

*A Diary of  
Karen Moses*

*Dawn: April 3, 1962 - Dusk: May 27, 2019*



Service

*Tuesday, June 25, 2019 - 5:00 p.m.*

**UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.**

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## Synopsis

*Karen Moses was born on April 3, 1962, in Italian Hospital, New York, NY, to Eugene Moses and Annette McCluney Moses. She was the another little girl for this enchanted couple. She went to P.S. 156, 46, I.S. 29 and Mabel Dean Bacon Vocational High School. She attended Manhattan Community and Queens Colleges. She was accepted to John Jay College of Criminal Justice. As a child, Karen demonstrated musical gifts. By age six, by ear, she learned how to play the piano. She was an excellent dancer. Pleasingly, she sang the songs of the day and the past. She was comedic. She enjoyed telling a story that would make family, friends, and professionals laugh. She was self-adoring and very photogenic. She remarked how she was a "Cole" in lineage...referencing her relationship to her grandmother, Mae Alice Cole McCluney. By age 12, Sears Department Store requested that she be one of its childhood models for its Photo Studios. Stunning, were Karen's writing, political activist, and journalists' skills. At the age of 12, she began championing racial equality. She wrote a letter to a local political group, that was so powerful, the leaders of the organization, came to her parent's home to recruit her as a partner in the fight for African American justice. They did not know that it was a child who had written the letter. Her dad hid her behind the apartment's front door and told these two "soldiers" that she was a child. He gave them a donation to satisfy their curiosity. He thanked them for continuing the racial struggle. At the age of 12, she began a long history of having dozens of public response articles published in local newspapers and national magazines. At this juncture, Jet Magazine published her first article. Within the same year, Ebony Magazine published her 2nd article. This was the beginning of a long stream of articles, that Karen wrote, that The New York Daily News and New York Newsday published. Regularly, she was featured in*

*“**Voice of the People.**” One of her articles, to The New York Daily News, was a critique of an opinion published by one of its journalists. Her penned contradiction was so effective that the reporter lost her temper and personally called her. My sister knew that the reporter's actions were against “rules of journalism.” She contacted the Editor in Chief. The reporter apologized. The New York City College's student president, of the student newspaper, read some of her articles. He contacted her and asked if she would consider joining the publication's writing team. He added that he wanted to date her. At the inception of online activism, she joined America Online. She garnered a following of fellow activists. She was a good cook and early in life, she learned how to modify recipes. She loved her family. In 1994, by diagnosing her mom's Diabetes, she saved her mother's life. She was the apple of her father's eye. In 2010, her dad became ill. Physicians gave up on him. Single-handedly, she contacted New York Columbia Presbyterian Hospital's Nephrology Department. On a closed patient list, she arranged to have her father successfully operated on by Chairman, Dr. Mitchell C. Benson. The family nicknamed her Kay Kay. Purple was her favorite color. She was known for dressing in unique, bright fashionable clothing styles; her skill set was creativity. Disappointedly, in her late teens*

*and throughout her adult years, illness visited her. My sister fought and won many physical battles and endured what many could not grasp.  
She was a real champion.*

*On May 27, 2019, her body was extremely tired...  
God said "enough."  
To her He whispered, "Come home, come on...come on rest...rest...  
you'll be with the best.  
My beloved sister passed her test!*

*She is predeceased by her father, Eugene Moses, survived by her mother, Mrs. Annette Moses and her sister, Sherry Moses. She is predeceased by grandfathers, Johnnie Moses and George McCluney, Sr., grandmothers, Mrs. Lucy Mae Johnson Moses and Mrs. Mae Alice McCluney, survived by uncles, Elder George McCluney, Jr., Calvin Lorenzo Patterson, Morris Moses, predeceased Elliot Moses, survived by aunts, Mrs. Johnnie Mae Moses, Mrs. Julie McCluney, predeceased by Roberta Moses, Mrs. Connie Mae Patterson and Betty McCluney. She has a host of cousins, Activists and neighborhood acquaintances. Of note is the special relationship that I had with my sister. She was fire. Yet, when in need, her favorite call, was "Shaareeee."*

*May you know that you will forever be in Our Hearts.*

*Our Chests are heavy and not a day passes without your remembrance.*

*Love it always Endures  
Dedicated to Ms. Karen Moses  
Sister Sledge/We Are Family  
<https://youtu.be/uyGY2NfYpeE>*

## *Special Thanks to*

*Elder George McCluney, Jr.  
Rev. Booker T. Morgan  
Ms. Elizabeth Ruiz, New York City Board of Education,  
Ms. Jennifer Pope, New York City Police Department  
Ms. Earline Jenkins, Mabel Dean Bacon Class of 1979  
The New York Daily News Archives Division*

# *Order of Service*

*Processional*

*Selection*

*Scripture Readings*

*Prayer*

*Selection*

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*Eulogy*

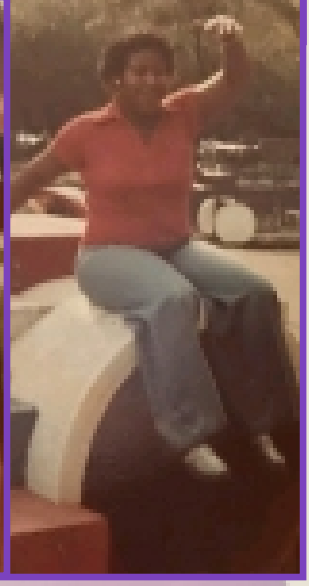
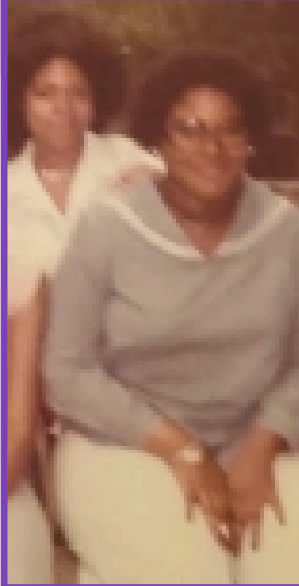
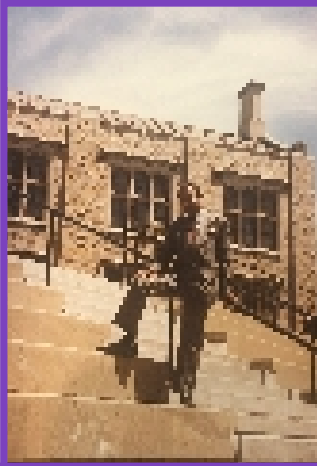
*Committal*

*Viewing*

*Recessional*

*Interment*

*Calverton National Cemetery  
Calverton, New York*





# Courting fairness for voters

**T**HE SUPREME COURT'S ruling on congressional redistricting bodes ill for at least one election district in New York City. But it bodes well for the city at large, and the nation. And, indeed, for the continuing fight against racial inequities in the political arena — or wherever such inequities lurk.

On Thursday, true to precedents set in '93 and '95 decisions, the court struck down four predominantly minority districts in North Carolina and Texas. The reason: Race had been not just one, but the dominant, factor in drawing them. They were clear examples of racial gerrymandering, which violates constitutional guarantees. That violation exists whether gerrymandering is used to exclude, as in the past, or to include. Intentions cannot override the result when that result is de facto segregation.

The issue is an emotional one, with many minorities fearing that only whites will be elected in districts where whites are the majority. History offers them plenty of evidence.

And those emotions are heightened by the fact that the rulings come during a time of high racial tensions. As black churches in the South are reduced to ashes, some African-Americans are understandably fearful that a torch has been put to their civil rights.

That is not the case here. If anything, the court has struck a blow against separatism. Integration and equality serve all Americans, even if pursuing them means political defeat for individual legislators.

Writing the majority opinion, Justice Sandra Day O'Connor explained: "Significant deviations from traditional districting principles, such as the bizarre shape and noncompactness demonstrated by the districts here, cause constitutional harm insofar as they convey the message that political identity is, or

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should be, predominantly racial."

Basing political identity on race is wrong, period. In South Africa, it was called apartheid.

One of the districts in question, North Carolina's 12th, twists and turns its narrow way nearly the entire length of the state. Its shape is, indeed, "bizarre." But to find its equal, you need look no further than New York City's own 12th Congressional District, now the subject of a court battle. It's called the Bullwinkle district because that's who it resembles.

Redrawn in 1992 to help a Hispanic win, the 12th winds through three boroughs, from the lower East Side through Brooklyn to Elmhurst, Queens. In some spots, it is only a block wide. Neighborhood cohesiveness is sacrificed in the name of ethnic politics. Such redistricting does not empower; it segregates.

Equally abhorrent, and dangerous, it devalues the individual, presuming that all voters of one racial or ethnic group think alike. Or are incapable of thinking at all. Herd them together and forget about them as long as they elect someone of their color.

The court's decisions wisely aim for just the opposite. As O'Connor said, they "acknowledge voters as more than mere racial statistics" and are based on the goal of eliminating racial stereotypes. That's the direction all Americans should support.

## Parents in name only

The hell in which some children exist is incomprehensible. Most of us don't even find out about it until some such child ceases to exist. That was the case of 4-year-old Shayna Bryant, beaten, brutalized and finally dead at the hands of the very people who should have been protecting her — her parents.

The father, Orlando Bryant, was sentenced Monday to 18 years to life in the 1994 death, which was ruled second-degree murder. The mother, Sherain Bryant, was in Bronx Supreme Court on Thursday to learn her fate. She got the max — 25 to life. She also got a vilification from Justice Joseph Fisch.

"During my 37-year public service career in law," he said, "I thought I had seen and heard just about everything. I was wrong." And he noted, "You are not fit for human society."

She has now been removed. But how many more Bryants are out there? How many Shaynas, wondering why mommy and daddy hate them? Who will tell them it's not their fault? And who will save them?

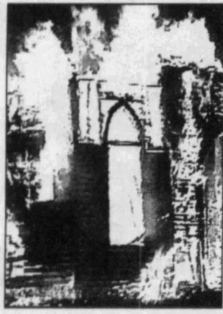
## VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

### Race: Check human

Manhattan: As we shudder from the shock waves of the Shane Daniels incident and as our country winces while the hopes of so many smolder in the ashes of burned churches, we again pay lip service to the horror of racism.

Our government and corporations aid and abet racism by perpetuating the Jim Crow idea that humans need to be classified by race specification. Check the box: white, black, etc.) Who is to say how many doors are opened or closed by this seemingly benign administrative detail? We should not condone the demeaning categorization of humanity. We are either a part of humanity or not.

Etavier Muhammad



the killer of two people go free. The reaction has barely begun, yet the fallout will be hugely traumatic.

Werner Regensburger

### No justice, no peace

Merrick, L.I.: Why has the federal government not begun a civil rights violations investigation against O.J. Simpson? It was done in the Rodney King case when the cops, who were set free by a jury, were subsequently sent to prison because they allegedly violated King's civil rights? One has to wonder who has civil rights.

Bill Messinetti

### Habla español. ¿Y tu?

Bronxville, N.Y.: Voicerc Emily Butler's letter about her encounter with two Spanish-speaking women in a Jackson Heights pharmacy was right on target. Of all the ethnic groups that have immigrated to America, only Hispanics arrogantly demand that everyone else learn their language to communicate with them. No other group of people — Asian, European or African — comes here demanding that Americans learn their mother tongue. Just for the record, I speak, read and write Spanish fluently.

Steven I. Danko

### Coming to America

Manhattan: I am adamant about people learning English when they come to the United States. When my father arrived here from Europe in 1955 at age 16, he knew only Hebrew. In 1½ years, not only did he learn the language of this country, but he graduated high school at the same time. I know Spanish, but I use it only when I choose to and not because I am in a "Spanish-speaking neighborhood." It is a shame that people who come to the U.S. for a better life feel the need to change it to the country they left behind.

Rachel V. Kumar

### Black and proud

Flushing: Stanley Crouch said in his May 26 column, "To know one's history is to know oneself! Who are you, Mr. Crouch? Did your ancestors just appear out of thin air in these United States? If not, where did they come from? All those inspiring and wonderful things you attribute to "Negroes" can be traced to your African ancestors, if you are honest. I would not limit my existence and deny my heritage. I am proud to use the "mouthful" and call myself "African-American." Shame on you.

Clara M. Jones

### Good cop, bad cop

Bronx: It's annoying to hear people call the men and women of the NYPD racist. Sure, there are a couple of racist cops, but it's just a small percentage. Give all the others some credit. They're out there every day to serve and protect us. Sure, it's their job. But every time they perform their job, they're risking their lives for us.

Darlene Quinones

### Fed up

Manhattan: The feds have jumped into the Shane Daniels case. This looks like a double standard. When eight people were shot and killed at Freddy's on 125th St. in Harlem in an obvious bias case, the feds did not show. The gunman allowed African-Americans to leave the store, then opened fire and set the place ablaze.

William Morgan

### Why bother?

Manhattan: In his Op-Ed Josiah Brown wonders how people could sit by while he was mugged on the subway. I'm a black male, and every day I have to put up with people glaring at me and clutching their belongings. They think I'm a criminal, but I should be a hero when they need it?

Anthony Joseph

### A real crime stopper

Bellerose: Bring back Wyatt Earp!

Eddie Condon

### MTA: Going nowhere

Forest Hills: It's amazing how every time you cough up more money for public transit, the service begins to suffer. The latest MTA fiasco is the 53d St. E and F escalator repair job. People are shoved into roped-off stairways to and from the 4, 5, 6, N and R trains at 59th St./Lexington Ave.'s dangerously overcrowded station platforms. This situation also has led to heated passenger disputes. There must be a better way.

Norman Weinberg

### Voice of reason

Manhattan: I would like to thank the young lady who makes announcements at the Pacific St. station on the N line. She not only lets riders know why our train is delayed, but she gives us alternative routes. Because of her, I now have several ways to get to my destination.

A. Parham

### Fought for our country

Flushing: To Voicerc Richard Granholm: Your belief that we should respect the "chain of command" is misguided. President Clinton is not being derided be-

cause he didn't serve in the military; it's the manner in which he didn't serve. He wasn't much better than those cowards who ran to Canada to avoid being drafted. And before you ask, I served three years in the Navy in the "Big One." By the way, what did you do?

D.J. Cavallo

### I, Geraldo

Manhattan: Whoa! Reality check here. Did I read right? Geraldo Rivera, who has probably logged more verbiage about O.J. than the court records of the trial, says O.J. is obsessed with him? Now there is a Guinness book ego.

M. Sawicki

### O.J. revisited

Stony Brook, L.I.: The most horrible result from the O.J. trial is that Johnny Cochran, by exercising his skills and cunning, did a deadly and lasting disservice to 34 million African-Americans by being a decisive factor in letting

The Daily News reserves the right to edit letters. The shorter the letter, the better the chance it will be used. Direct your letter to Voice of the People; include signature, address and daytime phone number. Letters signed with pseudonyms or initials will not be published.

## Crouching the issue of race

Manhattan: As proud African-American women, we are disgusted and outraged by the self-hating drive in Stanley Crouch's column, "Why I choose to say Negro" (May 26). If a white person had written this column, it would appropriately be deemed racist.

To invoke the term "mutt," which is exclusively used to describe animals, to characterize a people, your own race no less, is the height of buffoonery, stupidity, and internalized hatred! Let's get something straight, Mr. Crouch: You may be a mutt, but we are human beings! What was most appalling and sick was his seeing slavery, which killed millions of Africans, as a blessing in disguise. Does Mr. Crouch also think Jews should be glad the Holocaust occurred, because out of the Holocaust came Israel? We doubt it.

Slavery ended 131 years ago. We suggest Mr. Crouch stand tall and stop genuflecting before the European altar, take the handkerchief off his head, and drop the banjo and cotton bales. The plantation is closed!

Karen Moses & Lisa A. Roscoe

## *Philippians 3:20-21*

*20 But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, 21 who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.*

### *Sister*

**S** is for special, my sister is to me  
**I** is for incredible, a dear one is she  
**S** is for sincere, the way we were meant  
**T** is for terrific, she's pure heaven sent  
**E** is for eternal, I can always depend  
**R** is for radiant, such a loving friend

“Sister”  
siblings are we  
the way God meant us to be

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