In Loving Memory of Minnie Lee Cambridge

Sunrise February 20, 1925

Sunset April 20, 2015

Service Monday, April 27, 2015 - 5:00 p.m.

FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH 144 W. 131st Street • New York, NY 10027



After a life well lived, on Monday, April 20, 2015 Minnie L. Cambridge went home to be with the Lord.

Minnie was born on February 20, 1925 in Middleton, Sumter County, South Carolina the only daughter of Patsy Kelly and Isaac Johnson. They relocated to what became the hub of the family, Southern Pines, North Carolina. There she met her High School sweetheart, Vernon Harrington and gave birth to his first and her only child, Patricia, on December 18, 1941. Minnie had four brothers: Roosevelt, Isaac, and Hezekiah Johnson and Frank Campbell Jr. who predeceased her.

In 1943, at the age of 18 with no family awaiting her, Minnie stepped out on faith traveling to New York to make a life for her and her daughter. As the fearless, brave pioneer she was she got a job to pave the way for her family. It was here that she met her four best friends, Alean Stokes, Doretha Rayford, Margaret Tucker and Florence Hall. In 1947 once she established herself, she sent for her entire family from North Carolina: her mother, step-father Frank Campbell Sr., brothers and daughter to come to NY. They settled on 142nd Street in Harlem, NY. During that time, it was after the Great Depression, during WWII when FDR was President. The average rent was \$40 a month, a car was \$900, a coke was 5 cents, annual salaries were \$2,000 a year and gas was 15 cents a gallon! Imagine having limited education, limited resources, no family in NY and having to make a way not only for yourself, but your entire family? Now you get the picture of the character of this woman.

She became a 'Social Butterfly' who frequented the Savoy Ballroom, had Poker parties, gave Bus rides to Heckscher State park, Bear Mountain, and Palisades Park; Boat rides on the Circle Line, breakfasts at her Lodge on 127th street and many events too numerous to mention. The hats, gowns, full length gloves and all around fabulousness displayed at the dances by Minnie was legendary. She was always dressed, elegantly appointed and well turned out.

Being a part of the social fabric of Harlem and giving back was also important to Minnie. She was a dedicated member of the Eastern Star for 71 years. During her tenure there, she was known for her charitable and philanthropic efforts and held the following offices: Worthy Matron of White Rose Chapter, Royal Matron of Queen of Sheba, Most Ancient Matron Heroines of Jericho, Chief Counselor of Lady Knights, Most Worthy Grand Matron of Alma's Court #15, Worthy Grand Matron of The United Grand Chapter OES, Grand Royal Matron, and Supreme Grand Royal Matron.

She met and married Lloyd O. Cambridge in NYC on March 13, 1948. On July 3, 1951 they moved to The Colonial Houses and after 41 wonderful years of marriage Lloyd passed away on February 12, 1989. In the Colonial Houses (now the Ralph Rangel Houses) she was affectionately known as 'Momma Minnie'. Being the Queen we always knew her to be, she was crowned the one and only Mrs. NYCHA Senior Heritage 2013 by the Ralph Rangel senior center. Her connection to the Senior Center meant the world to her. As the oldest living and longest standing tenant in the Ralph Rangel Houses, she was awarded a plaque and resided there until she went to rest.

As God ordained it, she reunited with her high school sweetheart, Vernon Harrington, and enjoyed her last years with the love of her life until her passing.

She leaves to morn: A devoted, loving partner, Vernon Harrington, devoted daughter, Patricia Groomes, children Delores Harrington, Vernetta Harrington, Kenneth Harrington, Pamela Jordan and Sharon Yates. Grandchildren, Keith Groomes, Kim Morris, Tracey Groomes, Eddie White Jr., and Derrick White. Great grandchildren: Derrick Rice, Shana Mitchell, Andrew Baron, Savannah Parker, Noah Parker, Jalen White, Lebron White. Daughter-in-law, Donna Groomes, Son-in-law, Permell Parker. Nieces: Veronica, Shameka and Mary. She also leaves dearly loved extended family members Corliss Baskerville, Ronald Smith II, Best Friend Margaret Tucker and many family, friends and neighbors too well loved and numerous to mention.

Order of Service

Order of Fraternal Service of the Eastern Star

March in of Eastern Star Members

Burial Team Represented by: Rose of Sharon #50 and Selected Members of the United Grand Chapter

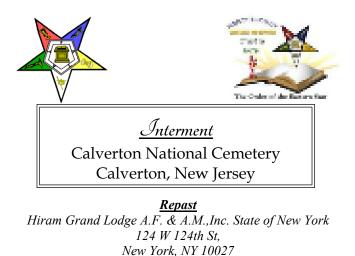
Resolution

Representatives of each House she was a member of to include some of the following: White Rose Chapter Queen of Sheba Heroines of Jericho Lady Knights Alma's Court #15 The United Grand Chapter OES

Remarks

Selected Representatives of the Eastern Star

Marching out of Eastern Star Members



(212) 222-8301

Miss Me But Let Me Go

When I come to the end of the road and the sun has set for me, I want no rites in a gloom filled room, Why cry for a soul set free? Miss me a little-but not too long, and not with your head bowed low. Remember the love that we once shared, Miss me-but let me go. *For this is a journey* that we all must take. And each must go alone. It's all part of the Master's plan, A step on the road to home. When you are lonely and sick at heart, Go to the friends we know. Laugh at the things we use to do Miss me-but let me go.

-author unknown

Acknowledgement

To know her was to love her.... The family wants to thank all of the neighbors, friends and family that are sustaining and supporting us now as well as during Minnie's hospital stay. The value of the calls, texts, visits, cards, flowers and prayers cannot be measured. The monumental outpouring of love shown to Minnie during that time brought comfort and solace to all of us and will be remembered always.

The Family

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