

In Loving Memory of

Thomas L. Dargon

Sunrise
August 6, 1921

Sunset
September 3, 2016



Monday, August 12, 2016- 11:00 a.m.

METROPOLITAN BAPTIST CHURCH

149 Springdale Avenue
Newark, New Jersey

Rev. Dr. David Jefferson, Sr., Esq., Pastor

Obituary

Thomas L. Dargon was born August 6, 1921 in Sumter, South Carolina. He was the older of two sons born to Lewis and Rosa Hamilton Dargon. The family relocated to Richmond, VA where Thomas graduated from Armstrong High School and later completed two years at Virginia Union University.

He married Katie Ryan and from that union, they were blessed with a daughter, Elaine.

Thomas was in the US Army during World War II, serving in France and Germany. He reached the rank of Staff Sergeant and was Honorably Discharged after the death of his young wife.

Later Thomas married Emma Anderson Killen and from that marriage he gained a son, Jimmie Lee and a daughter Joyce. Into this blended family, a daughter, Denise, was born. They were later divorced.

Members of his father's family were Founders of Metropolitan Baptist Church (Newark, NJ) and so it was his church home for more than 70 years.

Thomas held many jobs over his long life, often working two full time jobs to provide for his family. He was a barber and a beautician, licensed by the State of New Jersey as an operator and teacher. He earned an Associates' Degree in Accounting from Essex County College in 1972. Thomas was also a night shift supervisor of maintenance services for Singer Manufacturing Company that was once located in Elizabeth, NJ.

In 1955, he became a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN). For 17 years Thomas worked for St. Barnabas Medical Center first in Newark and then in Livingston. In 1996 he retired from his job as a nurse at Essex County Jail, having worked there for more than 20 years.

He was very active in his nursing organizations at the state and local levels. In 1976, he was elected President of the New Jersey Licensed Practical Nurses Association. He was the first black person to serve in that position and was honored with a Professional Achievement Award in 1993 by the Northern New Jersey Black Nurses Association acknowledging that accomplishment.

His varied jobs reflected the changes in technology. In his early years, prior to modern refrigeration, Thomas carried large blocks of ice to supply the 'ice boxes' in the homes of Newark. Years later as a nurse he worked with the hyperbaric chamber in St. Barnabas Hospital.

And despite all of the hours he worked, he was an avid reader and enjoyed listening to his huge eclectic record collection.

His parents, brother Rev. Alonzo Dargon, Sr., three of his children, Jimmie Lee Killen, Joyce Dodson, Elaine Motley and a grandson Lorne Motley, preceded Thomas in death.

He leaves to cherish his memory a daughter, Denise, sons-in-law, Charles Dodson and James Motley, grandchildren, Brenda Johnson (Michael), Judith Killen, James Killen (Rebekah), Shawn Dodson, Kyle Dodson (Christine), Richard Dodson (Kathy), VanDesa Cole, Boris Motley and Jonathan Kennedy (Kathy); his 9 great-grandchildren; 4 great-great-grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Order of Service

Processional

Opening Prayer

Hymn

“Just a Closer Walk With Thee”

Scripture Readings

Old Testament - Psalm 139:1-18

New Testament - 2 Timothy 4:6-8

Prayer of Consolation

Selection

SuSu Montgomery

Acknowledgements and Remarks

Obituary

Selection

SuSu Montgomery

Eulogy

Benediction

Military Presentation

Recessional

“I’ll Fly Away”



Immediately following the services family and friends are invited for a repast following the services in the fellowship hall.

*May the good Lord bless and keep
you whether near or far away
May you find that long awaited golden day today
May your troubles all be small
ones and your fortunes ten times ten
May the good Lord bless and keep you till we
meet again
May you walk with sunlight shining
and a bluebird in every tree
May there be a silver lining back of every cloud
you see
Fill your dreams with sweet tomorrows
never mind what might have been
May the good Lord bless and keep you till we
meet again*



Acknowledgement

Perhaps you sent a lovely card or sat quietly in a chair.
Perhaps you sent a floral piece If so, we saw it there.
Perhaps you spoke the kindest words as any friend could say.
Perhaps you were not there at all just thought of us on that day.
Whatever you did to console our hearts, We Thank You, Whatever the part.



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