



DR. CLARA ISABEL ADAMS

January 20, 1933 - August 5, 2020

Dr. Clara Isabel Adams was born in the Baltimore, Maryland , on January 20, 1933, to the late William S. Adams., and the Mary Emma Cornish Adams, She was the second daughter of five Adams Children. Clara departed this life on August 5, 2020. Clara was educated in Baltimore City Public Schools. And at Morgan State College (now Morgan State University), where she earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Chemistry. She later earned a Master of Science Degree at Iowa State State College and then went on to attain a Doctor of Philosophy Degree at the University of Massachusetts. Clara excepted Christ as her personal savior at a young age and was a lifelong member and faithful supporter of Christ United Methodist Church in East Baltimore. She was a gentle woman who loved to travel with her sisters and was renowned for her generosity, thoughtfulness and kindness. She was always searching out the perfect souvenir gift for her loved ones. Clara had a very distinguished career. While pursuing her Master's Degree in 1950s, she was a “ hidden figure” who worked as a search fellow at the Ames Laboratory of the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission. She later worked as a chemist at the national Heart Institute of the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland. Clara was also a lifelong educator who dedicated much of her time, energy, and wealth to the noble cause of educational equity and academic opportunity for all students of color in the United States. Her crowning achievement was her 60 years of service to Morgan State University. Beginning in 1958, she served in various

roles of ever-increasing responsibility, including Professor of Chemistry, Chairperson of the Chemistry Department, Dean of the School of Graduate Studies, Vice President for Academic Affairs, and Special Assistant to the President. In August of 2018, at the seasoned age of 85, Clara retired to spend her remaining time with her loving family. Clara was highly committed to her community and the advancement of her people. Her deep roots in the community included membership in Epsilon Omega Chapter of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.; membership on the Boards (Directors, Trustees and Overseers) of the national Aquarium, Morgan Christian and Interfaith Center, and the Baltimore School for the Arts; and a number of other community development, educational and cultural organizations. Clara leaves to cherish her memory: one sister, Gloria Adams Jones; one brother, Harold W. Adams; a brother-in-law, Marshall W. Jones, Jr.; three sisters-in-law, Regina Adams, Betty Adams, and Amy Adams; three nieces, Iris Bellamy (Reginald) of Maryland, Sharron Ward (Tory) of Virginia, and Marshall Jones Kumahor (Brian) of New Jersey; three nephews, Steven Adams (Marianrique) of Pennsylvania, Keith Tyler of Texas, and Damon Jenkins (Faye) of Pennsylvania; three great-nieces, Allysha Adams, Asia Adams, and Amir Adams; six great-nephews, Todd Shelton, Anatole Gboizo (Danielle), Thomas and David Newby, and Maxwell and Kingsley, Kumahor; one great great-niece, Adrielle Gboizo; and a host of other beloved relatives and friends.

Cemetery Details

Woodlawn Cemetery

2130 Woodlawn Drive
Baltimore, MD 21207

Previous Events

Public Viewing

AUG 13. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Homes - East Baltimore
1101 East North Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21202
(410) 727-3300
info@marchfh.com

Public Viewing

AUG 14. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

Morgan State University (Murphy Fine Arts Center)
2201 Argonne Drive
Baltimore, MD 21218

Wake

AUG 14. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Morgan State University (Murphy Fine Arts Center)
2201 Argonne Drive
Baltimore, MD 21218

Service

AUG **14**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Morgan State University (Murphy Fine Arts Center)
2201 Argonne Drive
Baltimore, MD 21218

Tribute Wall



“ *To View the Webcast of the Funeral for DR. CLARA ISABEL ADAMS, Please Click the Link below.*



March Funeral Homes - August 12, 2020 at 12:40 PM



“ *Memorial Trees was purchased for the family of DR. CLARA ISABEL ADAMS.*

November 03, 2022 at 02:16 AM



“ *DR. CLARA ISABEL ADAMS*

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ *I met Dr. Adams while conducting my dissertation research. She was a fierce advocate for education, Morgan, and excellence. She was my champion and support. She was in my life for a short while but touched me in an everlasting way. Dula*

Traci Dula - June 01, 2022 at 01:32 PM

SM

“ I just came back from Dr. Adams amazing services at Morgan State. Many will miss her as much as I will. Stephen Miller, Esq.

steve miller - August 14, 2020 at 02:22 PM

PS

“ I am Patricia (Patty) Stansbury Abidore daughter. It was a pleasure to know my cousin even though I hadn't seen any of them for a while, such a Warrior. Always doing a good deed for our college children will b missed by all.

Patricia Stansbury - August 14, 2020 at 12:39 PM

DH

“ So glad to have been in her presence to feel her loving and giving spirit when ever I was around her. She was such a special lady. She et her light shine.



Derica Hawkins - August 14, 2020 at 08:05 AM

SW

“ My name is Sharron Ward. I am the niece of Dr. Adams. My fondest memories of Aunt Clara are her sense of humor and her giving spirit. Even though she was very educated, she was very down to earth. I never felt "less than" in her presence. Both of my aunts would host us on the weekends as children. She also registered me for the art school at Morgan State College for kids. Her words of wisdom to me as a University student were, "You do not need a credit card." Great advice! I'll see you in heaven Aunt Clara. Tell everyone that I'll see them again!

Sharron Ward - August 13, 2020 at 04:17 PM

SM

“ Deeply saddened by the passing of a science and education "RockStar"... Clara I. Adams, PhD. She was one of the amazing scientists and educators that enriched my learning and career preparation years at Morgan State College (now Morgan State University) from 1970 to 1974. For a young, aspiring female scientist of color in the early 70s, Professor Adams' presence in the Chemistry Department never went unnoticed or unappreciated while completing required Chemistry courses for Morgan State's Medical Technology Program. Dr. Clara Adams was indeed an inspiring role model for me while preparing for my career in Medical Laboratory Science. Years later, it was a delight to meet and work with her sister, a dedicated scientist at the Maryland Dept of Health Laboratories Administration. Extending my deepest condolences to Dr. Clara I. Adams' family, friends, and our "Fair Morgan" family! 💙
💙 Gone but Never to be forgotten! 💙💙

Sally S. Cherry, BS, MT(ASCP) - August 12, 2020 at 01:46 PM

JF

“ Dr Clara Adams was a wonderful instructor and as well as a mentor during my time as a student at Morgan State College(University). She was instrumental in my decision to attend medical school and remained supportive of the class of 1973 ! She has truly left a legacy.

Jacqueline Fulton,MD - August 11, 2020 at 12:05 PM

JH

“ Anytime the Morgan Community loses an educational icon it is felt throughout the Morgan Family. The 4 years I spent at Morgan I remember seeing this stalwart of refinement at least 3 times a week on campus. Your work Dr Adams was stupendous and marvelous and the fruit that your tree has delivered will be endless resource to the uplift of not only the Morgan Community but the nation as a whole. God Bless the gift that was Dr Clara Adams, Baltimore’s finest and most graceful educational lioness.

Joseph Hall - August 09, 2020 at 01:29 PM

SG

“ The loss of Dr. Adams is felt by many. May the memories of her wisdom, knowledge and contributions be celebrated by all. To God be the Glory...Sandra Grate

Sandra Grate - August 08, 2020 at 03:21 PM



“ We the March Family and Staff wish to extend our deepest and heartfelt sympathy in the passing of your loved one. Our prayers go out to you and your family in your time of loss. We know and understand that you have received many expressions of love and we will continue to lift you up in prayer. May the memories you cherish of brighter and happier days help to ease your sorrow and comfort you always.

March Funeral Homes - August 07, 2020 at 01:26 PM