



Mary Alice Spencer

December 24, 1931 - October 14, 2017

Obituary

The life of Mary Alice Nelson Spencer left a lasting legacy for all those she touched. Born on December 24, 1931, in Roxboro, North Carolina, Mary was the youngest of five children born to Earlie and Dora Nelson, all deceased. She was educated in the public schools of Danville, Virginia having graduated from John M. Langston High School in 1949. She accepted Christ at the age of seven while worshipping at Camp Grove Baptist Church.

Mary was the perfect example of strategic career planning. She kept at it until she found what she really wanted to do and did it! She worked as a school crossing guard for the City of Richmond and earned certification as the first Black data processor for Virginia Electric and Power Company (now Dominion Energy). Her next career move was to complete the college degree she had begun before marrying her high school sweetheart Benjamin LeVon Spencer Sr. affectionately known as Herney and having four children, Cynthia Hampton (Carthel); Donna Venable (Rev. Les); Benjamin LeVon Spencer, Jr. (deceased); and Michele "Mikki" Spencer. She is also survived by grandchildren, Eric S. Cooper, Sr. (Laila), Michelle E. Robinson; great grandchildren, Emera, Eric, Jr., and Elijah Cooper; nephews, Harold Bigelow, Prentice Nelson and Stanley Long; nieces, Willadeen Keen, Andrea Wimbush, Jackie Manns and Vickie Jordan; a host of friends, two devoted Rev. and Mrs.

Reynolds Robinson, Sr., Gloria Hinton and Armer Mitchell.

She earned a Bachelor's degree in education from Virginia State College in 1960. Mary continued in the field of education, teaching in Pittsylvania and Chesterfield counties. She eventually moved to a middle school math position in Richmond Public Schools and retired in 1996 with 29 years of service.

Though she taught with passion and reared four God fearing children she enjoyed socializing with family and friends. She enjoyed entertaining in her home and prepared many culinary delights which she was happy to share. Notable among them were her pound cake and macaroni and cheese. Her church and civic associations have been many over the years and remained active in church all her life having joined Mt. Tabor in 1960. She was ordained as a deacon in 2000 and found joy in providing leadership to the Senior Saints and reviving the educational scholarship committee.

Mary's other affiliations included: Silver Star in Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, P'nucks Card Club, AARP Richmond North Chapter 5356 Charter Member, Delver Junior Woman's Club and Richmond/Henrico Retired Teachers Association.

Mary will be remembered for her love of family, her strong faith in God, her feisty spirit and her unique sense of style. She loved to travel and saw many far away places including Hawaii, Alaska, Canada, and the Carribbean Islands. She was a caregiver to her mother, her aunts and a friend to many, always ready with a listening ear.

On Saturday, October 14, 2017, God decided that her earthly work was done and gently called her home from the loving arms of her devoted daughters to her eternal resting place.

Cemetery Details

Forest Lawn Cemetery

4000 Pilots Lane
Richmond, VA 23222

Previous Events

Public Viewing

OCT **19**. 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Home-Laburnum Ave.
2110 E. Laburnum Ave.
Richmond, VA 23222

Alpha Service

OCT **19**. 5:00 PM - 5:30 PM (ET)

March Funeral Home-Laburnum Ave.
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Wake

OCT **19**. 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

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Service

OCT **20**. 12:00 PM (ET)

Mt. Tabor Baptist Church
2011 Fairmount Ave.
Richmond, VA 23223

Tribute Wall



“ *Mary Alice Spencer*

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ *Mother Spencer was a great gift to Providence Park Neighborhood Watch Organization((P.P.N.W.O.) Mother Mary and Dea. Benjamin were the pillows of P.P.N.W.O.(55 city blocks,1500 homes) Their dedication*

and commitment were essential to the growth of the organization. Their service to us goes beyond what words can say.

*"for love is strong as death" Song of Solomon verse 8:6
Elder Rosa Jiggetts
Neighborhood Watch Coordinator*

Rosa jiggetts - October 19, 2017 at 07:51 PM



“ *Donna and family,
Even though I never knew her, I worked with you Donna, and as every mother does they give of themselves to their children. I am sure she was so proud of you and so thankful for a special daughter. Through you I knew her. She was a kind, smart, and beautiful person. I wish you all the comfort in the strength she gave you, the love she wraps your heart with, and her healing power to get you through this very difficult time.*

*Sincerely,
Patti Leonard*

Patti Leonard - October 19, 2017 at 10:51 AM

SS

“ Dear Mikki & Family, I offer my sincere sympathy on the passing of your mother. May you be comforted in knowing that she is Resting in Paradise with God and the others who have gone on before her. Remember Love is Forever and now you have one more angel watching over you and yours. Blessings and peace.
Sincerely,
Shelia O. Spurlock- Shaw



Shelia Spurlock-Shaw - October 18, 2017 at 03:04 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Mary Alice Spencer.



October 17, 2017 at 10:26 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 - October 17, 2017 at 04:29 PM

RM

My condolences to the Family she will be truly miss

Renee mosby - January 24, 2018 at 11:18 PM