Service: Friday, October 20, 2017 - 10:30 a.m.

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Celebrating the Life Of

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC CHURCH 767 Prospect Street • Maplewood, New Jersey **Father John Worth, Priest**

<u>Obituary</u>

Lucy Marie (Ross) Wilkerson was born in Oxford, North Carolina to the union of Airy Ross and Octavia Cooper-Ross. She danced into heaven, her eternal resting place, on Thursday, October 12, 2017 at Center for Hope in Scotch Plains, New Jersey.

Lucy graduated from Mary Potter School as Valedictorian and was a member of the Whetstone Missionary Baptist Church in Oxford, N.C. Later, Lucy married Leroy Wilkerson and moved to New Jersey where she gave birth to Alicia Wilkerson and furthered her education by attending courses at Essex Country College in Newark, N.J.

Lucy served as an Internal Revenue Service, U.S. Treasury Department ("IRS") employee for more than 30 years. She was energetic, dedicated, loyal, and had a charismatic personality. Lucy was sure to complete any project presented to her, she was a team player; and could be counted on to help others who needed her time and attention for special projects. Throughout her IRS career, she held such positions as AIMS/ERCS Assistant, Exam Audit Accounting Aide, Terminal Operator in CSB (Centralized Services Branch), and Review Staff Support Clerk.

Lucy sang with the FEB (Federal Executive Board) Chorus and enjoyed the holiday season. For years, she supplied the Holiday Poinsettias for everyone's desk in the office. You could depend on Lucy to support any internal/external event that a co-worker was holding, retirement parties, weddings, holiday events, bus rides, church events and union events. Lucy was such a giving person that she volunteered several years to do Income tax returns for the VITA program.

Lucy volunteered for NJPAC and WBGO. She was a member of St. Joseph Church, Urban League of Essex County, The Association for the Improvement of Minorities in the Internal Revenue Service (AIMS), Hilton Neighborhood Association Executive Board ("HNA"), and Maplewood Seniors Advisory Committee. Just to highlight her contribution for a few of the above activities, as a member of AIMS, she traveled to every regional and national conference across the country. As a much loved and respected member of the Hilton Neighborhood Association Executive Board for several years, Lucy had a regular column in the monthly newsletter and was a regular participant in the Memorial Day parade. She also led the HNA in its light bulb distribution project and helped in the garden project.

Lucy was full of life and always on the go. She loved music and dancing. She was the life of the party. She made friends where ever she went. Lucy was always there to help, talk, or just listen. During her last days she wanted nothing more than to see her old classmates at her 2017 Mary Potter School class union in Oxford, N.C. and celebrate at all the summer parties. As hard as it was for Lucy to let go, we can all take comfort in knowing that she is now dancing with the angels and her family in heaven and smiling down upon us. Her light will always shine in our hearts and our light will always shine in her spirit.

Lucy was preceded in death by her father, Airy Ross, her mother, Octavia Cooper-Ross, brother, Roosevelt Ross, sister, Elsie Mae Ross and former husband, Leroy Wilkerson.

Lucy leaves to cherish her memory, her daughter, Alicia M. Wilkerson of Plainfield, N.J., niece, Lucy (aka Cookie) Egerton of Henderson, N.C., nephews, Garry Ross of Plainfield, N.J. and Gerald Enis, her aunt, Mrs. Oveda Mae Cooper of Oxford, N.C., long time beloved companion, Eugent Brown, an extended niece, Tracy Ann Brown, devoted friend, Gwen Goulbourne, and a host of cousins and cherished friends.

<u>Order of Funeral Mass</u>

Placing of the Pall by the Family Processional...... "Amazing Grace" (New Britain) First Reading Isaiah 25:6A, 7-9 Responsial Psalm Shepherd Me, O God (Haugen) Second Reading Thessalonians 4:13-18 Homily Preparation of Gifts Preparation Song "Ave Maria" (Schubert) Communion Communion Song...... "You Are Mine" (Haas) Recessional Recessional Song "Blest Are They" (Haas)

INTERMENT

Graceland Memorial Park Kenilworth, New Jersey

Repast: Club Eclipse Lounge 247 Fabyan Place Newark, N.J. 07112





God saw you getting tired, When a cure was not to be. So He wrapped his arms around you, and whispered, "come to me." You didn't deserve what you went through, So He gave you rest. God's garden must be beautiful, He only takes the best And when I saw you sleeping, So peaceful and free from pain I could not wish you back To suffer that again.

Acknowledgement

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

130 Main Street Orange, NJ 973-675-6400

COTTON FUNERAL SERVICE 1025 Bergen Street Newark, NJ 973-926-6400

COTTON-PARKER FUNERAL HOME 37 Clinton Avenue Jersey City, NJ 201-433-1000

