

*In Loving
Memory
of*

Viola

White

SUNRISE: August 3, 1923

SUNSET: June 3, 2022

Saturday, June 11, 2022 - 12pm

UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.

2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY 10027

Rev. Lee Arrington, Officiating

Rev. Tyrone Richardson, Organist



Obituary

Viola White (nee Colter) was born on August 30, 1923 in Brunswick, Georgia, Glynn County to parents, Kate and Benjamin Colter. Viola was the second youngest out of sixteen siblings.

Viola was perceptive and ambitious as a child. She found joy in the arts and played the clarinet during her early education at Colored Memorial School in Georgia. Upon arriving in New York City in her teens, Viola continued her pursuit of music by learning to play the saxophone while attending Wadleigh High School. As she progressed through adolescence, Viola was an avid dancer with a specific attraction to ballroom dancing. Viola was an honor student her entire academic career, which led her to pursue nursing. She attended the Central School for Practical Nurses on Welfare Island (now known as Roosevelt Island) in Queens, NY.

Viola worked as a nurse at Lincoln Hospital for over 40 years and was a member of the New York State Nurses Association.

Viola was married to the late William White. She bore two children, a daughter, Carol Lee Lewis Thomas, and a son, William White. She was also a member of Canaan Baptist Church in Harlem, NY.

Viola was a mother-figure to many people. She had a lot of friends and was a social butterfly. Most of all, she loved being surrounded by her family. She had a good sense of humor and a youthful spirit. Viola was especially known for being a fast walker, always on the go. She loved to travel, going to casinos, and watching television (her favorite television show was Family Feud hosted by Steve Harvey).

Viola departed this Earth early in the morning while surrounded by her loving family, on Friday, June 3, 2022, at Lenox Hill Hospital. She is predeceased by her parents, Kate and Benjamin Colter, all 16 of her siblings, aunts, uncles, and her great-grandson, Rudolph Feaster, Jr.

She is survived by: her daughter, Carol Lee Lewis-Thomas; son-in-law, Aldrick Thomas; son, William White; “bonus” daughters, Sharon Edwards and Evelyn Jackson; grandchildren, Miyoshi Johnson and husband, Jesse Johnson, Todd Luke, James Void and wife, Janice Void, Sherman Alston and wife, Farrah Alston, Shaneese Grant, Kimberly King and husband, Rodney King, and Jasmine Edwards; great-grandchildren, Christopher Void and wife, Jessica Void, Darnell Watson, Jamila Feaster-Rawls and husband, Noah Rawls, Jillian Void, Nia Carter, Sherman Alston, Jr., James Void, Jr., and Cooper King; great-great grandchildren, Hayden Harris, Jhalil Edwards, Caelynn Watson, Gavin Void, Carter Void, James O. Void, Callie Watson, Chase Watson, Karter Alston and Amelia Rawls; nephew, Randolph Pray; cousins, Woody Miles, George Miles, and Patricia Harris; and a host of other relatives and friends.

Order of Service

Processional

Selection

“Precious Lord”
Sabrina McNair-Sherod

Scripture Readings

Psalm 121:5-8 (NIV)

Prayer

Rev. Lee Arrington

Selection

“His Eye Is On The Sparrow”
Rev. Tyrone Richardson

Acknowledgements

Remarks

Obituary

Selection

“Going Up Yonder”
Rev. Tyrone Richardson

Eulogy

Rev. Lee Arrington

Committal

Viewing

Recessional

INTERMENT:

Upper Hill Cemetery
Darien, Georgia

The Master Called

I'm sorry I had to leave you.
My loved ones, oh so dear.
But you see, the Master called me,
His voice was very clear!
I had made my reservation
A heaven bound ticket for one,
And I knew that He would call me
When He felt my work was done.
I know that your hearts are heavy
Because I have gone away,
But when the Master called me,
I knew that I could not stay.
Yes, I'm sorry I had to leave you
My loved ones, oh so dear,
But, you see, the Master called me
And, now I'm resting here.
Yes, I've crossed on over to glory
And to you all I say
Just stay in the hands of Jesus
And we'll meet again someday.
-Author unknown

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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