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Lincoln Memorial United Methodist Church

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IN LOVING MEMORY
of
DONNIEZELL BATEMAN DUKE

Sunrise
January 16, 1924

Sunset
March 26, 2002

Services of Christian Burial
Thursday, April 4th, 2002

Rev. G. Edward Morris, Officiating Minister
Mr. Willie Dorsey, Organist

Lincoln Memorial United Methodist Church
641 Masten Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14209
(716) 884-7664
Obituary

Donniezell Bateman Duke was born to the late Charles and Ola Bateman on January 16, 1924 in Youngstown, Ohio. She was the third child born to this union. Donnie Duke moved to Buffalo in the late 1920s.

She attended Buffalo Public Schools, graduating from Hutchinson Central High School. She won many honors and graduated with the coveted Jeanie Gunson award. Although she was offered six scholarships, she picked a work-study scholarship to the University of Buffalo. She attended graduate school in social work. Upon graduation she was immediately hired by the Erie County Department of Social Services where she worked for over 35 years in a supervisory capacity. Following her retirement Ms. Duke took a position with the Educational Opportunity Center where she was a popular Instructor who taught many seminars of African American History.

As an avocation, she became an avid bridge player and teacher. Ms. Duke is a Life Master in the American Bridge Association and has won many tournaments and trophies. Ms. Duke is one of the founders of Gamma Kappa chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. She was recently named an Uncrowned Queen.

Donnie volunteered in the office of Black Ministry in the Diocese of Buffalo. She makes tapes on ministries and Christian heraldry, explaining the church symbols.

Her commitment and dedication to Christian service was unwaivering, as was her faith. People found her to be a great teacher and counselor with words of wisdom.

A woman of great phenomenal strength, courage and a deep religious conviction, she leaves to mourn and cherish precious memories: two devoted children, Kim Marie Duke and Theodore Duke, III, both of Buffalo, New York, two sisters, Eva Noles of Buffalo, New York and Barbara Johnson of Jacksonville, Florida, one brother Charles Bateman (Anita) of Deltona, Florida and a host of nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.
Order of Service

Wake 10:00 A.M. Funeral Service 11:00 A.M.

Organ Selections

Opening Sentences

Hymn He Lives UMH#310

Prayer L. The lord is with you.
P. And also with you.
L. Let us Pray.
P. Eternal God, we praise you...
Amen. UMH p.872

PSALM 23 (Unison) .................................................. UMHp.873

Choir Selection ......................... Steal Away, Emmit S. Florner Choral

Old Testament Reading .............................................. Isaiah 40:28-31

New Testament Reading ............................... Revelation 21:1-6

Reading of the Obituary

Hymn

Eulogy and Words of Comfort

Selection .......................................................... O Zion, Gospel Choir

Commendation .................................................. UMH p.874

Closing Hymn ........................ It Is Well With My Soul, UMH #377

Dismissal ........................................................ with Blessing
INTERMENT

Private entombment service for the family at Forest Lawn Cemetery.

AUSPICES

H. Alfred Lewis Mortuary

PALLBEARERS

Donald Murphy, William Leigh
Theodore Duke, Richard Philip
Richard Daniels, Bee Fogan

POEM

Dear Mom-

In your patience and understanding we see the love of Jesus. In your tenderness and caring we see His guidance. We're so thankful He planned for you to be such an important part of our lives. You will be dearly missed.

With all our love,

Your Children
Kim and Ted

ACKNOWLEDGMENT:

We the Duke Family wish to express our gratitude for every act of kindness extended during this time of bereavement. Your thoughtful words, cards, flowers, love and prayers have helped to sustain us and strengthen us. May God Bless you all.