

*Home Going Celebration
For the Life of*



Lorraine C. Johnson

February 23, 1943 - December 30, 2019

Service

Saturday, January 11, 2020 - 9:00 a.m.

Mt. Pisgah African Methodist Episcopal Church
354 Forrest Street • Jersey City, New Jersey
Reverend Dr. Stanley Hearst II, Officiating

Obituary

This was not my Home; I was only passing through.

I have fought the good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith.

2 Timothy 4:7

Lorraine was the second child born to late Dorothy McIntyre Cauley and Calway Joseph Cauley in Jersey City, NJ. She spent much of her youth in Harlem, New York at the side of her legendary Grandmother, Lillie Bell McIntyre. Her grandmother's five-story walkup apartment with its many windows, allowed Lorraine to view her world and to form an ideology of service that would last a lifetime. She enjoyed laughter, as many of her life-long friends can testify. However, she was tough and no nonsense when it came to advocating for the safety and education of all children.

Lorraine's early education was provided by the Jersey City school system. Her desire to become a teacher developed from her love of psychology and her passion for Early Childhood Education was launched.

Lorraine left New Jersey and enrolled into Fayetteville State Teachers College in North Carolina. During this period, she married Jacob "Jake" Cuthbert Jr. and they were blessed with Cedric.

Lorraine being her usual feisty self, after a couple years, transferred to North Carolina Central College in Durham, North Carolina. Aside from Virginia Union visits to see Jake, visits to Rocky Point to see Cedric, she participated in protests for the right to vote and voter registration campaigns as the fight for desegregation gained greater momentum.

Lorraine C. Johnson was initiated into Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. at North Carolina Central College Alpha Lambda Chapter. After college she became affiliated with the North Jersey Alumnae Chapter which serves Essex, Hudson, and Union counties. Over the years, she was an advisor to the Delta Teens, member of the Scholarship Committee, Chair of the Finance Committee, as well as participating with numerous other committees. Lorraine enjoyed attending Regional Conferences and National Conventions, particularly the 75th in San Francisco and 100th in Washington D.C. Lorraine was a charter member of North Jersey Minerva Corporation, a 501© 3 not for profit public charity founded in 2000. She served as a member of the Board of Directors and chaired the Membership Committee. One of her great joys was fund raising and participating in the annual Scholarship Benefit Luncheon co-sponsored with the North Jersey Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. She stayed faithful to the cause until her health began to fail.

Lorraine's experience after college as a parks and recreation worker in Harlem helped define her "we learn through play" philosophy. In addition, as she began work in Jersey City's Head Start programs, she appreciated the flavor of the

communities in which she worked daily. Resources were always needed for her children and their families. Lorraine saw past the circumstances of poverty and recognized the need for total family involvement. Parents were nurtured, older siblings encouraged, and loving care was being freely passed out with the same frequency as the tiny little milk containers. Entire developments were changed, families were changed, staff members were changed, all because of the serious spirit of "Mrs. Cuthbert".

Lorraine acknowledged she needed more education to affect true policy changes. From Bank Street College of Education at Columbia in New York to UCLA's School of Management and Leadership in California, she never stopped acquiring knowledge. She attended Kean University and studied Early Childhood/Leadership. There was also dynamic travel afforded to her in her professional capacity such as 'Leave No Child Behind' under Dr. Marian Wright Edelman, and a child advocate to monthly gatherings in Trenton, New Jersey to 'set Governors straight' as to understanding the best interest of inner-city children. Upon every opportunity she stopped to ask students what they were working on today, sit and observe, or just teach an old favorite and familiar song!

Lorraine married Charles Johnson and they were blessed with Charnette.

As a lifelong charter member of Mount Pisgah AME Church, she served on many ministries - the Gospel Choir, Scholarship Committee, Chairperson of the Women's Day Committee, Missionary Society, and a member of the Church Anniversary Celebration Committee, just to name a few. Lorraine made a joyful noise unto the Lord, always with humor and a love for familiar church traditions.

Lorraine truly loved her church and church family and could be depended upon in all aspects of service until her failing health prevented her attendance and participation.

Everyone gave her pleasure, joy and a reason to be excited about life. So many may have been helped by Lorraine's indefatigable spirit, yet it could have been only God working through her...even until the end.

She is preceded in death by her grandson, the late Benjiman David Walls.

She leaves to mourn her husband: Charles Johnson; her brother: Calway "Bill" Cauley; her son: Dr. Cedric E. Cuthbert (Rev. Dr. Missouri McPhee); her daughters: Charles Charnette Johnson-Richardson, Angela Johnson; Godson: Charles "Tony" Pickett; Goddaughters: Annette Smith, Aiesha Smith Olamiju; Grandchildren: Charles "Chip" Cuthbert Johnson (Renay T-Cuthbert Johnson), Warren Richardson, Christian Alexander Ivery, David Ondande, Jaslyn Richardson, Jacob B. Cuthbert III, Tiffany Walls, Isaiah Walls, Trinity Walls, Zoey Williams; niece, Alicia Cauley; nephews, Alaric Cauley Zachary Cauley and Daniel Cauley; Great Grandchildren: Kaylani Genesis Cuthbert Johnson, Charlotte Dakota Cuthbert Johnson, Sywon T. Sims. Hosts of cousins and other relatives and friends.

Order of Service

Reverend Dr. Stanley Hearst II - Officiating

Organ Prelude.....Elder Jonathan Dale

Processional.....Clergy and Family

Opening Hymn..... “Jesus Keep Me Near The Cross” Hymn 321

Prayer of Comfort..... Rev. Dr. Stanley Hearst II

Scripture

Old Testament.....Psalm 23...Rev. Howard Grant, Retired Presiding Elder

New Testament.....John 14:1-6...Rev. Dianne Haggan, Local Deacon

Acknowledgements and Resolution.....Mrs. Erma D. Greene

Selection

Reflections of her love and service to: Please limit to 2 minutes

Church—Ms. Grace Robertson

Work— Veronica Ray, Past Regional President NJ Head Start Association

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Sister— Miss Petrucci Taliaferro

Family—Mrs. Nadine Jordan, Cousin

Selection

Reading of the ObituaryRev. Reginald McRae

Selection

The Eulogy.....Rev. Dr. Cynthia D. Jackson

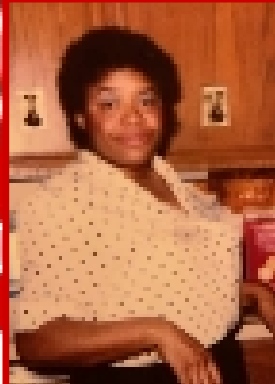
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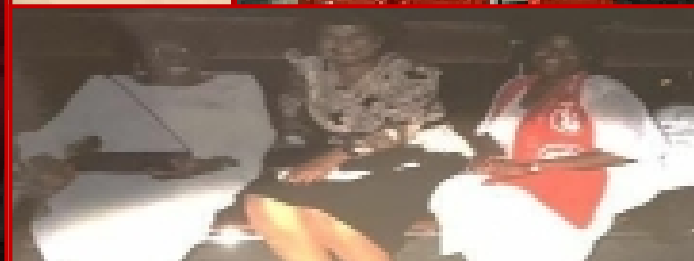
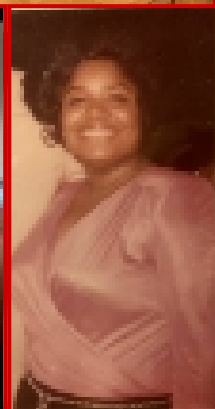
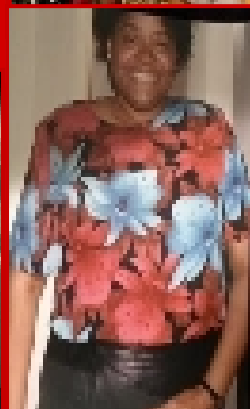
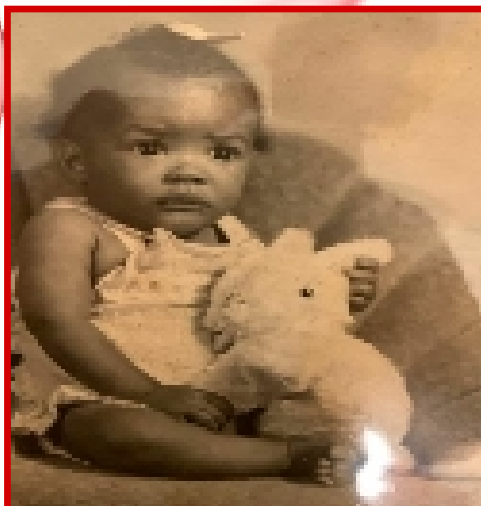
INTERMENT

Heavenly Rest Memorial Park

East Hanover, New Jersey

Repast back at the church





Matthew 25:34-40 summarily states, "...when you have done for the least of them, you have done for me, come to your eternal reward..." The question asked of those assembled on the right was when did we see you hungry, thirsty, a stranger, or naked, sick or in prison? Everyday we all are vulnerable, fragile, and precious in the eyes of God. We are they who are most in need of compassion, caring, kindness and concern. It is not so much that presumed voiceless don't have a say in determining their destiny, it is just so many powerful shouts choose not to hear them. Worst yet, so many people take the option that they are best served by remaining mute.

My Mom saw the challenge that assimilation was not for everyone! She knew the revolution would not be televised and that we all needed to love ourselves as the reflection of us being creative creatures created by a creative Creator creating a better world for the next! As the anthem loudly resounds 'Onward Christian soldiers, marching off to war; with the cross of Jesus, going on before...' My Mom has run the race, the battle is over as she still speaks to our souls.

From Son to Mother by Dr. Cedric E. Cuthbert Fight on dear soldier, victory is coming; Fight on loved one, victory is assured. The battle is never easy, but victory is coming; Fight on dear soldier, Victory is won!

I love you very much mom, Always Ced

The Master Called

*I'm sorry I had to leave you.
My loved ones, oh so dear.
But you see, the Master called me,
His voice was very clear!
I had made my reservation
A heaven bound ticket for one,
And I knew that He would call me
When He felt my work was done.
I know that your hearts are heavy
Because I have gone away,
But when the Master called me,
I knew that I could not stay.
Yes, I'm sorry I had to leave you
My loved ones, oh so dear,
But, you see, the Master called me
And, now I'm resting here.
Yes, I've crossed on over to glory
And to you all I say
Just stay in the hands of Jesus
And we'll meet again someday.*

-Author unknown



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 sang a cheerful song, if so we heard it all,
Perhaps you prayed a sincere prayer or came to pay a call.
Perhaps you spoke the kindest words, as any friend could say,
Perhaps you prepared a tasty dish, or maybe furnished a car,
Perhaps you rendered a service unseen near at hand or from afar.
Whatever you did to console our hearts, by word or deed or touch,
Whatever was the kindly part, WE THANK YOU...oh so very much!

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