

In Loving Memory of



Rosalie Josie Knight

Sunrise: January 10, 1921

Sunset: August 26, 2017

Service

Tuesday, September 5, 2017 - 6:00 p.m.

UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.

2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY 10027

Obituary

Rosalie Josie Knight was born on a chilly day in Petersburg, Virginia on the tenth of January, 1921. Rosalie was the first child born to her parents, 20 year old Hattie and 21 year old Jesse Josie. Her mother, Hattie Bolling-Josie, was a homemaker who later worked as a very industrious domestic employee. Her father, Jesse Josie, became a future radio broadcaster for semi-professional baseball. Her younger sister, Dorothy and their brother, Albert, were all born within eighteen (18) months of one another. The fourth and final child, Clayton Williams, was born when Rosalie was twelve years old. Rosalie, at 96 years of age, was predeceased by all of her younger siblings as well as by her husband, James Knight, who died in 1970.

Rosalie was blessed with an abundant level of energy. She began working as a waitress in her teens and often remarked that this work, "was the hardest job I ever had." Years later, she would often say, as she tipped wait staff 50% and more, "I'll always remember where I came from." Her final career was spent as Supervisor of the Transport/Messenger service at Jacobi Hospital in the Bronx where, after thirty years of loyal service, she astounded family and friends alike by waiting until she was seventy (70) years old to retire.

After her retirement, Rosalie helped to organize a myriad of travel activities for herself and other retirees – The Weekenders and the Not To Be Alone club being among the most memorable. But it was the yearly, week-long Thanksgiving getaway to Atlantic City that she looked forward to beyond anything else. "The gambling is fun," she would say but always add that, "the food, the shows and having other people do the cooking – THAT is what I enjoy the most."

But it was her Christmas dinners that gave those lucky enough to have enjoyed the feasts memories that will last forever. One Christmas night, as a group of us helped to set the table, I stared open-mouthed at the array of hams, turkeys, brisket of beef, collard greens, potato salad, candied yams, salads, beverages and five over-sized cakes – all homemade. "Auntie Roe," I finally managed to ask, "how long does it take you to DO all of this?!" When she informed me that she would begin "buying food and ingredients five (5) months before the holiday," I immediately asked what the rest of us could do to help. But for many years, Rosalie refused help with her dinners, relishing in her role as Master Chef. In later years, she did purchase the cakes from other top-notch bakers in her building. Aside from her marvelous meals, Rosalie shared her zest for life with all with whom she came in contact.

Rosalie is survived by: her nieces, Reverend Deirdra Kearney and Reverend Luisa Porrata; her nephews, Joseph Kearney and Franklin Kearney and his wife, Marian Thibou-Kearney; by her great-niece, April Williams; as well as a host of loving family and friends. From the time we were children, she never failed to make us laugh and to realize that in order to make life worthwhile we must learn how to live it well with our whole heart.

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*

Some Aunts Are Very Special

Some Aunts have that special touch,
they put your cares at ease.
They know just what to say and do
to comfort and to please.
They're kind and very thoughtful,
they're quick to understand.
Whenever someone needs them,
they lend a helping hand.
Our world is such a better place
and happier by far.
Because there are some precious Aunts as
Special as you are.

Author unknown

Love,
Deirdra, Joseph, Franklin, Marian, Luisa & April

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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