

In Loving Memory of



Viola Grant-Quicksbank

Sunrise: December 22, 1917

Sunset: May 12, 2018

Service

Friday, May 18, 2018 - 7:00 p.m.

RESURRECTION ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

276 W. 151st Street • New York, NY 10039

Obituary

Viola Inez Grant-Cruickshank was the daughter of Claudine Cunningham and Herbert Cunningham, both natives of Jamaica, BWI. She was born in Havana, Cuba on December 22nd, 1917 and departed this earthly life into eternal rest on Saturday, May 12th, 2018.

Viola immigrated to the United States with her mother and sister, Natalie and landed at Ellis Island on April 17th, 1923 at the age of five. She grew up on the East Side of New York City near 96th Street and attained a high school education.

In the mid-1940's Viola met, fell in love with, and married E. Chester Grant. They settled in the Bronx and together they had two sons, Gregory and Michael. In 1951, the family relocated to building 14 in, what was then, the Colonial Projects. Vie would spend the rest of her life in that building.

Viola worked hard to ensure her sons received a good education; here at Resurrection and later at Bishop DuBois and Power Memorial. She worked as a domestic in homes around the City until she was hired as a clerk for New York State's Unemployment Department.

In June 1971, Vie married Arnold Cruickshank and took on the role of mother for his three daughters, Denise, Diane, and Arlene.

The Catholic faith was an important aspect of Viola's life. She was involved with Resurrection since moving to the Colonial Projects. Viola was present at Resurrection's Sunday Mass at Resurrection well into her 90's. She was truly a lady of faith; encouraging friends and family alike to trust in the power of prayer.

After her retirement from New York State in 1985, Vie volunteered for the Center for Reading and Writing at the Harlem Library. She tutored there for 19 years; helping adults learn to read and write.

Vie was a member of Resurrection's Amen Choir from its inception. She enjoyed singing and traveling with the choir until she was 94. One can say her involvement with the Amen Choir added to the longevity of her life.

Anyone who knew Vie would tell you she loved to have a good time. She traveled with her friends, "the Golden Girls", on many cruises and trips. Vie loved music and dancing; from dancing at the Savoy and even when she was confined to a wheel chair.

In addition to her two sons and three daughters, Viola was a mother to many. Friends would express how she gave them advice and encouragement, and how she spoke to them so nicely. Viola Inez Grant-Cruickshank was truly a phenomenal woman.

Viola is survived by: her son, Michael; daughters, Denise, Diane, and Arlene; grandchildren, Raheem, Malika, Shanee, Wayne, Janel, Bilqis, Zaaccaria, Corinne, Merissa, Nia (d), and Lexus; nieces, Lorna and Ruby; ten great grandchildren; cousins and many friends.

Funeral Mass

Gathering Hymn.....“Peace Be Still”

Processional Hymn..... “Amazing Grace”

Placing of the Pall

First Reading #5

Old Testament - Lamentations 3:17-26.....Diane Cruickshank

Second Reading #15

New Testament - 1 John 3:1-2.....Malika Williams

General Intercessions.....Michael Grant
(Plus one other)

Offertory Hymn.....“Precious Lord, Take My Hand”

Communion Hymn.....“His Eye Is On The Sparrow”

Communion Meditation Song.....“It Is Well With My Soul”

Obituary

Recessional.....“Going Up Yonder”

Interment

*Long Island National Cemetery
Farmingdale, New York*

Together

Death is nothing at all - I have only slipped away into the next room. Whatever we were to each other, that we are still. Call me by my old familiar name, speak to me in the easy way which you always used. Laugh as we always laughed at the little jokes we enjoyed together.

Play, smile, think of me, pray for me. Let my name be the household word it always was. Let it be spoken without effort. Life means all that it ever meant. It is the same as it ever was: there is absolutely unbroken continuity. Why should I be out of your mind because I am out of your sight? I am but waiting for you, for an interval, somewhere very near, just around the corner. All is well. Nothing is past: nothing is lost. One brief moment and all will be as before — only better, infinitely happier and forever we will all be one together with Christ.

-Author unknown

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.*

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