

*In Loving Memory of*

A portrait of Camille J. Brock, a woman with a warm smile, wearing a dark blue patterned headscarf and a pearl necklace. The background is a soft-focus landscape with purple flowers and a cloudy sky.

*Camille J. Brock*

*Sunrise*  
August 28, 1927

*Sunset*  
January 31, 2014

Service

Saturday, February 15, 2014 - 12:00 Noon

**UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.**

2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY 10027

*Rev. Dr. Eric B. Turner, Officiating*

*Bobby Arrington, Organist*

# Obituary

## The Beginning

Camille Lorraine Johnson was born August 28, 1927, to Camilla Jones and Johnnie Johnson, in New Orleans. Camilla died when Camille was a small child. Camille was passed from family member to family member. Ultimately, Tuberculosis wiped her entire family out, by the time she was five. She grew up in a foster home for children, in Amityville, Long Island.

## Cupid's Arrow

In her teen years, Camille met a Mexican laborer, named Teodoro Galvin Lopez, who swept her off her feet. In 1945, this union brought forth Gene Douglas Lopez, Camille's only child. After Teodoro's return to Mexico, Camille struggled to give her son the best upbringing she could. In the early 1950's Camille met George Brock and they were wed. Camille took great pride in the fact that her husband was one of the original black Bombardeers. Camille and George parted ways, however, he remained a father to Gene (the son he lovingly referred to as "little pot").

## Belief

Although Camille was brought up in the Christian belief, in her 60's, she became a practicing Buddhist. Although Camille vacillated in her religious practice, she certainly acknowledged and believed there was a power higher than she.

## Education/Work

Camille held many jobs in her lifetime, from domestic work to secretarial positions. She was a secretary for the Kingsbridge Veteran's Administration but chose to leave this position after being informed that as a "colored" girl she would never advance. It was at that time that she recognized the importance of an education and pursued a Bachelor's degree in Secretarial Studies from Pace University in Manhattan, NY. After obtaining her degree, she became a substitute teacher for the NYC Board of Education, teaching secretarial studies. Camille went to school at night and got a Master's Degree in CRMD, which allowed her to work with mentally challenged children. Camille was promoted to a full time position and worked her way up to becoming a special education/mainstream guidance counselor. Camille got a second Master's Degree while on sabbatical in Puerto Rico. After forty years of holding a position with the Board of Ed, Camille retired, at the age of seventy-two.

## Passions

Camille created a new way of Shorthand and published a book on the subject. Her decoupage art work was featured in multiple "One Woman" shows. Camille was a model for Ophelia DeVore Charm School. Camille is listed in the Guinness Book of World Records, as part of the Tapping Seniors. She was part of the movement for the advancement of people of color and attended many marches, including the March on Washington. Camille enjoyed trips to the casinos. Her greatest love was travel. Camille has been to many countries, including (but not limited to) Europe, Japan, China, Africa, Egypt and the Middle East. Camille spent several months of each year in Puerto Rico, her second home.

## New Beginnings

On January 31, 2014, at 3:00 p.m., Camille transitioned from this earthly plane, to her new beginning. She leaves behind to cherish her memories, her brother-in-law, Thomas Brock, her son, Gene Douglas Lopez, Sr. and loving daughter-in-law, Elizabeth Ann Lopez, her grandchildren, Gene D. Lopez, Jr., David T. Lopez, Jean-Simone Camille Lopez and Michael Fisher, Mark Fisher and Mary Elizabeth Williams. Camille also leaves behind a host of great-grandchildren, great, great grandchildren, other relatives and friends.

# *Order of Service*

Prelude

Opening Prayer ..... Minister Mark Fisher

Opening Hymn ..... “Blessed Assurance”

Violin Tribute ..... Pam Hamilton

Scriptures

Old Testament ..... Ida Fountain - Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

New Testament ..... Joan Linton - John 14:1-6

Prayer of Comfort

Selection ..... Gia Williams

Reflections ..... Gene D. Lopez  
Jean-Simone Lopez

2 Minute Speak ..... Family and Friends

Presentation of Sophia Group Graduation

Certificate to Gene D. Lopez Sr. .... Donna Ward-Atkins,  
WD Chapter Leader

3 Minute Meditation

Guitar Tribute ..... Gene D. Lopez Jr.

Obituary ..... Cherie Craft

Eulogy

Recessional

*Interment*

Oxford Hills Crematory  
Chester, New York

# *I'm Free*

*Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free  
I'm following the path God laid 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 found that peace at the close of day.*

*If my parting has left a void,*

*Then fill it up with remembered joy.*

*A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,*

*Oh, yes these things I too will miss.*

*Be not burdened with times of sorrow,*

*I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.*

*My life's been full, I savored much.*

*Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.*

*Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,*

*Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.*

*Lift up your heart and share with me,*

## *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.*

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*Clifford V. James, President & CEO*

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