

In Loving Memory of



Irene White Murphy

Sunrise
November 5, 1929

Sunset
April 5, 2021

Memorial Service:
Saturday, April 17, 2021 - 3:00 pm

MCCALL'S BRONXWOOD FUNERAL HOME

4035 Bronxwood Avenue • Bronx, New York 10466

Rev. Craig Johnson, Officiating

Rev. David Jenkins, Organist

Obituary

Irene White Murphy, age 91, passed away peacefully on April 5, 2021, due to natural causes. She was born on November 5, 1929, in Camden of Kershaw County, South Carolina. She was the fifth of seven children born to Bertha Kirkland White and Robert White. She attended and graduated from the South Carolina State High School system in 1947. Shortly thereafter, she married her high school sweetheart, George Murphy (who would precede her in death on July 28, 2015). They soon embarked on what would be a permanent move to Harlem, New York City, and welcomed a daughter named Lorraine in February of 1948.

For many years, in addition to being a loving and nurturing wife and mother, Irene also provided loving care for her elderly parents and many of her nieces and nephews and was affectionately referred to as Ara and Aunt Ara by many of her family members. One of her beloved nieces Linda quoted: "Aunt Irene had a heart of gold, and she was too precious for this world. Her devotion, generosity, and nurturing spirit gave me peace from two years old and up..." She was a person of faith and it filled her heart with joy to serve, care for, and nurture those dearest and nearest to her, including three grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Her family was the pride and joy of her life. She demonstrated a strong faith in God and Christian values and never failed to discipline when necessary. "God don't like ugly" and "Do onto others as you want them to do onto you," and "Respect your elders" were some of the sayings she quoted frequently in her teachings.

Irene was also a great cook and often shared her love with delicious fried chicken, fish, and porkchops; sweet potato pies; candied yams; macaroni and cheese; turkey with stuffing; blackeyes peas; potato salad; and collard greens and string beans stewed in smoked ham or smoked turkey, just to name a few of the many foods she would prepare. Her family always looked forward to enjoying her delicious southern-inspired meals.

She was employed as a part-time sales associate at Alexander's department store in the mid 70's to the early 80's. She enjoyed her job and was well liked by her co-workers.

She is predeceased by her parents, Bertha Kirkland White and Robert White; and her siblings, Susie, Rose, Ola, Annie, Josephine, and Willie (James) White; and her husband George Murphy.

She is survived and will be missed dearly by her daughter Lorraine Richmond; three grandchildren, Sherry, Desiree, and Jamar Richmond; and four great grandchildren, Quadir Martin, Davon Mial, Jayla, and Cairi O'Neill; and seven great, great grandchildren, Kashmir Martin, Summer Martin, Amora Mial, Saniyah Martin, Dantae Mial, Deja Mial, and Cameron Mial; and a host of many nieces and nephews.

Order of Service

Organ Prelude
Rev. David Jenkins

Processional

Invocation
Rev. Craig Johnson

Selection
Rev. David Jenkins

Scripture Readings
Rev. Craig Johnson
Old Testament
New Testament

Prayer Of Comfort
Rev. Craig Johnson

Selection
Rev. David Jenkins

Reading Of Obituary

Selection
Rev. David Jenkins

Eulogy
Rev. Craig Johnson

Committal & Benediction
Rev. Craig Johnson

Remarks By Funeral Director

Recessional

Disposition

Ferneliff Crematory
Hartsdale, New York

I'm Free

**Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free.
I'm following the path God has chosen for me.
I took His hand when I heard Him call;
I turned my back and left it all.
I could not stay another day,
to laugh, to love, to work or play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way;
I've found now peace at the end of the day.
If my parting has left a void,
then fill it with remembered joys.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss;
Oh yes, these things, I too will I miss.
Be not burdened with times of sorrow,
look for the sunshine of tomorrow.
My life's been full, I savored much;
good friends, good times, a loved ones touch.
Perhaps my time seems all too brief;
don't lengthen your time with undue grief.
Lift up your heart and peace to thee,
God wanted me now – He set me free.**

Acknowledgments

The family would like to express their deep appreciation and sincere thanks for all acts of kindness shown to them during their time of bereavement.

Professional Service Entrusted To:

McCall's Bronxwood

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