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Newspaper Obituaries; Book 1 (P-S)

Afro-American Historical Association of the Niagara Frontier

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Eddie T. Parker, innovative beautician

A Mass of Christian Burial for Eddie T. Parker, 73, a beautician who introduced a chemical hair straightener in Buffalo, was offered Friday in Blessed Trinity Catholic Church, 317 Leroy Ave. Burial was in Forest Lawn.

Mrs. Parker, a native of Ninety Six, S.C., died Sept. 26, 1994, in her home after a long illness.

She came to Buffalo in 1945 and studied at Lillian Dora's School of Beauty Culture.

In 1955, she opened Eddie's Hairstylists at 392 Genesee St., where she worked for 27 years before moving the business to her home.

Mrs. Parker took English and chemistry courses for two years at Millard Fillmore College.

"She took the chemistry courses



in order to introduce the use of chemicals on the hair of her clients," said her daughter, Ethel Hinton. "She also was the first black woman to introduce the hair weave technique and hair additions, mainly for women who had lost their hair because of cancer and other illnesses. That was in 1962."

Mrs. Parker was a member of the American Beauticians Association and the Commanders Club of the Disabled American Veterans.

She was a Eucharistic minister at St. Vincent's Catholic Church before it was merged with the Blessed Trinity Church.

Her husband, John E., a physical therapist, died in 1963. He and Mrs. Parker built the first split-level house on Humboldt Parkway, Mrs. Hinton said.

In addition to Mrs. Hinton, Mrs. Parker is survived by a son, Louis Syrkett Jr. of Fort Worth, Texas; six grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

PARKER—Zirrah M. (nee Cawthon)



Age 92, of Buffalo, NY, April 17, 2002. Beloved wife of the late William E. Parker Sr.; mother of Frances J. (late Raymond) Tyler, Florence A. Parker, Virginia L. Blenman and the late Dolores E. (Jesse)

Penn and William E. (Carol) Parker Jr.; survived by ten grandchildren and a host of great-grandchildren; daughter of the late Curtis and Minnie E. (Lockhart) Cawthon; sister of Geneva (William) Hicks, Carl (Edith) Cawthon; and predeceased by eight brothers and sisters; also survived by nieces and nephews. No prior visitation. Relatives and friends are invited to attend a Memorial Service at Emmanuel Temple Seventh Day Adventist Church, 300 Adam St., Buffalo, Saturday, June 1 at 5:30 PM. Arrangements by ERIE COUNTY CREMATION SERVICE, 824-6435.

Joe Wallace Peeples Sr., active in Masons, church

Joe Wallace Peeples Sr., 62, of Buffalo, an active Mason and church member, died Wednesday (June 18, 1997) at Mitchell Campus of Hospice Buffalo, Cheektowaga, after a brief illness.

Born in Union, S.C., Peeples moved to Buffalo in 1955. He worked first at Frontier Delivery and then at ARG Trucking Co. before retiring from NOCO Energy Corp.



He was chairman of the deacons board at First Shiloh Church and district deputy grand master emeritus, 33rd-degree, of Masonic

District 7. He was a member of St. John's Lodge 16 and Bison Consistory 29 for 30 years. He also was a member of Companion Chapter 35 and Shriners Chapter 61.

Surviving are his wife of 45 years, the former Waline Eison; a son, Joe W. Jr.; two daughters, Brenda G. Willis of Virginia Beach, Va., and Marcella Cureton of Summerville, S.C.; a sister, Thelma Wilson of Philadelphia; a brother, Adam Jr. of Norristown, Pa.; six grandchildren; and a great-grandson.

Services will be held at 1 p.m. Monday in First Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church, 15 Pine St. Burial will be in Acacia Park Cemetery, Pendleton.

PEOPLES—King Solomon

December 7, 1997; beloved husband of Lula; dear father of Ronald (Arlene); also survived by four grandchildren; one great grandchild and other relatives. The family will receive friends Thursday 7-9 PM at Bethel A.M.E. Church, East Ferry & Michigan Ave. where funeral services will be conducted Friday at 11 AM. Interment in Forest Lawn Cemetery. Arrangements by H. ALFRED LEWIS MORTUARY INC.

Owen S. Perry, retired East Side businessman

Owen S. Perry, 83, a retired East Side businessman, died Sunday (April 25, 1999) in Sheehan Memorial Hospital.

Born in Birmingham, Ala., he grew up in St. Petersburg, Fla., and attended high school in Buffalo.



He worked at both Bethlehem and Republic Steel corporations in his youth, then for many years was a salesman and manager for Ben's Pawn Shop at its locations on William Street and Jefferson Avenue. He also owned a used furniture store. Prior to retirement, he worked in the maintenance department at the University at Buffalo.

Active in retirement, he was a dedicated member of the William Emslie YMCA Senior Center and was vice president of the Senior Citizens Club. He also served on the club's entertainment committee and generally sold the most tickets for events. He also was a member of the Friends to the Elderly Se-

nior Citizens Program.

He was associate volunteer exercise instructor for the senior fitness program at the William Emslie YMCA and helped build enrollment in the class.

He participated in the State Senior Olympics for many years and earned medals in several events. Every summer he worked as a volunteer spotter for the annual Juneteenth Festival Run for Health 5K Race.

He enjoyed travel and took part in all trips sponsored by the Senior Citizens Club. He frequently visited the Caribbean.

Surviving are three daughters, Kim T. Mason of Petersburg, Va., Carmenetta Knox of Augusta, Ga., and Elizabeth Robinson of Jamaica, L.I.; four sons, Terry L. Perry and Michael Sykes, both of Petersburg, Bernard Sykes of Washington, D.C., and Herple Sykes of Baltimore; a longtime companion, Helen Dunovant; 19 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday in First Shiloh Baptist Church, 15 Pine St.

Lawrence H. Peterson

Services for Lawrence H. Peterson, 60, of Washington, D.C., an auto and securities salesman, will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday in St. John Baptist Church, 184 Goodell St. Burial will be in Forest Lawn.

Peterson, a native of Buffalo, died Tuesday (Sept. 5, 2000) in Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Washington, after a brief illness.



He attended Buffalo Public Schools and was a graduate of Erie Community College. After graduation, he enlisted in the Marine Corps.

After leaving the service, he made his home in Washington, where he worked for 25 years as a car and securities salesman.

Peterson enjoyed fishing and bowling and was a fan of the Washington Redskins.

Survivors include his wife, the former Patricia Chaffin; a daughter, Lauren of Maryland; a son, Lawrence K. of Atlanta; his parents, King W. and Jannie; and a sister, Lorraine Rue of Washington.

Evie Louise Phillips

Evie Louise Phillips, 91, a homemaker, died Saturday (Aug. 25, 2001) in Grace Manor Nursing Home after more than a year's illness.

She was born in Samson, Ala. She and her husband, Earnest, were married in 1925. The mother of six children, she came to Buffalo in 1942.



She and her husband moved to Anniston, Ala., after he retired in the 1970s, then returned here in 1995. He died in 1998.

Mrs. Phillips was a member of Church of God in Christ.

Surviving are three sons, Charles and Oliver, both of Buffalo, and Johnny of Richmond, Calif.; a daughter, Annell of Buffalo; 18 grandchildren; and 31 great-grandchildren.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday in Mount Olive Baptist Church, 701 E. Delavan Ave., after a wake at 10. Burial will be in Forest Lawn.

James Pleasant, jazz bass player, presser

James "Jimmie" Pleasant, 72, a jazz bass player and a mainstay at the Colored Musicians Club of Buffalo, died Friday (Oct. 6, 2000) in Sheehan Memorial Hospital after a brief illness.

Born in Buffalo, he attended School 75 and Hutchinson-Central High School. He started playing trumpet in grade school and took up the stand-up bass when he was a teen.

He played locally with Johnny Gibson's group, several other bands and his own quartet. He performed in the Anchor Bar for



many years. He also toured with blues legend Big Jay McNeely in the 1960s, with Moose Jackson and several others.

"He got mad at the way Big Jay treated the other guys, so he quit," his brother T. Arthur said. "That was his life story. He was temperamental."

A presser by trade, he worked at various dry-cleaning firms in Buffalo and Orchard Park.

He was a lifelong member of the Colored Musicians Club of Buffalo.

Surviving are two brothers, T. Arthur and Leonard.

Services will be held at noon Wednesday in Calvary Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, 1007 Ellicott St., after a wake at 11 a.m. Burial will be in Forest Lawn.

Joan N. Plummer-Mitchell, activist

Joan N. Plummer-Mitchell, 56, of Buffalo, a community activist and direct descendant of Underground Railroad leader Josiah Henson, died unexpectedly Tuesday (March 20, 2001) in Buffalo General Hospital.

The Buffalo native was a graduate of East High School. In 1963, while attending Jamestown Community College, she met and married her husband, Ernest Mitchell.

Active in the community, she



was a volunteer in administrative support for BUILD Academy. She also was a member of the June-teenth Committee for 10 years.

She was remembered by family and friends for her kindness and gift of listening and for helping motivate children to reach their goals.

Besides her husband, she is survived by a son, Todd M. of Atlanta; two sisters, Loretta Johnson and Patricia Long, and a brother, Donald R. Plummer, all of Buffalo; and two grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Monday in New Covenant United Church of Christ, 459 Clinton St. Burial will be in St. Matthews Cemetery, West Seneca.



PRICE— Charles I., Jr.

Of Buffalo, March 28, 2007, at age 49, father of Charles (Corey), Adrian and Dion; grandfather of Cameron Price; brother of Sherman (Natosha) and Carlton Price of Buffalo, the late Cheryl Price, Charlene (Kevin) Price-Patterson of Charlotte, NC and Carol (Keith) Harriston of Cheverly, MD; son of Charles I. Price, Sr. (late Sallye Price). A memorial service will be held at 11:00 AM on Wednesday, April 4, at St. John Baptist Church, 184 Goodell St., Buffalo, with funeral to follow at 12:00 noon.

Cleotha Louise Price

Cleotha Louise Price, 80, of Buffalo, a former postal service employee and sales representative, died in Sheehan Memorial Hospital on Thursday (Aug. 2, 2001) after a long illness.

Born Cleotha Jackson in Buffalo, she was educated at Hutchinson-Central High School, where she majored in Latin and French.



She worked for the U.S. Postal Service and later was a top sales representative at J.N. Adam Co., Sattler's and Kobacker's department stores.

She also ran the kitchen at Pladlock's Social Club and managed her daughter's tax service business.

Mrs. Price was a member of the Southampton Block Club and was a long-standing member of J.W. Loguen Memorial AME Zion Church.

Her family recalled that Mrs. Price was true to her Blackfoot Indian heritage. They said she lived life on her own terms, in her own way, without apology or explanation.

Her husband of 52 years, Sherman, died in 1992.

She is survived by three daughters, Joann Price, Marlene Price Works and Barbara Price Owens, all of Buffalo, and six grandchildren.

Services will be held at 1 p.m. Monday in J.W. Loguen Memorial AME Zion Church, 210 Southampton St.

Sallye Price, retired OTB manager

Sallye Price, a retired manager of the Western Regional Off-Track Betting Corp. and an active member of St. Philip's Episcopal Church during five decades, died Friday (May 30, 2003) in Roswell Park Cancer Institute. She was 70.



A native of Salisbury, N.C., she moved to Buffalo in 1946 and graduated from Buffalo Evening High School. She also attended Erie Community College and Buffalo State College, where she studied early childhood education. During that time, she worked for Concentrated Employment Daycare and volunteered as a secretary of Northland Cooperative Nursery.

She joined St. Philip's in 1959 and served on the church's Altar Guild, Quilters Guild, Food Bank and the stewardship and search committees. She was treasurer of the Gospel Choir and vice president of the Adult Choir.

Mrs. Price also served as a member of the Episcopal Church Women and this year received an award from the Network of Religious Communities for her strong commitment to service.

A life member of the NAACP, Mrs. Price for many years volunteered as an elections inspector in her voting precinct.

She worked for OTB for 24 years, retiring in 1997 after managing several locations throughout Buffalo. After her retirement, she spent more time enjoying her grandchildren and hobbies, which

included bridge, traveling, shopping and watching Buffalo Bills games.

Considered a gracious hostess, Mrs. Price was especially known for her peach cobbler and was quick to prepare that dessert and other dishes for her church and block club.

Survivors include her husband of 53 years, Charles I. Sr.; three sons, Charles Jr., Sherman and Carlton, all of Buffalo; two daughters, Charlene Price-Patterson of Charlotte, N.C., and Carol Price Harriston of Cheverly, Md.; 10 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday in St. Philip's Church, 15 Sussex St. Burial will be in Forest Lawn.

PRICE—Sallye T.

May 30, 2003; beloved wife of Charles I. Price; dear mother of Charlene Price-Patterson (Kevin), Charles Jr., Carol Price Harriston (Keith), Sherman C. (Natosha), Carlton I. (Tamiko) and the late Cheryl A. Price; sister of Theola Hoke; also survived by 10 grandchildren, two great-grandchildren and other relatives. Family will receive friends Tuesday 6-8 PM at the St. Philip's Episcopal Church, Grider/Sussex Sts., where funeral service will be conducted Wednesday 11 AM. Entombment in Forest Lawn Cemetery Rosewood Mausoleum. Flowers gratefully declined. Memorials may be sent to St. Philip's Episcopal Church Memorial Fund. Arrangements by H. ALFRED LEWIS MORTUARY, INC., 968 Jefferson.

Minnie Bailey Reid, 103, active in church

Services for Minnie Bailey Reid, who died one day shy of her 104th birthday, will be held at noon Monday in First Shiloh Baptist Church, 15 Pine St.

Mrs. Reid, a native of Memphis, Tenn., died in her sleep Sunday (March 9, 2003) in her Michigan Avenue home.

Known as "Mother Reid," she grew up and was educated in Chicago. She came to Buffalo in 1946 and joined First Shiloh Church, which was to play an important role in the rest of her long life.

She met her husband, Findley, at the church. They were married

in 1951. He died in 1980.

Mrs. Reid was a member of several organizations in the church, including the Deaconess Board, the Willing Workers Club, the Home and Foreign Mission Society and the Social Committee.

On her 100th birthday, she was recognized by Willard Scott on NBC's "Today" show.

Although she had no biological children, friends said she "loved, cared for and gave direction" to many "adopted" children.

She attributed her long life to respect "for all people" and "the almighty God."

Survivors include an adopted daughter, Lorraine Hughes of Buffalo; five grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.



REID—Paula Ellen

June 5, 2001, beloved daughter of Sora E. Reid of Buffalo, NY and the late Victor D. Reid; sister of Pamela E. (Laughton) Thomas of Lawrenceville, VA, Patricia E. Billups of Buffalo, NY and Victor D. (Lynne) Reid of Amherst, NY; special friend of Roy Battle of Rochester, NY. Visitation will be held at H. ALFRED LEWIS MORTUARY, INC., 968 Jefferson Ave., Buffalo, NY on Tuesday, June 12, 2001 from 6-8 PM. Funeral service will be on Wednesday, June 13, 2001 at 11 AM at The Lutheran Church of Our Savior, 26 Brunswick Blvd., Buffalo, NY. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to The College Fund/UNCF.

Alfred Ferdinand Richardson

A Memorial Mass will be be offered Saturday for Alfred Ferdinand Richardson, 90, a longtime Buffalo resident and retired insurance broker.

Richardson died Nov. 14, 1998, after a brief illness, shortly after moving to Chicago.



Born in New Orleans, he moved to Buffalo in 1934. During his 65 years in insurance, he worked as an agent for United Mutual Life Insurance Co.

He later sold property and casualty lines for the Buffalo Fire Insurance Office; the McManus-Peard-Gesl, M.P. Oreskovic and TLC insurance agencies.

He attended Xavier University and Howard University and, during World War II, worked at the Army Air Forces Depot at the Buffalo Arms Plant, manufacturing machine guns. In the 1960s and '70s, he co-owned the Hum-Field Delicatessen in Buffalo.

He was a member of St. Francis de Sales, St. Bartholomew and St. Lawrence parishes. He was also a member of the former Adelphous Breakfast Club, the Appomattox Club and was treasurer of Ellicott's Allied Bowling Lanes.

Survivors include his wife of 62 years, the former Mally Stokely of Buffalo; a son, Joseph of Buffalo; and a sister, Verinna Miller of Chicago.

Memorial Mass is scheduled for 9:30 a.m. Saturday in St. Lawrence Church, 1520 E. Delavan Ave. Burial will be in Forest Lawn.

Albert W. Riding, longtime musician

A service for Albert W. Riding, a Buffalo trombonist and pianist whose musical career spanned more than half a century, will be held at noon Friday in Our Savior Lutheran Church, 26 Brunswick Blvd. Burial will be in Forest Lawn.

Riding, 88, died Sunday (July 9, 2000) in his Elmwood Avenue apartment.

Known as "Eggy," Riding was born in St. Louis and came to Buffalo to join a traveling band in 1935. He continued to make his home here.

Riding toured with several name bands during the 1940s and played at such Buffalo jazz clubs as the Moonglow, the Little Harlem Hotel and Ann Montgomery's Club in what was then known as Buffalo's "Jazz Triangle." He also played at Harry Altman's Glen Park Casino in Williamsville and the Town Casino in Buffalo.

He performed with prominent local bands led by C.Q. Price, Lenny Lewis, Elvin Shepherd, Willie Dorsey and Art Anderson.

Riding appeared with such prominent performers as Billy Eckstein, Roy Eldridge and Stuff Smith.

He was an officer of Local 533 of the Musicians Union, the black musicians' union and was a member of Buffalo Musicians Local 92.

Riding is survived by a daughter, Sharon Washington of Defiance, Ohio, and a brother, William, and a sister, Margaret Williams, both of Hannibal, Mo.

His wife, Mary Lewis Riding, died in 1995.

Mary Riding

Services for Mary Riding, who was active in her church, will be held at noon Wednesday in Our Savior Lutheran Church, 26 Brunswick Blvd. Burial will be in Forest Lawn.

Mrs. Riding, 83, died Saturday (Nov. 11, 1995) in her Buffalo home.

The former Mary Lewis was born in Hannibal, Mo., and moved to Buffalo in 1935.



She was a member of Our Savior Lutheran Church and was active in its Women's Missionary Club, Ladies Aid and Sunshine Committee.

Survivors include her husband of 65 years, Albert; a son, William; a daughter, Sharon Washington of Ohio; seven grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

William R. Riding

Services for William R. Riding, 64, a retired Veterans Hospital employee, will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday in Our Savior Lutheran Church, 26 Brunswick Blvd. Interment will be in the Servicemen's Section of Forest Lawn.

He died Sunday (March 10, 1996) in Veterans Hospital after a lengthy illness.



Born in Hannibal, Mo., he came to Buffalo as a child with his family. After serving in the Army in the Korean War, he worked for many years as a urology technician at Veterans Hospital, retiring in 1989.

Active in Our Savior Church, he was a member of the Men's Club. He also was a consultant for the Wider Horizon reading program of the Community Action Organization.

Surviving are his wife, DeRutha Blue Riding; three sons, Gregory of Virginia, Vincent and Craig; three daughters, Sheila of Arizona, Denise and Vanessa; his father, Albert W.; a sister, Sharon Washington of Defiance, Ohio; and several grandchildren.

Bishop Robert L.A. Robinson Sr., headed center

Bishop Robert L.A. Robinson Sr., 71, presiding bishop of the Soul Saving Revival Center, was killed Tuesday (Dec. 15, 1998) in an attack in his home.

Previously an elder, he was ordained presiding bishop of the organization in 1994 after the death of his wife, the Rev. Alberta Robinson, who established the Soul Saving Revival Center in 1969 after conducting prayer services in homes for many years. They were married in 1952.

He oversaw churches in Buffalo and Newark, N.J., and provided leadership and support for church-sponsored outreach efforts, assistance to the needy and expansion.



Born in LaGrange, Ga., he came to Buffalo in 1953 and worked at Union Carbide Corp. in Niagara Falls as a millwright and a foreman. He retired in 1988.

Surviving are three sons, Akil Asantewa of Binghamton, Elder Robert Jr. and Damien Prophet; two daughters, Ernestine Robinson-Grooms of Niagara Falls and Anita Ortiz; three brothers, McKinley of Fayetteville, N.C., Roy of Clarence and Thomas; four sisters, Carolyn Caldwell and Irene Black, both of LaGrange, and Annie Burgess and Alice Toliver, both of Cleveland; 14 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday in the Soul Saving Revival Center, 664 Fillmore Ave., after a wake in the center at 10 a.m. Burial will be in Forest Lawn.

David E. Robinson, descendant of Harriet Tubman

Aug. 5, 1930 — July 3, 2007



David E. Robinson, the great-great-nephew of Harriet Tubman, died Wednesday in his Buffalo home following a short illness. He was 76.

A Buffalo native, Mr. Robinson represented the family at many tributes and ceremonies honoring Tubman, including the 1995 dedication of the Harriet Tubman Library in Auburn. Mr. Robinson attended Public School 47 and graduated from Fosdick-Masten Park High School in 1948. He received an associate degree in electrical engineering and instrument technology from Erie Community College. Also, he attended the

University at Buffalo for pre-med studies.

In 1947, he married the former Earlie Mae Livingston. She died in 1998.

From 1949 until his retirement in 1952 as a corporal, Mr. Robinson served in the Air Force. He was stationed in Alaska during the Korean War and he was part of the Military Air Transport Service. For his military service, he received a certificate of commendation for proficiency in radio mechanics.

For 40 years, he was employed at Harrison Radiator, beginning in 1953 as a production worker. In 1968, he was promoted to instruments technician. By the time he retired, he had become a senior engineering technician.

Mr. Robinson was active in community service as a mem-

ber of LAMBS (Love and Mercy Believers), the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Urban League, the American Legion, the Commanders Club, VFW, Harrison Radiator G-9 Management Club, a former member of the Paramount Lodge 73, and East Side anglers.

For more than 30 years, he was a member of St. Margaret's Catholic Church, where he served as an usher, a lector and Eucharistic minister since 1992.

Survivors include a daughter, Vera Donna Johnson; a son, Mark Edward; and a brother, William.

Visitation will be held at 11 a.m. Monday followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at noon in St. Margaret's Catholic Church, 1395 Hertel Ave.

Donald Robinson, descendant of Harriet Tubman

Aug. 5, 1930 — July 3, 2007



Donald E. Robinson, the great-great-nephew of Harriet Tubman, died Wednesday in his Buffalo home after a brief illness. He was 76.

A Buffalo native, Mr. Robinson represented the family at many tributes and ceremonies honoring Tubman, including the 1995 dedication of the Harriet Tubman Library in Auburn.

Mr. Robinson attended School 47 and graduated from Fosdick-Masten Park High School in 1948. He received an associate's degree in electrical engineering and instrument technology from Erie County Technical Institute. He attended the University of Buffalo for premed studies.

In 1957, he married Earlie Mae Livingston. She died in 1998.

From 1949 until his discharge in 1952 as a corporal, Mr. Robinson served in the Air Force. He was stationed in Alas-

ka during the Korean War and he was part of the Military Air Transport Service. For his military service, he received a certificate of commendation for proficiency in radio mechanics.

For 40 years, he was employed at Harrison Radiator, beginning in 1953 as a production worker. In 1968, he was promoted to instruments technician. By the time he retired, he had become a senior engineering technician.

Mr. Robinson was active in community service as a member of LAMBS (Love and Mercy Believers), the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Urban League, the American Legion, the Commanders Club, the Veterans of Foreign Wars and Harrison Radiator G-9 Management Club. He was a former member of Paramount Lodge 73, and East Side Anglers.

For more than 30 years, he was a member of St. Margaret Catholic Church, where he served as an usher, a lector and Eucharistic minister since 1992.

Survivors include a daughter, Vera Donna Johnson; a son,

Mark Edward; and a brother, William.

Visitation will be at 11 a.m. today, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at noon in St. Margaret Church, 1395 Hertel Ave.

services, September 15, 2000 at 10 AM.

ROUNDTREE—Fannie Mae (nee Jones)



Departed this life September 11, 2000. Wife of the late Philip Roundtree; dearest mother of Mary Ann (Donald) Dillard; grandmother of Alton Newkirk and Philip Carmichael; great-grandmother of Chantelle and Tiana; sister of William Jones; sister-in-law of Lessie Mae Craig and Solomie Kelley; also survived by other relatives. The family will receive friends Saturday at 10 AM at People's Community United Church of Christ, 472 Swan St., where funeral services will follow at 11 AM. Rev. Charles Henderson officiating. Entombment Forest Lawn Rosewood Atrium Mausoleum. Arrangements by the THOMAS T. EDWARDS FUNERAL HOME, INC.

RUFF—Charles

October 6, 1995 of Buffalo, NY, brother of Helen Perry, Emily and Ralph. Friends may call Tuesday at Bethel A.M.E. Church on Ferry at Michigan. Visitation at 12 AM. Funeral services immediately following at 1 o'clock. Interment Forest Lawn.

Charles E. Rush, ex-deputy city clerk

A memorial service for Charles E. Rush, 81, who served as deputy city clerk under Mayor Frank A. Sedita, will be held at 11 a.m. Monday in Our Savior Lutheran Church, 26 Brunswick Blvd. Burial will be in Forest Lawn.

Rush, an East Side resident, died at Waterfront Nursing Home Wednesday (August 3, 1994) after a long illness.



Rush, whose nickname was "Egg shell," moved to Buffalo at age 12 from Bennettsville, S.C. In

1935, after graduating from Bennett High School, Rush married Sarah Legree.

He owned the C.E. Rush Coin Operated Laundry on Sycamore Street until the early 1980s when he sold the business and retired.

He was active in city politics, serving as a Democratic committeeman, ward leader and member of the Ross Freeman Democratic Club. A member of Lutheran Church of Our Savior, he also belonged to several other political and civic organizations.

He is survived by his wife, Sarah; two sons, Charles Jr. of Albany and Blaine; a daughter, Sheila of Mountain View, Calif.; and two grandsons.

RUSSELL—Addie F. (nee Wafford)



December 1, 1996 wife of the late Leroy Russell Sr.; dearest mother of ELDER Louis (Hattie) Russell, Annie L. Cooper, Alvin H. Russell, Carrie Smith, Robert T. Russell, Larry (Evelyn) Russell; grandmother of 23 grandchildren and 45 great grandchildren and 18 great, great grandchildren; also survived by a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and dear friends. The family will receive friends Thursday at 11 AM. Funeral to follow at 12 noon from the Mt. Zion Church of God Holiness, 32 Oakgrove. Arrangements by THOMAS T. EDWARD FUNERAL HOME INC., 995 Gene-see St.

In Loving Memory of Ethel Mae Keener McNair Sabir

Dec. 10, 1905 – Jan. 15, 2004



(Center) Sis. Ethel Mae Keener McNair-Sabir is joined by her children (back row left to right), John McNair, Eaustria Sabir, Wali Sabir, (front left to right) Margaret Sabir-Gillette and Selmeyyah Muwallif.

<i>"Our Lord! Make of us</i>	<i>The celebration of (due) rites.</i>
<i>Muslims bowing to Thy (Will),</i>	<i>And turn unto us (in Mercy),</i>
<i>And of our progeny, a people</i>	<i>For Thou art the</i>
<i>Muslim, bowing to Thy (Will).</i>	<i>Oft-returning,</i>
<i>And show us our places for</i>	<i>Most Merciful."</i>
(Holy Qur'an 2:128)	

Sis. Ethel was born in Louisville, Alabama, on Dec. 10, 1905, to the late George and Martha (Malone) Keener. She was married to the late Bro. Daniel P. X McNair and moved to Johnstown, Penn., in 1937.

She is the mother of six children; John McNair (Margaret) Atlanta, Ga.; Margaret Sabir-Gillette (Donald) Buffalo, N.Y.; Eaustria Sabir (Wajihah), Atlanta, Ga.; Wali Sabir (Rasheedah), Tuskegee, Ala.; Selmeyyah Muwallif, Laurel, Md.; the late George Robert and a god-daughter, Delores Hicks.

She has one sister, Mrs. Lalar Woods, of Montgomery, Ala., 30 grandchildren, 48 great-grandchildren, and 16 great-great grandchildren.

In addition to her own children, Sis. Ethel has children all over the country — nieces, nephews and cousins. Her profound love for Allah opened her heart to family, friends and to a passion in caring for the sick and needy.

As an advocate of education, she strongly emphasized the value of obtaining the best education possible, be it academic or vocational. She believed in prayer and the Power of Allah from Whom all success and achievement flowed.

She embraced the religion of Al-Islam in 1958, when she became a member of Temple #22 in Pittsburgh, Penn., under the leadership of Imam Mustafa Hussain (then Bro. Robert). Moving to Buffalo, N.Y., after the death of her husband in 1962, Sis. Ethel immediately became an active and dedicated member of Temple #23.

She has given of herself unselfishly and untiringly to help in whatever capacity was needed to propagate the Cause of Al-Islam.

Sis. Ethel has received numerous religious and community awards, including a proclamation from the Buffalo Common Council for Outstanding Community Service. She advised and counseled many people who were blessed to be in her presence — friends, neighbors, and acquaintances, including the youth.

Her commitment and constancy continued, even though she could no longer physically attend Masjid services. It was her duty to support her Ummah, Masjid Nu'Man, by whatever means she could afford, and this she did.

Sis. Ethel's only prayer to Allah for herself was: her "Oh Allah, let me return clothed in my right mind." This, her final blessing was granted.

Sis. Ethel was a person who loved Islam and practiced her

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Ethel Mae Keener McNair-Sabir

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religion in her daily life. She taught her family to do the same. She always has a subscription of the *Muslim Journal* and would order tapes on her own. She loved Imam W. Deen Mohammed and his father and would send her donations whenever she could not attend the annual conventions.

She was so proud of being a member of the International League of Muslim Women and supported it wholeheartedly. After she was not able to physically participate, she would still sell dinners and tickets to the many people in the community that she knew, many times out selling the rest.

A space at the "League House" in Buffalo as the "Sister Ethel Sabir Lending Library" has been dedicated to honor her love for education.

The proclamation is one written on the celebration of her 80 birthday. Dr. Naim Akbar was the keynote speaker. She was honored with a proclamation for the Buffalo Common Council at City Hall the following week.

A Proclamation to Sis. Ethel Sabir-McNair from her family on this day Oct. 19, 1985 in Buffalo, N.Y.

Whereas, you Sister Ethel McNair-Sabir, have always led an exemplary life as a wife, mother, grandmother, etc.;

Whereas, you have always been anxious to extend a helping hand to whoever happened to need it, whether it was someone you knew or a stranger; all that mattered to you was that someone needed help;

Whereas, you taught us to believe in our Creator, to love one another, to share with one another, respect our elders, and to believe in the "Power of Prayer"; you firmly believed in "spare the rod and spoil the child," though sometimes we questioned the saying. "It hurts me more than it hurts you" – that is, until we became parents and grandparents ourselves."

Whereas, you taught us to be "Black and proud" even before it became fashionable to be so and instructed us

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Ethel Mae Keener McNair-Sabir

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always to hold our heads high and be proud of our heritage.

Whereas, you were protective of us, coming to our rescue rapidly, if we needed you; but heaven help us if we let you come to our defense and you found out later that we were wrong;

Although you were quick to rise to our defense, you taught us to take responsibility for our own actions, to be independent, to think twice before speaking and to try to work with others for the good

of humanity — not always expecting to receive pay for deeds that were done;

Whereas, sometimes we might have complained because our house seemed overcrowded with relatives and friends who were a “little down on their luck,” you and daddy both stressed your belief that it is better to “give than to receive.

Whereas, most of your grandchildren and great grandchildren were and are fortunate enough to be able to spend time in your care while we went off to work, school or otherwise..., they

will testify that they learned early in life that grandma would love them to death, feed them to death, teach them the same values and lessons their parents were taught, including not sparing the rod;

The fact that so many people have responded to our wish to give you flowers, while you can still smell them and to honor you while you can still hear the kind words, instills within us a deep sense of pride that we have been blessed with you for our Mother!

May Allah continue to bless you and to keep you strong.

Kevin M. Saviola, scholar, teacher, political aide

By KEVIN COLLISON

News Staff Reporter

Kevin M. Saviola, 58, a Jesuit-educated scholar known for his humor and deep interest in teaching, died Tuesday (Oct. 28, 1997) in his Buffalo home after a six-month battle with cancer.

"He was just a very intelligent, caring man," said former Mayor James D. Griffin, Saviola's second cousin and friend. "He was well liked by everyone and always did a tremendous job for the city. He's going to be missed."



A native of Buffalo, Saviola was a graduate of Canisius High School. He attended Fordham University, where he earned a bachelor's degree in classical Latin and Greek and a master's degree in Renaissance English and literature.

Saviola also earned a master's degree in educational administration from Canisius College and was nearing completion of his doctorate in education at the University at Buffalo at the time of his death.

He began teaching at Canisius High School in 1963 but left in 1966 to write film and book reviews for *Women's Wear Daily* in New York City. He remained at the magazine until 1975, when he returned to Buffalo and worked for a family business, Saviola Masonry, until 1982.

Saviola was public-relations director for the Buffalo Sewer Authority from 1982 to 1994. He then resumed teaching at Bennett High School, where he remained

until September. He also was a debate coach at Canisius High School. His latest position for the Buffalo School District was as a grant writer at City Hall.

Saviola was campaign manager in the races of Buffalo School Board member John C. Doyle and also worked on mayoral campaigns for Griffin.

"In politics, Kevin was a grass-roots type guy," Doyle said. "He always told me to speak from your heart and gut. He was a great debater and a marvelous writer."

David P. Comerford, a former Griffin Cabinet member and friend of Saviola's, said it was his kinship with Griffin that got Saviola involved in politics.

"He loved teaching . . . and was happy to be in that area," Comerford said. "He was an old-fashioned liberal who believed in the decency of people and believed they should be treated fairly."

Saviola was a member of the American Educational Research Association and the Buffalo Youth Board. He also was a member of the Western New York Schools Public Relations Association.

He had works published in several scholarly magazines. At the time of his death, he was working on a translation of Homer's "Iliad" from the original Greek into English.

He also was president of Bryant Inc. Cooperative.

Surviving are his wife, Moira G. Sullivan; two brothers, Brian and Mark; and a sister, Mary Clare of New York City.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be offered at 9:30 a.m. Friday in St. Michael's Catholic Church, 651 Washington St. Prayers will be said at 8:45 in George J. Roberts & Sons Funeral Home, 2400 Main St. Burial will be in Forest Lawn.

SCHULTZ—Orville



June 23, 1995; son of the late Minnie and Fred Schultz; father of Dennis (Ernestine); brother of Melva Crews, Dianne (Kelvin) Rhodes, Dennis (Mae), Dortha Schultz and the late Vivian Gannt; also survived

by three grandsons and a host of other relatives and friends. Friends received Wednesday 7-9 PM at RICHARD D. MEADOWS, JR., FUNERAL CHAPEL, 2528 Bailey Ave., where the funeral will be held Thursday at 1 PM.

SHANNON—Frank I

Cleon O. Service, real estate agent

Cleon O. Service, 85, a real estate agent whose family started the first African-American real estate company in Buffalo, died Wednesday (Oct. 24, 2001) in the Hospice unit of Buffalo General Hospital after a battle with cancer.

Born in Springfield, Mass., he came to Buffalo at the age of 9. He attended the University of Buffalo, the University of Toronto and Toronto Conservatory of Music, which he left in his senior year to join the Army Air Forces and serve in World War II.

Returning from service, he joined his father, A. Newton Service, in the family business, Newton Real Estate, and became president of the company in 1957 upon his father's death.

He maintained an office on Main Street near Sisters Hospital until his death, specializing in finding homes for black buyers who wanted to move to the suburbs. He became affiliated with Century 21



in 1977.

He joined with five other black real estate agents in 1972 to found Spartacus Securities of Western New York, a mortgage banking firm that used federal programs to help low-income buyers get home mortgages. He served as president and chief executive officer.

Service had a lifelong passion for music. As a young man, he played and taught organ. Later he was active as a choir director and a church organist for Bethel A.M.E. Church and pianist for choral groups and soloists. As a young man, he also gave solo piano concerts.

Active as a board member and supporter of many political, artistic and educational organizations, he was chairman of the Michigan Branch of the YMCA and president of the Community Planning Assistance Center. He also was a member of the board of directors of the Ujima Theater.

His wife, Helen, died in 1981.

Surviving are a sister, Erna Clark of Buffalo.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. today in St. Philip's Episcopal Church, Sussex and Grider streets. Burial will be private.

Lee Howard Sheffield

Lee Howard Sheffield, 74, a retired postal worker, died Friday (June 16, 2000) in Buffalo General Hospital.

Born in Winter Park, Fla., one of 20 children, he served in the Navy during World War II and moved to Buffalo from New Brighton, Pa., in 1948.



He retired from the U.S. Postal Service in 1988 after a 34-year career. He also worked part time in the Buffalo Model Cities program in the 1960s.

He was a member of Bible Chapel, where he served as an elder and a member of the board of trustees.

He and Evelyn Childers were married in 1950.

In addition to his wife, survivors include two sons, Glenn of Alexandria, Va., and Michael of Atlanta; four daughters, Lisa, Ava, Marlene and Ramona, all of the Washington, D.C., area; his stepmother, Bessie Mae of New Brighton; 16 brothers and sisters; two grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Services will be held at noon Thursday in Delaine Waring AME Church, 680 Swan St. after a wake at 11. Burial will be in Forest Lawn.

SIMS—William

November 17, 2000, of Buffalo, NY. Beloved husband of Barbara; dear father of Billie and Sue; also survived by other relatives and friends. Services will be held Wednesday 11 AM from Holy Temple COGIC, Clinton at Madison St. Friends are invited. Arrangements are entrusted to MEMORIAL CHAPELS OF BUFFALO, 66 East Utica St. Interment private.



SINGLETARY—Ceafia Mae

July 9, 2007; beloved wife of the late Tracy; dear mother of Tracy E., Karl, Jegertha, and Patria; also survived by 10 grandchildren, 17 great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; and other relatives. Family will receive friends Friday 10 AM at St. John Baptist Church, Michigan/Goodell Sts., where Funeral Service will follow at 11 AM. Interment in Acacia Park Cemetery. Arrangements by H. ALFRED LEWIS MORTUARY, INC., 968 Jefferson Ave.

Geraldine F. Slaughter

Geraldine F. Slaughter, 77, a retired hospital secretary, died Tuesday (April 21, 1998) in Deaconess Skilled Nursing Home after a lengthy illness.



Mrs. Slaughter, a Buffalo resident most of her life, retired in 1982 as a secretary at Buffalo General Hospital. She had been employed there for 30 years.

She was active at Free Spirit Missionary Baptist Church, where she sang in the choir.

Born in Toronto, she came to Buffalo with her family as a child. She was a graduate of Hutchinson-Central High School.

The former Geraldine Rankin married Raymond D. Slaughter in 1941.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by two sons, Raymond Jr. of Detroit and John; seven daughters, Shirley Bixon, Geraldine Parson, Celestine, Bernadine and Tracey, Sandra Sterling of Detroit and Gwendolyn of Bakersfield, Calif.; a sister, Vivian Hopkins; a brother, Charles Smith; 22 grandchildren; and 35 great-grandchildren.

Services will be held at noon Saturday in Free Spirit Missionary Baptist Church, 60 Titus St. Burial will be in Buffalo Cemetery, Cheektowaga.

SMITH—Reverend Dr. Bennett W. Sr.



Entered into rest August 7, 2001, in Cheektowaga, NY; devoted and loving husband of Marilyn J. (nee Donel-

son); the father of Debra Goggins, Lydia Hordges of Austell, GA, Bennett W. Jr. of Yorktown, VA, and Matthew; the son of Pearlene Smith and the late Reverend Q.T. Miles of Florence, AL.; also survived by twelve grandchildren, four great grandchildren, two dear god children, and a host of relatives, church family and community friends. Reverend Smith will lie in state at St. John Baptist Church, 184 Goodell St. Tuesday August 14, 2001, 12 noon to 8 PM, where funeral services will be conducted Wednesday at 12 noon. The Reverend Dr. C. Mackey Daniels, presiding, and the Reverend Dr. Otis Moss Jr., eulogist. Entombment Rosewood Mausoleum Forest Lawn Cemetery. Memorials may be made to the Rev. Dr. Bennett W. Smith Sr. Family Life Center. Final arrangements entrusted to the THOMAS T. EDWARDS FUNERAL HOME INC.

SMITH—Charles E.

September 12; 1998, dear uncle of Marguerite Fletcher, Helen Roddy Gray, and Errol Fletcher; also survived by other relatives and friends. The family will receive friends Thursday at 10 AM at St. Phillip's Episcopal Church, 15 Fernhill Ave., where funeral service will follow at 11 AM. Interment in St. Matthew's Cemetery. Arrangements by the H. ALFRED LEWIS MORTUARY INC.

SMITH—Mable E.

January 25, 1998, of Buffalo, NY, beloved mother of Marguerite Fletcher and Helen Roddy Gray. Friends may call Thursday at St. Martin DePorres R.C. Church, Grider near Delevan. Visitation at 10 AM. Funeral Mass at 11 AM. Entombment Forest Lawn Cemetery, Birchwood Mausoleum. Arrangements entrusted to MEMORIAL CHAPELS OF BUFFALO, 66 East Utica St.

COBATA **John D (see Lockimont)**

General Hospital.
SMITH—Martin L. 'Smitty'

July 14, 1995. Husband of Patricia (nee Jones). Son of Odessa Clark. Father of one son and two daughters. Grandfather of four grandchildren. Viewing at H. ALFRED LEWIS MORTUARY, 968 Jefferson Ave. from 2-4 PM Tuesday. Family will be present to receive friends Tuesday, July 18 at St. Paul A.M.E. Zion Church, 610 E. Eagle St. (off Jefferson Ave.), from 7-9 PM. Funeral service will be held Wednesday, 11 AM from the church.

Willard I. Smith

Willard I. Smith of Buffalo, a retired Bethlehem Steel worker, died Saturday (April 26, 1997) in Veterans Hospital after a long illness. He was 75.

Known to his friends as Jake, Smith began his career at the Lackawanna plant as a bricklayer in the late 1930s and retired as a heavy-equipment operator in 1985.



He was a World War II veteran of the Army Air Forces.

Smith was commander of AM-VETS Post 5 from 1966 to 1968 and remained active in various capacities until his illness.

He was a trustee of the People's Community United Church of Christ.

Survivors include his longtime companion, Fanny Roundtree; a son, Leroy Thompson of Wichita, Kan.; a stepdaughter, Maryanne Dillard of Buffalo; a sister, Doristine Blackwell of Buffalo; a brother, George Johnson of Buffalo; four grandchildren; and three great-granddaughters.

A funeral will be held at 11 p.m. Friday in People's Community United Church of Christ, 472 Swan St. Entombment will be in Rosewood Mausoleum, Forest Lawn.

Alice M. Snow

Services for Alice M. Snow, a retired employee of the old L.L. Berger stores, will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday in Greater Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, 402 Clinton St. Burial will be in Forest Lawn.

Mrs. Snow, 77, died Friday (Aug. 30, 1996) in Roswell Park Cancer Institute after a lengthy illness.



Born in Pittsburgh, she came to Buffalo in 1930 and attended Buffalo schools, graduating from the former Hutchinson-Central High School.

She retired from L.L. Berger in 1980. She also worked as a school crossing guard in Buffalo. school

She was a founding member of Friendship Church and served as an officer of Usher Board No. 2.

She also was a member of the National Association of Ushers.

Survivors include a son, Akmal Shareef; a brother, James H. Berry Jr.; a stepdaughter, Beatrice Dawson; a stepson, Jesse Sloan of Cedartown, Ga.; 12 grandchildren; and 22 great grandchildren.

SPEED—Curtis

Suddenly, September 30, 1994, family will receive friends on Tuesday at 11 AM and funeral to follow at 12 noon from the Word of Faith Christian Fellowship Church, 415 Minnesota. Arrangements by THOMAS T. EDWARDS FUNERAL HOME, INC., 995 Genesee. Flowers gratefully declined.

STOLTMAN—Donald O. "Smokey"



February 13, 1999. Beloved husband of Norma (nee Kemnitzer) of 51 years; dearest father of Glenn (Sara), Donald

(Sue), David, Douglas and the late Barry Stoltman; loving grandfather of 12 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren; brother of Norma (John) Rogers, Mary (Raymond) Heron, Joseph (Dolores) and the late Chester (Rosary) Stoltman and Blanche (late Robert) Blaser; also survived by nieces and nephews. Funeral service from the PACER FUNERAL HOME, INC., 2275 George Urban Blvd., (2 blocks east Dick Rd.) Tuesday at 11 AM. Friends invited. Family present Sunday 7-9 and Monday 2-4 & 7-9 PM.

Doris V. Stukes, City Hall employee

Doris V. Stukes, a retired City Hall employee, died Wednesday (April 30, 2003) in her Buffalo home after a brief illness. She was 82.

Born in Coatesville, Pa., she was a graduate of Fosdick-Masten Park High School and studied business at Erie County Technical Institute. She worked in



the vital statistics office in City Hall and retired from F.W. Woolworth.

A member of New Covenant United Church of Christ, Miss Stukes taught Sunday school there. She enjoyed playing tennis and bowling and was a member of many social clubs. She traveled often to Atlantic City, Lake Tahoe, Las Vegas and Canada and vacationed in Florida.

Services will be held at noon Monday in New Covenant United Church of Christ, 459 Clinton St. Burial will be in Forest Lawn.