



Ruby K Couch

August 27, 1923 - November 20, 2020

The daughter of the late George W. and Julia F. Keyes, Ruby Alma Keyes Couch was born in Atlantic Highlands, New Jersey on August 27, 1923, the youngest of four girls and nine boys. She was educated in the public school system in her hometown. After graduating with honors from Atlantic Highlands High School she received a scholarship to Morgan State College. While attending Morgan, she participated in numerous activities cheerleading, Intramural sports and was known as an excellent athlete and played most sports. In 1943, Ruby was initiated into Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. She graduated in 1945 with a Bachelor's Degree in Physical Education. She began teaching at Claflin College in Orangeburg, South Carolina for two years and then moved on to Newark, New Jersey School System. In 1954 she began teaching Physical Education in the Baltimore City Public System also pursuing graduate studies at Johns Hopkins University, University of Maryland and Towson State College. Retiring in 1982 after teaching at Clifton Park, Robert Poole and General Henry Lee Junior High schools.

Ruby was baptized at an early age at Saint Paul Baptist Church in Atlantic Highlands, New Jersey. When she became a resident of Baltimore City she joined Heritage United Church of Christ and was an active member in many of the church's organizations.

In June 1950, Ruby married Flan Couch Jr. who was the love of her life since

she met him at Morgan State. They enjoyed more than Fifty years of marriage. This union produced two sons Earl Flannigan Couch III (Earl S. El-Amin) and Eric Conrad Couch (Eric El-Amin). In January 16, 2001, her husband departed this life and in April 11, 2002, her youngest son Eric passed.

Ruby resided in Hanlon Park for sixty six (66) years and maintained a very high profile in the community, serving in various capacities of leadership up until she departed this life. She was known to be very frank and to the point. She believed that relationships should be open and honest, Deceit, Deviousness and Deception were disliked by her in all their forms. Ruby was totally committed to the quality of life in her neighborhood. She loved gardening, crocheting, knitting and for many years she conducted a knitting class at her church. In the later years she played Sudoku and walked around Hanlon Park Reservoir every day.

She lived her Christian Life by serving God and Living by the Tenants of her Faith: feeding the Hungry, Visiting the Sick and Donating to various charities.

Survivors include her son, Earl S. El-Amin and his wife Donna, Daughter-In-Law, Hanan El-Amin, grandchildren Ahmad El-Amin, Idris El-Amin, Qadir El-Amin and Jamillah Couch, also many nieces, nephews and other relatives and friends.

Previous Events

viewing

DEC 2. 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Homes - West Baltimore
4300 Wabash Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21215
(410) 542-2400
info@marchfh.com

Wake

DEC 3. 11:30 AM (ET)

March Funeral Homes - West Baltimore
4300 Wabash Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21215
(410) 542-2400
info@marchfh.com

Service

DEC 3. 12:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Homes - West Baltimore
4300 Wabash Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21215
(410) 542-2400
info@marchfh.com

Tribute Wall



“ To View the Webcast of the Funeral for Ruby K Couch, Please Click the Link below.



March Funeral Homes - December 01, 2020 at 02:21 PM

JL

Earl your mother was truly a remarkable woman. Thank you for allowing us into who the real Ms Ruby was. She believed in doing it her way from the beginning to the end.

Joanna Langston

Joanna Langston - December 03, 2020 at 02:22 PM



Thanks Soror Joanna

Donna El-Amin - December 04, 2020 at 09:32 PM



“ *Ruby K Couch*

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM

RO

“ Soror Ruby Couch was truly a warrior for her people. She was always ready to lend a helping hand and to give words of encouragement. Ruby was a walking book on African-American history, a badge she wore proudly.

Our ancestors have opened their arms welcoming her home.

Rosaria (Tootie) Bass

Rosaria - January 19, 2021 at 11:13 AM

TK

“ Earl (Flan), I think back to the times when Aunt Ruby, Uncle Couch, Flan and Eric would come up to Atlantic Highlands for one of the Aunt Nonnie's or Aunt Dorothy's family cookouts, we didn't have BBQ's, the Keyes family 'cooked out". It was always special when the Couch family came. Since my Dad, Booney, was the youngest son and closest in age to your Mom, she would always make it a point to talk to me, my sister and brother and make sure that we were keeping up on school and behaving ourselves. As some of the other comments said about your Mom, she had a way of being direct but we always felt the Love. I have nothing but good thoughts and will cherish her memory and honored that I'm part of her family. She will be missed by many. Love to your family!!!

Thomas Jay Keyes

Thomas J. Keyes - December 05, 2020 at 06:50 AM

MG

“ Rest in Peace my dear friend. I will so miss your beautiful cards. You are such a Blessing and will be missed so very much. You will forever and always be in my heart. Love you always and forever.
Melissa

Melissa Goodwin - December 04, 2020 at 07:44 PM

GS

“ We will miss her. She was a great lady!!
Greer Shorter, secretary, Hanlon Imprisonment Association.

Greer Shorter - December 03, 2020 at 07:16 PM

JJ

“ Rest In Peace Aunt Ruby, you will be missed.
Say hello to my mom and grandma for me ❤️



Janielle James - December 03, 2020 at 07:07 PM

TH

“ Earl, your parents were like my parents. I have many great memories as kids when all of the Morgan Aunts and Uncles would turn us loose at the football games. She was a very special lady and will be greatly missed

Tom Hasty

Thomas HASTY - December 03, 2020 at 05:42 PM

ZH

“ i am so going to miss Mrs. Couch. Our Hanlon meetings will never be the same. She worked tirelessly for the community. The works that she has done have spoken for her. May the family be comforted by the memories that you hold so dear.

Zakia Holloway - December 03, 2020 at 04:02 PM

RB

“ *Earl, you and your family have my deepest condolences on the passing of your mother.*

Warmest regards Robinette Bailey

Robinette Bailey - December 03, 2020 at 03:43 PM

WF

“ *Such a beautiful spirit. A mother to us all*

Wendell M. "Pete" France

Wendell M. France - December 03, 2020 at 11:49 AM



Donna
El-Amin

Indeed, Thanks Pete.

Donna El-Amin - December 04, 2020 at 08:55 PM

PM

“ *To the Family my sincere condolences. May you recieve strength during this time of loss. Peace be with you.*



Phyllis McCutcheon - December 03, 2020 at 11:48 AM

SP

“ *Your Michigan families, The Burkes and the Brunsons, pray for your comfort in the loss of your mother. May God always comfort you.*

Bill, Sandra and Gwen and Malika



Sandra Philpott-Burke - December 03, 2020 at 11:33 AM

JD

“ Sending prayers for your strength. My deepest sympathy to the family.

Jessica Dickerson

Jessica Dickerson - December 03, 2020 at 11:29 AM

LS

“ *Linda Spencer lit a candle in memory of Ruby K Couch*



Linda Spencer - December 03, 2020 at 11:05 AM

LM

“ *Offering my condolences to Earl and family. Ruby was a spirited and passionate woman committed to her church - Heritage UCC - and her community - Hanlon Park and the City.*



Leslie

Leslie McMillan - December 03, 2020 at 10:55 AM

DS

“ *Mother Ruby Couch* ❤️

Dr Billie Roberts Spann - December 03, 2020 at 10:16 AM

DS

“ Peace and Blessings Beautiful Family,
I've tucked Mother Ruby Crouch away in my
heart where she is loved forever and a day 🙏
❤️🌹 ... Namaste 🦋



Dr Billie Roberts Spann - December 03, 2020 at 10:09 AM

LH

“ Ms. Couch was my Physical Education Teacher at Clifton Park
Junior High. She made a lasting impression, she was such a lady.

Loni Howe - December 03, 2020 at 09:32 AM

RS

“ Earl and Family,
Please know I am so sorry for the loss of your Mother, Having first
met Miss Ruby when I was a student at Clifton Park Junior High,
she had a lasting inspiration and I feel privileged that she bestowed
her spirit on me when I was young and impressionable. We
remained in touch for over 60 years via our membership at Heritage
United Church of Christ. and Community Advocacy in Baltimore.
Although she is no longer here please know her spirit will always
remain here especially with me and many of the students that she
mentored. Miss Ruby will be missed !
Roz Smith

Roz Smith - December 03, 2020 at 12:45 AM

SW

“ Rest in Paradise 💜 Sirena Williams 🌹

sirena williams - December 03, 2020 at 12:36 AM

SS

“ *Rest in Power and Peace Ms. Ruby! Our sincerest condolences to her Family and Friends!
Our Hanlon community is Grateful for her presence and her legacy of service; and we mourn with you.
With sympathy,
The Spears Family*

Sandy Spears - December 02, 2020 at 11:04 PM

CF

“ *Mrs. Couch was a good friend of my mother, Nahketah Gregory Johnson. They were members of the Mondawmin Child Study Group in the 1960s and organized many enrichment activities for their children. Mrs. Couch attended my mother's memorial service in February, and was clearly physically and mentally active. I last saw her on TV, conducting an articulate interview during the #BLM demonstrations. She left her mark on her family, her community and everyone she met. She will be missed. Please accept my deepest sympathy.
- Cheryl Gregory Faye*

Cheryl Gregory Faye - December 02, 2020 at 07:17 PM

OJ

“ *My condolences to the family of my church member and friend MS.RUBY COUCH. From OLA C. JACKSON*

Ola Jackson - December 02, 2020 at 05:01 PM

TH

“ *The Honorable & Mrs. Ralph M. Hughes purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Ruby K Couch.*



The Honorable & Mrs. Ralph M. Hughes - December 01, 2020 at 08:08 PM

AD

“ *Alexander Scruggs Descendants purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Ruby K Couch.*



Alexander Scruggs Descendants - December 01, 2020 at 06:29 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Ruby K Couch.*



December 01, 2020 at 12:24 PM

FL

“ *Frances, Karen/Kevin/Tiffani, Leslie/Kendall purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Ruby K Couch.*



Frances, Karen/Kevin/Tiffani, Leslie/Kendall - December 01, 2020 at 10:55 AM

AB

“ I want to extend my condolences to the Al-Amin Family on the passing of your mother and mother in law. My thoughts and prayer are with you. Abdul-Rahmaan and Michelle Waajid

Abdul-RahmaanWaajid - December 01, 2020 at 08:03 AM

PP

“ Earth has no sorrow that heaven cannot heal”. Sending my condolences and prayers to Earl, Donna and the entire family. Mrs Couch was a strong matriarch. Will keep everyone in prayers. God bless. Phyllis Polston and family

Phyllis Polston - November 30, 2020 at 05:07 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ruby K Couch.



November 30, 2020 at 04:11 PM

DT

“ It was a pleasure knowing Ms. Rubie Couch.. My brother and I first met her back in the late 60's as she was a vibrant worker for Forest Park Little League where her son's played and her Husband was a Coach. Our paths crossed again when we met her niece Wanda. Listening to Rubie and my mom talk about the past was a blast and they both don't hold their tongues. Tracy said they were two peas in a pod..

"Watch out Heaven"..With our deepest Sympathy....Ed &Tracy Tilghman and Diane Tilghman-Salmond

Diane Tilghman-Salmond - November 30, 2020 at 04:00 PM

RB

“ *Ms. Couch has forever been a beacon of light in our beloved Hanlon community. Thanks for your service and dedication. A true neighbor to all. Extending my sincere condolences from my family to yours.*
Rita Roane Blackwell and Family

Rita Roane Blackwell - November 29, 2020 at 02:21 PM

 Torry
Keyes-
Burwell

“ *My dear Great Aunt Ruby. My father (Lammy Pie) will miss our annual trip to spend the day with you. I would just sit and listen to your stories of our family...❤️*



Torry Keyes-Burwell - November 28, 2020 at 04:19 PM

 Donna
El-Amin

Torrey this is a nice picture. She enjoyed your visits.

Donna El-Amin - November 28, 2020 at 05:51 PM

MF

Ruby Keyes Couch was my fellow church member, my co-chair of our Senior Ministry, my "voice of reason", my project reviewer and activity critic, my run it by me voice, my soror and most of all my friend. We shared, we disagreed on the best way to do things, but always worked a solution, we cared about our Boomers+, planned for them, loved them, took care of them. I will truly miss the other half of my team. She was one of a kind, always ready to give, to serve and encourage others to be their best selves. All of the Boomers+ thank you for all that you did to make these last 12 years of Boomers+ a "family affair". Thank you El-Amin family for sharing Ruby with us, may God give you strenght for the journey.

Marian Rouse Finney

Marian Rouse Finney - November 30, 2020 at 03:53 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 - November 28, 2020 at 09:34 AM