

*In Loving
Memory
of*

Harold Van Pelt, Jr.

*Sunrise
April 5, 1931*



*Sunset
May 12, 2016*



Saturday, May 21, 2016 - 12:00 Noon

WOODY "HOME FOR SERVICES"

163 Oakwood Avenue

Orange, New Jersey 07050

Reverend Lloyd Terrell, Officiating

Obituary



Harold Van Pelt, Jr. (Van) was a noted saxophonist and composer/arranger who was born in Newark, NJ on April 5, 1931 to Harold Van Pelt, Sr., and his wife Constance. He was called home on May 12, 2016, to be with his beloved wife, Alice who passed ten years earlier.

He was educated in the Newark school system and started his musical career at the early age of fourteen, taking lessons from an uncle who was a professional musician. After continued studies at Newark Arts High School, majoring in music theory, he played in school bands, orchestras and also participated in concerts with the New Jersey State Junior Symphony Orchestra. He enlisted in the special services unit of the U.S. Army Air Force for two years playing with the 752nd U.S. Army Air Force Band.

After his tour of duty, he became involved with various jazz groups, at times going on the road with bandleaders such as Joe Morris, Sticks McGee, Cat Anderson, Velma Lee, and locally with Nat Phipps, Brady Hodge and Al Sweatt.

In 1967, he formed the first of many Jazz Vanguards groups. This was a quintet for which Harold did the composing and arranging. With this group, he conducted workshops at his home in Newark for Musicians to showcase their work, influencing many young musicians who later went on to fame, such as Woody Shaw and Eddie Gladden. Later he moved to Fanwood, NJ, and continued those same workshops for many others.

He took the Jazz Vanguards on the road to Detroit to perform at the Montreux Jazz Festival and the Famous Bakers Lounge and in the 1970's and '80's played many jazz concerts at churches, parks and jazz clubs.

For twenty-two years, "Van" and his beloved wife, Alice co-founded and operated the H W Van Pelt Insurance Agency of Plainfield, NJ.

Two years ago he moved to Matthews, NC, to play music with longtime friends, Rodman Bostick and Carl Onque.

Harold is survived by: his sons, Mark Van Pelt (Valerie) of Dover, DE, and Darrell Van Pelt (Delores) of Davidson, NC; two of his five sisters, Mary Van Pelt of Newark and Sylvia Bell of Hillside, NJ; seven grandchildren; and a host of beloved nieces and nephews. The family owes a very special thanks to Johnnie Mae Bostick, Harold's personal nurse during his final days.

Order of Service

Seating of Family

Opening Hymn

Scripture Readings

Old Testament

New Testament

Prayer of Comfort

Acknowledgements & Remarks

Selection

Radam Schwartz

Eulogy

Rev. Lloyd Terrell

Closing Prayer & Benediction

Rev. Terrell

Recessional

Clergy & Family

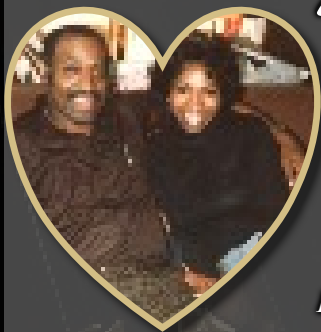
Interment

Rosedale Cemetery

Orange, New Jersey

*Repast will be served at the Appian Way Restaurant
619 Langdon Street, Orange, New Jersey
973.678.0313*

Miss Me, But Let Me Go



*When I come to the end of the
road and the sun has set for me,
I want no rites in a gloom filled room,
Why cry for a soul set free?
Miss me a little-but not too long,
and not with your head bowed low.
Remember the love that we once shared,
Miss me-but let me go.
For this is a journey that we all must take,
And each must go alone.
It's all part of the Master's plan,
A step on the road to home.
When you are lonely and sick at heart,
Go to the friends we know.
Laugh at the things we use to do
Miss me-but let me go.*

-author unknown

Acknowledgement

The family of Harold Van Pelt, Jr. would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation for the many thoughtful acts of kindness, support and concern extended to us during our time of bereavement, thank you and may God bless you.

Professional Services Provided By

Woody "Home For Services"

163 Oakwood Ave. • Orange, NJ 07050
ph (973) 674-0814 • fax (973) 674-2055

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