

Celebrating the Life of



Arretta Lavern Prashad

SUNRISE: December 29, 1942

SUNSET: March 23, 2022

Thursday, March 31, 2022 - 10am

UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.

2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY 10027

Obituary

On March 23, 2022, **Arretta Lavern Prashad** peacefully in her sleep was released from earthly heartache and pain. Arretta faced her illness in recent years with her characteristic toughness, aplomb and enduring independence.

She was born December 29, 1942, in New York City to Janis Dasher and George English. Raised in the “Black Mecca of the World”, Harlem instilled in Lavern an immense pride and love of her people and heritage. The tapestry of Harlem imbued her with a love for fashion, music and Black history. That love was on display in how she dressed, the sustained presence of music in her home and profound knowledge of Black history.

After graduating from Central Commercial High School in 1961, Arretta embarked on a corporate career, shortly after she became a mother to her first-born Michelle.

Arretta married Krishna Prashad in 1969. Together, they had 5 children: Souvann, Indira, Anwar, Shamaika and Akera.

In the early 80’s, she relocated her family from the Bronx to Yonkers, NY where she resided for 40 years. The next chapter of her career was with Leake & Watts where she grew from an executive assistant to a business analyst. As an active member in the local community, Arretta served as Vice President of the Yonkers Community Action Committee Program and was a past member of the Westchester County Committee, District Leader Ward 1.

Arretta lived her love and reverence for history and family by following in her grandmother’s Alice Dasher’s footsteps by becoming a member of the Order of the Eastern Star. She served in a leadership role as past matron of the Terrace City Chapter No. 26, Eureka Grand Chapter, Prince Hall Order of the Eastern Star, State of NY. She also served as a past leader of Loyal Lady Ruler of Pentecost Assembly No. 86, Order of the Golden Circle, State of NY. In addition, she was a member of Martha Court No. 7, Heroines of Jericho; Magdalene Court No. 12, Order of Cyrenes; and Elejmal Court No. 171, Imperial Court Daughters.

Arretta leaves behind: daughters, Michelle Cole, Indira Prashad, Shamaika DeBose, and Akera Prashad; son, Anwar Prashad; daughter-in-law, Cherie Prashad; nieces, Sabrina Chalmers and La-Shawn Wells; nephew, Shawnpaul Wells; twelve grandchildren, Daquan, Trevonn, Malaysia, Cheyenne, Aiyana, Skylar, Kamryn, Ari, Riley, Demi, Lark, and Ryan; great nephew, Jawuan DeJesus; and two great grandchildren, Amar’e and Amiyah Cole. She is preceded in death by her beloved son, Souvann (Shea) Prashad and loving sister, Jacqueline Wells.

Order of Service

Processional

Selection

Scripture Readings

Prayer

Selection

Acknowledgements

Remarks

Obituary

Selection

Eulogy

Committal

Viewing

Recessional

INTERMENT:

Mt. Hope Cemetery
Hastings-On-Hudson, New York



And now, the end is near
 And so I face the final curtain
 My friend, I'll make it clear
 I'll state my case, of which I am certain

I've lived a life that's full
 I traveled each and every highway
 And more, much more
 I did it, I did it my way

Regrets, I've had a few
 But then again, too few to mention
 I did what I had to do
 And saw it through without exemption

I planned each charted course
 Each careful step along the byway
 And much more, much, much more
 I did it, I did it my way

Yes, there were times, I'm sure you knew
 When I bit off more than I could chew
 And through it all, whenever there was doubt
 I ate it up and spit it out

I faced it all and I stood tall
 And did it, did it my way
 I've loved, laughed and cried
 I had my fill, my share of losing

And now, as tears subside
 I find that it's all so amusing

And to think I did all that
 And may I say not in a shy way
 No, no, not me
 I did it my way



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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