CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF

Robert Chisone, Sr.

Sunrise: March 20, 1923 Sunset: April 7, 2017

Service: Monday, April 24, 2017 - 11:00 am

COTTON FUNERAL SERVICE 130 Main Street • Orange, New Jersey *Emory Lee, Organist*

<u>Obituary</u>

Robert "Uncle Bob" Chisone was the son of Laura Chisolm and grandson of Albert and Jestina (Chisolm) Cornelius, all of the Bahama islands. Though he was an American citizen born in Miami, Florida, his blood and spirit were undeniably BAHAMIAN, as he would delightfully inform anyone who inquired. As a small child, he was sent back home to be raised by relatives for several years, and made it a point to return regularly throughout his life, forming an indelible bond with the land and its people.

Uncle Bob was in many ways a self-made man. Unlike many, he was not afraid to take chances to ensure a better future for himself and his family, while combating the effects of minimal education, poverty, and blatant twentieth century racism. At the age of twenty, he enlisted in the US Army during World War II. He reminisced about having to kill other human beings in America's fight (lest he be killed), then returning home to the same oppressive circumstance which he left. It was difficult, but he was not deterred.

In need of work, he soon applied for a job as a machinist which he convinced the company he was qualified for; he was not. By night, he attended classes to learn the trade, and by day applied what he learned, eventually forging a decades-long career until he finally retired. During this time he also began life as an entrepreneur, owning a candy store as well as three homes in the East Orange, NJ area. Not being one to see the benefit in all work yet no play, he had an affinity for Cadillac cars and bought a new one every couple of years-which helped in creating his status as a lady's man.

Although Uncle Bob worked hard and pulled himself out of the impoverished state he endured as a child, it was not all for himself. He remembered his place in the scheme of things, and was oft-giving. Whether financially helping others hundreds of miles away, or allowing family and friends who were down on their luck to call his home their own, he was always willing to lend a helping hand. All he really asked in return was for others to work hard in bettering their own situations, and his number one advice for doing so was obtaining an education. He LOVED education and believed it was an integral ingredient in making a better life.

Uncle Bob was loved and respected, and will be missed by so many, but none as much as his own family. Left to grieve are his sons Robert Jr. and Ronald; grandchildren, Destiny, Cameron, and Walid; cousin/surrogate daughter and caregiver Yahsana and her family (husband Bomani, children Myeisha, Myshan, Syieda, Nubeeya, and Assata), and enumerable other cousins near and far who all brought great joy to his life. His family was everything to him, and he was everything to his family.

May the Creator be pleased with him.

















Measure of A Man

Not - How did he die? But - How did he live? Not - What did he gain? But - What did he give? These are the things that measure the worth Of a man as a man, regardless of birth. Not - What was his station? But - had he a heart? And - How did he play his God-given part? Was he ever ready with a word of good cheer? To bring back a smile, to banish a tear? Not - What was his church? Not - What was his creed? But - Had he befriended those really in need? Not - What did the sketch in the newspaper say? But - How many were sorry when he passed away? These are the things that measure the worth Of a man as a man, regardless of birth.

<u>Acknowledgement</u>

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 the part.

Professional Services Provided By

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