

Homegoing Celebration



Katie Belle Malone
February 20, 1936 - June 14, 2022

Service

Tuesday, June 21, 2022 ~ 11:00 AM

HERBERT T. MCCALL FUNERAL HOME

984 Prospect Ave • Bronx, NY 10459

Reverend Bruce Rivera, Officiating

Reverend Roger Hambrick, Organist

Order of Service

Musical Prelude

Words of Welcome..... *Ms. Nancy Malone-Headley*

Prayer of Celebration *Mr. Laurentiis M. Gaines, Jr.*

Scripture Readings

Old Testament..... *Mr. Shamaal Sheppard*

New Testament..... *Mr. Jaequan Malone*

Eulogy *Reverend Bruce Rivera*

Life Tribute & Reflections..... *Mrs. Shrona Sheppard*

Mr. John Lemon

Reverend Nathaniel Pope

Celebration in Song

Thank You and Acknowledgements *Miss Tirzah Sheppard*

Benediction..... *Reverend Bruce Rivera*

Repast

*You are invited to join the family 1:00 pm - 3:30 PM at the St. Mary's Housing
Bldg 3 Resident Council Room, 645 Westchester Avenue, Bronx*

Final Disposition
*Woodlawn Crematory
Bronx, New York*

Obituary

Katie Belle "The Queen" Parnell Johnson is the third of 12 children born to family matriarch Willie Hazel Parnell and patriarch Robert Lee Johnson, Sr. Katie, as the eldest of the five children Hazel shared with Robert, often joked that she was raised to be a boss.

Born on February 20, 1936, Katie spent her early years in Sardis, GA and was educated in the nearby towns of Millen and Waynesboro. At the tender age of 11, Katie became the primary caretaker of her younger siblings: Robert, Tommy, and Hattie after her mother left the home with her infant sister Bessie.

As she grew into womanhood, Katie made peace with her mother's decisions understanding that circumstances in the home had become too difficult. In 1951, Katie married the late Willie Malone and the couple moved to New York, NY. She worked briefly as a domestic caregiver for families in the nearby suburbs. Later, three of her siblings relocated from Georgia to New York following her to the Big Apple.

Katie became a full-time homemaker after the arrival of the first of the five children she shared with her husband. Her home quickly became a hub of activity where her down-home Sunday brunches became legendary. The menu often included homemade buttermilk biscuits, fried chicken, fried shrimp, broiled salmon, salmon croquettes, sausages, grits, cheese eggs and her famous coconut pineapple cake and lemon-flavored chocolate cake.

Katie spent years supporting the organizations she cared about, such as the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) and Tenant Association (TA), a silver life member of the Bronx Branch National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and the National Museum of African American History and Culture. She has had an active role with the TA since the 1970's and served as a Supervisor and President. She was employed by NYCHA and worked as a Community Associate until retiring. Katie's commitment to community service was recognized by the NAACP, the National Council of Negro Women, the Southern Poverty Law Center, and other organizations. Katie was raised in the church and was a long-time member of United Church of Christ, Bronx, NY.

She relished her golden years and wearing what she termed an invisible Royal Crown. Katie loved to read, travel, play bid whist, and visit the occasional casino. In adherence to the principles espoused in the Serenity Prayer, Katie approached life with grit and determination.

Katie spent the last two decades as the beloved matriarch of the Parnell family and was a staple at the bi-annual family reunions. She earned the moniker "Auntie Granny" from her great-nephew and nieces Shamaal, Tirzah and Jada Sheppard. Katie cherished family, urging one and all to "learn to love and respect each other no matter the circumstance."

Preceding her in death were her parents, Willie Hazel Parnell and Robert Lee Johnson, Sr. husband, Willie Malone; daughter, Josephine Harris; brother, Robert Johnson, Jr. (Carrie); sisters, Annie Mae Terrell, Eloise Jones, Juanita Boddie, and Lyndsey Mae Jenkins; and niece and best friend Jean Castleberry.

Katie leaves to mourn and cherish her memory daughter, Nancy Malone-Headley of the Bronx, NY; sons, Sidney Malone of the Bronx, NY, Raymond Malone of Portsmouth, RI, and John (LaLane) Malone of Snellville, GA; sisters, Hattie Bryant of Harlem, NY, Bessie McClellan of Augusta, GA, Joan (Anthony) Smiley of Brooklyn, NY, Linda Cratic of Augusta, GA; brother, Elijah Holmes of Houston, Texas; seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren; one uncle, Drexel Parnell (Berniece) of Augusta, GA; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

We thank you O'God for the span of time you allowed Katie to share in our lives. Let nothing of her life be lost, for after all, life is not measured by its duration, but donation.



Katie touched the hearts & soul of many



Crossing the Bar

BY ALFRED LORD TENNYSON

Sunset and evening star,
 And one clear call for me!
 And may there be no moaning of the bar,
 When I put out to sea,
 But such a tide as moving seems asleep,
 Too full for sound and foam,
 When that which drew from out the boundless deep
 Turns again home.
 Twilight and evening bell,
 And after that the dark!
 And may there be no sadness of farewell,
 When I embark;
 For tho' from out our Bourne of Time and Place
 The flood may bear me far,
 I hope to see my Pilot face to face
 When I have crost the bar.



Katie's favorite artist was Al Green

Acknowledgements

The family of Katie Belle Malone acknowledges with sincere appreciation every thought and act of kindness expressed to us during our time of bereavement. Your prayers and expressions of love and support were a great source of strength and comfort. We will always keep you in our prayers. May God continue to bless you.

– The Malone Family –

Professional Services Provided By
HERBERT T. MCCALL FUNERAL HOME

984 Prospect Ave • Bronx, NY 10459
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