Lydell Cooke and Sean D. Cooke. Her husband predeceased her and she was left with the challenging task of raising two young sons on her own. Using discipline and love, Leona successfully met this challenge; she was very proud of the respectful men her sons have become.

“Le” was employed as a clerk by the Department of Social Services for many years. Upon leaving the Department, she devoted herself to being a full-time mom.

She was a longtime member of the Tenants’ Association of St. Mary’s Houses in the Bronx. Her neighbors knew that Leona was a dependable member of that organization.

In addition to her motherly duties, she spent much of her spare time entertaining friends and family. She enjoyed card games such as Spades, Bid Whist and her favorite, Pitty Pat. Those who played with her, knew that her competitiveness would leave them on the losing end.

She was the mother of two, grandmother of five and great-grandmother of two. Caring for and about her grandkids brought delight and pleasure into her life. One word can describe her as a grandmother: **PHENOMENAL!**

Leona Allen Cooke left us far too early on Sunday, January 18, 2015. She put up a valiant fight to maintain life so that she could provide guidance and love for her family. Preceded in death by her parents, Egbert and Gertrude Allen, brothers, Melvin and Egbert Allen, sisters, Violet Allen and Alvetta (Vetty) Lewis and nephew, Victor S. Allen.

She leaves to mourn her loss: her two devoted sons, Artdy and Sean. Also missing her are her five grandchildren, Artdy Jr., Latisha, Jessica, Imani and KeSean and her great-grandchildren, Zari and Kyree. She is also survived by her siblings, Yvonne Mack and Fredrick Allen and her sister-in-law, Linda Allen; other family members include nieces, nephews and cousins. She will also be dearly missed by her numerous neighbors and friends.

We may question “Why?”, but God knows best.

*Sorrowfully submitted by the family.*

*Order of Service*

**Processional**

**Selection**

**Scripture Readings**

**Prayer**

**Selection**

**Acknowledgements**

**Remarks**

**Obituary**

**Selection**

**Eulogy**

**Committal**

**Viewing**

**Recessional**

*Interment*

Heavenly Rest Memorial Park Cemetery  
East Hanover, New Jersey

***Repast***

*At Greater Refuge Temple*  
2081 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue • New York, NY

# *It's OK*

To Our Mother: With Everlasting Love,

It Will Always Be OK.

*There's no words that can endure the Love we will always have for you and it's OK.*

*When things were out of place you made it OK.*

*We would always know when you said: "GOT TO BE MORE CAREFUL" -We knew it would be OK getting through it.*

*If your Sons' path went the wrong way, you would kiss and hug us with Love and say OK now get your tail back on the right path.*

*Your Love for us when we were right or wrong, made it OK.*

*But when you tap the right foot, we knew it wasn't OK.*

*We stood next to you when you handled unexpected challenges and your Sons said to you: "FIGHT Ma" It's definitely going to be OK.*

*You are a UNIVERSAL MOTHER to so many and we are so PROUD of you.*

*Mommy we will say Thank You and never say Goodbye; just say: See You Later. So we say to you as you say to us:*

*"Be Careful & Safe; Love You"*

*With Love: Your Sons*

*Artdy L. Cooke*

*Sean D. Cooke*

## *Acknowledgement*

*The family acknowledges with deep appreciation all acts of kindness extended to them during this bereavement hour. May God bless 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](http://www.unityfuneralchapels.com)

email: [unityfc@aol.com](mailto:unityfc@aol.com)

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