

In Loving Memory of



Vivian Butler

Sunrise: July 12, 1920

Sunset: August 10, 2017

Service

Saturday, August 19, 2017 - 4:00 p.m.

UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.

2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY 10027

Obituary

Vivian Marie Brooks was born in Newark, New Jersey to Max and Ruth Brooks on July 12, 1920. Vivian spent her early days in Newark, she and her family experienced difficult times during the Great Depression which began in the late 1920's. Due to the circumstances, Vivian was forced to mature at a faster rate than most young people her age.

Trying circumstances brought on by the Depression forced Vivian to drop out of school early and help her mother. Vivian and her mom moved from Newark, New Jersey to Harlem, New York in the 1930's. She got a job at the New York Central System Railroad. In 1937, Vivian gave birth to her first child, Carol Rochester. A year later, in 1938, she gave birth to her second child, Harold Rochester. Vivian, Carol, and Harold lived in Harlem until 1961.

Always the opportunist, Vivian moved to the Bronx. In an era where your name and word meant everything, Vivian excelled at making relationships. Vivian's people skills allowed her to negotiate a Management position at the Central Lounge on 161st Street and Morris Avenue. Vivian oversaw food services at the Lounge. People would come from near and far to eat her cooking. Her hospitality and charisma kept consumers coming back for years. The Central Lounge was also where Vivian met her late husband, Larry Butler.

In her mid-seventies, Vivian was baptized and gave her life to the Lord as an active member of Unity Baptist Church on Courtland Avenue in the Bronx. Through faith and blessings, Vivian was able to overcome cancer once in her 80's, and again in her 90's. The Lord blessed Vivian with strength, courage, and a lot of love.

Vivian's hobbies were hosting family gatherings, wearing the latest fashions, dancing, and traveling the world by cruise. She loved to make people smile and enjoyed a good laugh. Vivian was called to the Lord at the age of 97. She is survived by: Harold Rochester (Son), Lamont Johnson, Sr. (Grandson) and his wife, Maria Johnson, Linda Moody-Brown (Granddaughter) and her husband, Kenny Brown, Tracey Epps (Granddaughter) and her husband, Randy Epps, Anthony Hoyte (Grandson), Samantha Love (Granddaughter), Lamont Johnson, Jr. (Great-Grandson), Rosalia Johnson (Great-Granddaughter) and her husband, Michael Perez, Gabriel Johnson (Great Grandson), Tyra Washington (Great-Granddaughter), Kayla Gaines (Great-Granddaughter), Imani Moody (Great-Granddaughter), Ta'jaere Brown (Great-Grandson), Warren Moore (Great-Great-Grandson), Bianca Johnson (Great-Great Granddaughter), and Amiyah McTaggart (Great-Great-Granddaughter). Vivian also leaves behind many friends and loved ones from New Jersey, Harlem, and the Bronx.

Order of Service

Processional

Selection

Scripture Readings

Prayer

Selection

Acknowledgements

Remarks

Obituary

Selection

Eulogy

Committal

Viewing

Recessional

Final Disposition

*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,
God wanted me now, He set me free!*

-author unknown

Acknowledgement

A mere thank you would not express our appreciation of your thoughtful and kind expression of sympathy following the loss of our loved one. May God continue to bless you.

Our family would like to extend great appreciation to Ms. Alberta Robinson. Ms. Alberta has been Vivian's "Sister from Another Mother" for over 40 years. The word "friend" does not encompass Ms. Alberta's relationship with Vivian Butler. Through good times and bad, Ms.

Alberta and Vivian were inseparable. From taking trips together to spending time on the benches of Concourse Village, Ms. Alberta, and Vivian's bond was unbreakable. Our family is truly grateful Vivian had your support. May God continue to bless you and your family.

Our family would also like to extend great appreciation to Daisy Davila. Daisy helped take care of Vivian during some very challenging times. Your loyalty to Vivian and our family cannot be encompassed in words. We are truly grateful to have had your help over the years. Vivian loved you like a grandchild. She would light up when you came around. Our family thanks you for everything. May God continue to bless you and your family.

2352 8th Avenue • Manhattan, NY • (212) 666-8300

1406 Pitkin Avenue • Brooklyn, NY • (718) 774-1023

1018 Prospect Avenue • Bronx, NY • (718) 542-3833

Clifford V. James, President & CEO

www.unityfuneralchapels.com

email: unityfc@aol.com



"Your Loved Ones Deserve The Best - Unity"

