

In Loving Memory of

Jane Russell

Sunrise: December 19, 1918

Sunset: December 8, 2015



Service

Tuesday, December 15, 2015 - 7:00 p.m.

UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.

2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY 10027

Obituary

Liza Jane Ratliff Russell, daughter of the late Thomas Ratliff and Rosa Spencer Ratliff, was born on December 19, 1918 in Anson County, North Carolina. She departed and went to her heavenly home on December 8, 2015 at Harlem Hospital.

Liza was educated in the public schools of Anson County, NC. She graduated from the Anson County public school system in 1934. In the early 1940's, she worked at the Charlotte Country Club. In 1947, she moved to New York City's Harlem. In New York, Liza had a rich and variety working career. She started as a hatcheck girl at a downtown restaurant frequented by Hollywood Celebrities. Later she worked as a sales representative for Avon Products, Inc. and Rose Morgan's House of Beauty, as a guidance counselor for Harlem Teams for Self Help, a non-profit social services organization. From 1972 until her retirement in 1995, she was employed as senior clerk at the New York Human Resources Administration.

Liza was a warm, compassionate woman who devoted her life to family and friends, to serving the community and contributing to the betterment of their lives.

Liza was preceded in death by her husband, John, her sister, Mae Francis Ratliff Ellerby, two brothers, Fred Ratliff and T.C. Ratliff, a brother-in-law, Clarence White, Sr., and her cousin, Esther Bennett.

She is survived by: her daughter, Joan; her son, John and his wife, Mie; her step-daughters, Naomi Onco Russell and Ruth George; her husband, Raymond; a grandson, Ray-J George and his wife, Marieanne; a great-grandson, Gunner, her sisters, Lee Ann White and Annie Melton of North Carolina; several nephews, nieces, and a host of loving relatives and friends.

Order of Service

Processional

Selection

Scripture Readings

Prayer

Selection

Acknowledgements

Remarks

Obituary

Selection

Eulogy

Committal

Viewing

Recessional



“Footsteps in the Sand”

One night I dreamed I was walking along the beach with the Lord.

Many scenes from my life flashed across the sky.

In each scene I noticed footprints in the sand. Sometimes there were two sets of footprints, other times there was one only.

This bothered me because I noticed that during the low periods of my life, when I was suffering from anguish, sorrow or defeat, I could see only one set of footprints, so I said to the Lord,

“You promised me Lord, that if I followed you, you would walk with me always. But I have noticed that during the most trying periods of my life there has only been one set of footprints in the sand. Why, when I needed you most, have you not been there for me?”

The Lord replied, “The years when you have seen only one set of footprints, my child, is when I carried you.”

Acknowledgement

The family of the late **Jane Russell** would like to thank each of you for the many acts of kindness. We would particularly like to thank her friend and caretaker, Shirley Ryan and her family and our cousin, Deborah Ratliff Woodberry and her husband, William, their sons, Taylor and Brandon.

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