

In Loving Memory of



Mary Eason July 16, 1924 - September 16, 2017

Service

Friday, September 22, 2017 - 11:00 a.m.

Community Baptist Church 224 Frist Street • Englewood, New Jersey Rev. Dr. Lester W. Taylor, Officiating

Processional of Family and Final Viewing R Invocation Opening Hymn Scriptures F Old Testament Reading New Testament Reading R Prayer of Comfort Musical Selection/Solo.......Alyssa Mannarino VNA Englewood Hospice Expression of Condolence Reflections......Rev. Samuel Sung, VNA Englewood Hospice Pastor Reading of the Obituary Musical Selection/Solo Closing Hymn S Benediction F Recessional R Interment George Washington Memorial Park Paramus, New Jersey

Mary Louise Nelson Jamison was born on July 16, 1924 in Charleston, South Carolina. She was the only child of John Henry and Rosa Jamison. She was educated in Charleston and later moved to Harlem, NY during her adolescent years. She graduated with her bachelor's degree from South Carolina State University and Master's degree from William Paterson University in Wayne, NJ.

Mary married the love of her life, Edward Joseph Eason in 1948 and from that union were Edward Vanlynn, Sheldon Boobian and Derek Xavier.

Mary was a beloved middle school English teacher with the Englewood Public School system for over 25 years. She transformed the lives of hundreds of children of all races and background. Her greatest joy was teaching her students. She was a no nonsense, back to the basics, strict teacher who required the very best of and from her students. She was loved by so many of them because the one thing that was palpable was that she loved them in return. She left an indelible print on everyone she met.

Most of her students remember hearing the story of her being cast as the original "Darla" from the 1930's show "Our Gang" later known as "The Little Rascals". Once it was discovered that she was a "Colored child" she was immediately removed from production. She sang professionally as a "lyric soprano" with The Garden State Choir as well as a soloist once singing at Carnegie Hall in NYC.

Her life was hard. She had to fight against racism from both whites and blacks alike. Most people upon first seeing her assumed that she was white but it only took about 5 seconds for her to "get you straight" as she would put it, as she would sashay off. She was a civil rights activist who put her own life in danger when she refused to sit in the "Whites Only" section of the bus in the 1940's and allowed a Colored soldier to take the seat beside her in the "Coloreds Only" section of the bus. She was accosted by the white bus driver and put off the bus as he slammed her foot in the door as he closed it behind her. She received hurt from her own people as well when once asked by a group of Colored children who asked her in class "What are you doing here?" and she responded with shoulders moving "The same as you are doing here." She was rescued by her cousin Henry and his friends with them telling the kids "She's with us".

Mary passed away peacefully Saturday night September 16th surrounded by VNA hospice services and family.

She leaves behind her only surviving son, Derek Eason, adopted daughter, Teresa Williams, grandsons, Edward and Joseph Eason, closest and dearest friends, Rev. Edna Simpson, Rev. Stanley Simpson, Dr. Shirley Washington, Ms. Sarah Cheatham and a host of other relatives and friends.

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May I Go Now?

May I go now
Do you think the time is right?
May I say goodbye to pain - filled days
and endless lonely nights?
I've lived my life and done my best,
an example tried to be,
So can I take that step beyond
and set my spirit free?
I fought with all my might,
but something seems to draw me now,
To a warm and lovely light.

Thank you so for loving me, you know I love you too.
That's why it's hard to say goodbye and end this life with you.
So hold me now just one more time and let me hear you say,
Because you care so much for me, you'll let me go today.

-Author unknown

Acknowledgement

The family acknowledges with deep appreciation all acts of kindness extended to them during this bereavement hour.

God bless you for all your thoughtfulness and concern.

Professional Services Entrusted Jo:

Eternity Funeral Service, LLC

Aree Booker, Executive Director
Licensed Funeral Director in New York & New Jersey
NY Lic. # 00367 NJ Lic. # 4346
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