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Lincoln Memorial United Methodist Church

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HONORARY PALLBEARERS

Greg Miller  Greg Payne
Tarell Gordon  Lish Gordon
Shane Samuel  David Samuel

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We the family of Leila Samuel would like to express our sincere appreciation for all the kind deeds and expressions of sympathy shown to our family during our time of bereavement.

You are invited to join the family upstairs in the Fellowship Hall immediately after the service in a time of fellowship and celebration for the life of Leila Samuel.

AUSPICES

Amigone Funeral Home, Inc.
2600 Sheridan Drive
Tonawanda, NY 14150

SAMUEL, LEILA LILLIAN
(nee) LATTIMORE

SUNRISE:  JUNE 20, 1930
SUNSET:  OCTOBER 28, 2008

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Leila Lillian Samuel, who taught elementary school for thirty years in the Buffalo School System (Public School #74 and 63) before retiring in 1985, passed away in the loving arms of her immediate family on Tuesday, October 28, 2008 at Sister's of Charity Hospital in Buffalo after a brief illness. She was 78.

Born Leila Lattimore in Jamestown, New York, she attended Jamestown High School, where she excelled in the performing arts. In fact, she was talented enough to earn an invitation to dance on Broadway in the "One Two Buckle My Shoe" production at the tender age of sixteen. Following high school, she received her B.A. degree from SUNY at Fredonia in 1954, and received her Master's degree in Education from SUNY at Buffalo in 1976. She established her Talking Animals Literature Korner (T.A.L.K.) company in 1986, and published numerous rap songs which were designed to educate elementary school aged children about important issues such as helping the police, fire safety, not talking to strangers, behavior in school and other topics. Use of her rap song program was approved for use in the Buffalo Public Schools and introduced in 1988 with high acclaim.

She was a member of the Lincoln Memorial United Methodist Church of Buffalo, NY, where it is said, "she had a lovely singing voice." Besides singing in the Senior Choir, she served on several committees and took an active role in the mission and ministry of the church. She loved the children and enjoyed sharing her rap songs with them.

She was preceded in death by siblings Richard, Leroy, Robert, James, Edwin, and her beloved sister, Edna. She is survived by her husband Richard Samuel and their three children, Richard Samuel, Jr. (Carolyn) of Tampa, FL, Michelle V. Samuel of Berkeley, CA, and Sondra A. Gordon (Lish) of Valdosta, GA, and four grandchildren, Tarell Gordon, Thomas Gordon, Kenneth Gordon, and Shane Samuel. The family takes comfort in knowing that their loved one heard her Lord say to her, "Today you shall be with me in paradise." (Luke 23.43)