

Celebrating The Life Of



Aaron Lee Keys

April 27, 1927 - January 3, 2018

Service

Friday, January 12, 2018 - 12:00 Noon

Whigham Funeral Home
580 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Newark, New Jersey

Obituary

Aaron Lee Keys was born on April 27, 1927 in Newark, New Jersey to the late Aaron Lee Keys Sr. and Willie “Mildred” Keys.

His wife Marie “Dot” Keys preceded him in death.

Aaron was educated in the Newark school system and graduated from the former South Side High School in 1944. Sometime after graduation he received one of “those notices” from Uncle Sam where he served in the US Army during WWII, receiving an honorable discharge in 1946.

Upon discharge he began working for the U.S. Postal Service, mostly as a letter carrier. Since he had worked for the government prior to being drafted, he was credited with previous time worked, which upon retirement had given him approximately 40 years of service.

It was in Newark where he met and married Marie “Dorothy” Tucker on Christmas Day 1948. They were the proud parents of a son Barry and a daughter Marsha.

Aaron was always involved in some type of community or civic organization. When his son was growing up, he was a Boy Scoutmaster for the same Council that he belonged to as a child. During the 1980’s and early 1990’s, he belonged to Frontiers International, a community service organization for African Americans.

In 1995 he joined an organization that began a journey of a lifetime for him. The Afro American Historical Genealogical Society-NJ Chapter turned out to be his retirement calling. He began and continued to learn about researching family history. He was still uncovering new history at the time of his death. Through AAHGS as it’s called, he developed lasting friendships. He has served in the capacity of Treasurer & Editor of their newsletter, “Family Times”, which he took great pride in preparing and presenting to the membership. He looked forward to attending the national conferences in places such as Ft. Wayne, In., Boston, Mass. and Washington, DC to name a few. He was always looking towards new research and uncovering new family history. When his health prevented him from attending monthly meetings, he participated in conference calls and webinars, which allowed him to stay current with the genealogy world.

Aaron had numerous hobbies and passions that he began to develop as a teenager. One he passed on to both of his children was his love of jazz music. He began collecting “vinyl” as a young man and transitioned with the times to cassettes, CD’s & MP3’s. His “vinyl” collection dates back years. Photography was another passion of his. You would always see him at family gatherings, photographing memories and sharing them with others. He was a rare person at his age to have numerous pictures of himself from 3/4 months old continuing through adulthood. I guess he inherited the photography bug.

He leaves to mourn his loss a son Barry D. (Barbara) of Union, a daughter Marsha S. of Hillside, his sister-in-law Ruth N. Odom of Newark and a host of family and friends.

Order of Service

Musical Selection

Reading of Scriptures
Old Testament
New Testament

Prayer of Comfort

Musical Selection

Acknowledgements & Reflections

Remarks

Reading of Obituary

Musical Selection

Eulogy

Recessional

Interment
Private

*Please join the family immediately
following the services for the repast
at The Priory 233 West Market St, Newark.*

AS THE SUN BEGINS TO SET

*As the sun begins to set,
And the day comes to an end.
Precious memories of your life
We will cherish so deep within.
Your life was an inspiration.
You touched so many lives,
And we're truly going to miss you,
Through all the tears we cry.
But joy comes in the morning,
Just to know you're at Heavenly rest.
With God and all His angels,
Because you were the very best.*

Acknowledgement

The family wishes to express their sincere thanks and appreciation for all acts of kindness and expressions of sympathy that was shown to them during this time of bereavement.

Professional Services by:
Whigham Funeral Home

580 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

Newark, New Jersey 07102

973-622-6872

Carolyn Whigham, Director

