



*In Loving
Memory
of*

Mr. Ned Thomas Cooper

Sunrise

December 27, 1942

Sunset

May 11, 2012

Service

Saturday, May 19, 2012 - 10:00 a.m.

UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.

2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY 10027

Rev. Dr. J.G. McCann Sr., Officiating

Rev. David Jenkins, Organist

Obituary

Ned Thomas Cooper, known to all as Thomas, entered into this life on December 27, 1942 in Williamsburg County, South Carolina to the Late Phyllis Cooper-Davis and the late Peter Cooper Sr. God called upon his gift to return home to him on May 11, 2012.

Thomas is the second son of seven children, two of whom predeceased him: John Andrew Cooper on March 26, 1991 and Mack George Cooper on March 2, 2008.

As a child in South Carolina, Thomas attended Central Elementary School. In 1949, Thomas migrated from South Carolina to Harlem, New York with his family. He continued his education at Public School 186 in Harlem, and when his family moved to the lower east side of Manhattan he attended Junior High School 188. Upon graduating, he attended the Food and Maritime Vocational High School where he studied and trained on the S.S. John W. Brown. It was there that he learned the workings of ships' operations and the maintaining of engines and boilers. After completion of the training and coursework, he received his diploma and his merchant seamen certificate.

As a merchant seaman, Thomas sailed around the world for a number of years. Among other assignments, he worked for the United States Military Sea Transportation/ Military Sealift Command earning his government rating; this enabled him to transfer his years of government service to his new employer, the United States Postal Service, without interruption.

Thomas met and married Deborah Bailey, and raised five children: one daughter, Monica and four sons, Kyron, Shaun, Robert, and Cory.

In 1977, Thomas was Vice President and part owner of G.T.J.P. Liquors, Inc., owned and operated by the Cooper brothers, until sold in 1987. Throughout, Thomas remained with the United States Postal Service until he fell ill, causing him to be admitted to Gouverneur Rehabilitation and Nursing Home until his death.

All who knew Thomas understood his strong love for his family. The well-being of his relatives was paramount in his life. Thomas' dedication to his family was rooted in his spiritual upbringing and was evidenced by his contributing whatever he had to his family and whoever else was in need. While in his presence, no one ever had to worry.

Thomas was a friendly and helpful person who enjoyed sharing all of his experiences and knowledge with those around him. A gregarious and sociable man, Thomas was a talented storyteller. He had a gift for enabling his audience to live vicariously through him; Thomas painted pictures with his words so that one could visualize the things he had seen. Not only was he a gifted storyteller, but he was also an invested listener. Regardless of age, whomever Thomas spoke with felt as though he had known them for a lifetime and that their words were significant. He will be missed.

Thomas leaves to mourn and cherish his memory: Deborah, Monica, Kyron, Shaun, Robert, and Cory; four grandchildren, Shaquia, Jayden, Neeshaun, and Jenai; four siblings, Ruth Etta Curry, Janet Alexander, Henry Cooper Sr., and Peter Cooper Jr.; one brother-in-law, Samuel Curry Sr.; two sisters-in-law, Linda Cooper and Maria Cooper; thirteen nieces and nephews, Samuel and Lolita Curry Jr., Wayne and Beverly Curry Sr., Lloyd and Debbie Wilson, George Cooper Jr., Natasha and Luis Hernandez, Aléwa Cooper, Terell and Jason Edwards, and Henry Cooper Jr.; one aunt, Rachel L. Green of South Carolina; ten great-nieces and nephews, and a host of cousins and dear friends.

Order of Service

Processional

Selection

“Precious Lord”

Scripture

Prayer

Selection

“Amazing Grace”

Acknowledgements

Remarks

Obituary

Selection

“Lord’s Prayer”

Eulogy

Committal

Viewing

Recessional

Interment

Rosehill Cemetery
Linden, New Jersey

When I Must Leave You

*When I must leave you for a little while
Please do not grieve and shed wild tears
And hug your sorrow to you through the years
But start out bravely with a gallant smile
And for my sake and in my name
Live on and do all things the same
Feed not your loneliness on empty days
But fill each waking hour in useful ways
Reach out your hand in comfort and in cheer
And I in turn will comfort you
And hold you near
And never, never be afraid to die
For I am waiting for you in the sky!*

-Helen Steiner Rice

Acknowledgement

The family of the Late **Ned Thomas Cooper** wishes to express our deep appreciation and sincere thanks for all acts of kindness shown to us in our time of sorrow. Your kindness has helped to ease our pain during this time of bereavement. We are eternally grateful for what you have done for the family as we try to heal a little each day.

Thank you,
The Cooper Family



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