

In Loving Memory of



Virgie Lee Lorio Winston

Sunrise: September 26, 1922

Sunset: December 28, 2019

Service

Friday, January 3, 2020 - 10:00 a.m.

OUR LADY OF LOURDES

463 West 142nd Street • New York, NY 10027

Obituary

Virgie Lee Lorio was a Wife, Mother, Grandmother, Friend and an asset to humanity as an Advocate, and Health Care Professional. She wasn't born with a silver spoon, but she knew how to spin adversity into opportunities that would benefit herself, her family and those blessed to be within her gravity of influence. Virgie came from humble beginnings. Born in New Orleans, Louisiana, her parents, Bedna Lorio and Margret Spade left her orphaned as a young child. As a result, she was raised in a Convent by Nuns, and her Catholic faith grounded, sustained and strengthened her commitment to carve out a life weaved with purpose, service, and love.

In September 10, 1943, at the age of 20, Virgie was admitted to St. Mary's Infirmary in St. Louis Missouri, which was one of the first Catholic schools of Nursing in the country. She became a Cadet Nurse in the U.S. World War II Cadet Nursing Corps a month later. Upon graduation with her Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing, Virgie migrated to New York City and began a career of excellence as a healthcare professional that spanned over 60 years. She was one of the first Black Nurses to be hired in New York City, and she served the most vulnerable among us, starting with improving the quality of life for cancer patients at Mount Sinai Hospital, working numerous private duty assignments, and at her final position at The Central Harlem Sobering Up Station where she assisted clients in their battle to overcome addiction until retiring in her 80's. Even after retirement Vergie remained an active leader in the Women's Sodality at Our Lady of Lourdes and participated in many other church initiatives designed to support the community, and assist those in need.

Family was highly valued in Virgie's world. She and her husband Elwood Winston joined forces to raise a large family of five girls and three boys. There wasn't anything she wouldn't sacrifice to insure the quality of life and success of her family. What she could personally improve, she did, and what she couldn't—she put in God's hands. Every member of her family is a benefactor of her devotion, labor, sacrifices and prayers. She was a pillar of inspiration, as well as an anchor to all of us.

In a time when being an orphan, being Black, and being a woman, each presented their own set of obstacles that some might find insurmountable, Virgie Lee Lorio showed us that with faith, grit, determination, hard work and purpose all things are possible, and all dreams are within our ability to accomplish. She may have only been 4 foot 11, but Virgie Lee Lorio was a giant! She was a giver. Her heart was filled with a passion for life, and leaving the world better than she met it. Her principles were unwavering, and her spirit lives on through all of us. She is survived by her sons, Joseph and Khadid; her daughters, Rahil, Philomena, Theresa and Patricia; as well as a host of grandchildren, great grandchildren and great great grandchildren!

Order of Service

Processional

Selection

Scripture Readings

Prayer

Selection

Acknowledgements

Remarks

Obituary

Selection

Eulogy

Committal

Viewing

Recessional

Interment

Long Island National Cemetery
Farmingdale, New York

Come To Me

*God saw she was getting tired
And a cure was not to be
So He gently closed those loving eyes
And whispered "Come to me"
The days of toil and nights of pain
The weary hours have passed
The patient gentle worn out frame
Has found sweet rest at last.
Day and night we stood by her
And saw her in pain,
Anxiously awaiting her cure
But our waiting was in vain.
God who knoweth all things best
Eased her suffering, gave her rest
She is gone but not forgotten,
Never will our memories fade
Sweetest thoughts of her will ever linger
Round the place where she rests.
-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.

2352 8th Avenue • Manhattan, NY • (212) 666-8300
1406 Pitkin Avenue • Brooklyn, NY • (718) 774-1023
1018 Prospect Avenue • Bronx, NY • (718) 542-3833

Clifford V. James, President & CEO
www.unityfuneralchapels.com
email: unityfc@aol.com

"Your Loved Ones Deserve The Best - Unity"



Unity

