

Celebrating the Life of



Matilda Harris

Sunrise: August 5, 1941 - Sunset: February 15, 2022

Thursday, February 24, 2022 - 4PM

UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.

2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY 10027

Obituary

Matilda “Ms. Tee” Harris was born on August 5, 1941 in Scotland County, North Carolina. She was educated within the North Carolina’s school system. Shortly after school, she started a family and relocated to New York. She obtained and sustained employment ever since the young age of 17 years old until her time of retirement. Her desires to connect with people led her down a path of caretaking, and ultimately she became a Certified Healthcare Provider.

In the early 1970’s, with that same desire to connect with others, she became a member of the Freemasonry Organization as an Eastern Star. Not only was she a member, but she held a high-ranking position as a “Worthy Matron” for the Order of the Eastern Star. In addition to her position within the organization, her significant involvement in her grandchildren’s education landed her a role in the Parent-Teacher Associate. Ms. Tee wanted to assist with fundraising for the welfare of all the students that attended P.S. 79 Elementary School. She also wanted to ensure that their safety, nutrition and educational needs were being met. Even within her own neighborhood, she displayed the equivalent amount of effort. During summer recess, Ms. Tee retrieved city permits in order to conduct block parties to provide activities and an overall safe haven for the children in the community.

Her relatives and friends would often joke about the fact that wherever she lived, her home always had a revolving door. Yes! Extremely passionate she was, and rarely did she miss an opportunity to bluntly express her thoughts. However, compassion should have definitely been her first name. By definition, compassion is “having sympathetic pity and concern for the sufferings or misfortunes of others”. Ms. Tee would never turn her back to anyone in need of food or shelter. This particular characteristic is why she played a guardianship role to many generations. She enjoyed music and cooking.

Matilda “Ms. Tee” Harris transitioned on February 15, 2022 at BronxCare in the Bronx, New York. She was preceded in death by her brother (Samuel Dewitt), son (Kevin Harris) and grandson (Kennedy Brown). Her beautiful life would forever be cherished in the lives of: her children, Michael Harris (his wife, Portia), Robert Harris, Zachary Harris (his wife, Argelis), Kristie Harris, Michelle Brown, and Hope Harris; stepson, Kevin Smith; godchildren, Patricia, Kiera, Linda and Charisma; her sister (Maryann Marks); niece/best friend (Nya); along with a host of other nieces, nephews, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and many friends. The Matriarch has departed, but her legacy will remain through not only her bloodline, but even those whom she adopted along her walk of life.

They say humanity’s purpose is to look after the world that God has created like caretakers and this is known as “Stewardship”. She undeniably walked in that purpose and can now peacefully rest.

Order of Service

Processional

Selection

“Precious Lord”

Beverly Harris

Scripture Readings

Prayer

Selection

“His Eye Is On The Sparrow”

Rhonda Vargas

Shamika Cofield

Quanisha Lamar

Acknowledgements

Remarks

Obituary

Phyliss Moore

Selection

Eulogy

Committal

Viewing

Recessional

FINAL DISPOSITION:

Rosehill Crematory

Linden, New Jersey

Asleep

I've closed my eyes and fallen asleep,
So there's no reason for you to weep;
This is a debt we all must pay,
You will see me again someday.
I've endured pain and sometimes sorrow,
Now I don't have to worry about tomorrow.
But life for you must go on,
You must not worry because I'm gone.
You stood beside me all the way,
When I was down, you knew what to say ...
You always told me, "get some rest,"
Let me sleep now, I've done my best.
So please let me rest in peace,
The tears you're shedding soon will cease.
You'll soon realize this was meant to be, I
thank God because He came for me.
-Emily Dickinson

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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