



## Vivian L. Davis

December 20, 1931 - July 9, 2018

Vivian Louise Davis (nee Anderson) was born on December 20, 1930 in Camden, South Carolina. She was the 7th child and a lively Christmas present for her parents, Hettie Williams and Henry Anderson. Her parents were strong Christian believers and she was raised with a strong religious background. Her parents were strict and made certain that she followed the path of righteousness. Vivian accepted Christ at an early age and she too was a believer. As a young girl, Vivian was very outgoing and popular at Jackson High School in Camden South Carolina. She was a cheerleader and often cheered her brother Henry, Jr on during his basketball games. Vivian's brother Clifton (affectionately called Clif), fondly remembers her in her black and gold cheerleader outfit. After graduating from high school in 1947, she migrated up north to New York, which was customary during that era. She was seeking opportunity and education. Her older brother Amos was already in New York so her parents knew she would be safe. Vivian worked and took secretarial courses at night. Her future began to unfold when she made a visit to Baltimore, Maryland to assist her sister, Henrietta (affectionately called Hen) with her new born baby. Then the magic happened, when Vivian was introduced to Cal Davis, Jr. They both fell in love and nothing else mattered. They were married March 28, 1948. Vivian was a devoted wife and she would get up with her husband Cal at 4:00 a.m. and cook him a hot breakfast before he headed off to work at Bethlehem Steel. Cal and Vivian were always together during the early years of their marriage. When you saw one, you saw

the other. They both loved to dress and look good and they would often go out dancing. Cal and Vivian enjoyed many special times with her sister-in-law's Bessie Lee and Lelia and their husbands.

Cal and Vivian waited 10 years after getting married, before GOD blessed them with their first bundle of joy, Cynthia. But during those 10 years they practiced their parenting skills on their nieces and nephews. Vivian's nieces and nephews in Baltimore, Louise, Sam, Patricia, Francine and Mike would visit often and Cal's nieces, Minnie Lee, Shirley and Teenie, would also spend weekends with them. When their first born arrived, Cynthia Ann, everyone was excited for them. Vivian followed her mother's teaching and raised Cynthia with a strong religious foundation. Vivian made certain that Cynthia attended church regularly, first at Trinity AME Church in East Baltimore and later at Union Memorial United Methodist Church in West Baltimore. In 1974 Vivian joined Union Memorial United Methodist Church. She was very active in the life of the church participating in the United Methodist Women, Commission on Missions, Evangelism Team, Communion Steward, and Faith Circle Leader. Vivian also wanted to make certain that Cynthia knew how important education was to her success. Vivian exposed Cynthia to numerous activities. She enrolled her in sewing and swimming classes at the YWCA to make certain she had positive experiences as she grew up. Vivian became a Girl Scout Troop Leader; Cynthia became a Girl Scout. She always wanted the best for her daughter. GOD gifted Cal and Vivian with a second bundle of joy, Alfonzo Eric (affectionately called Al). Vivian loved Al with every fiber of her being. There's nothing like the love between a mother and her son. Vivian instilled the same religious teaching into her son, Al. She made certain he attended church regularly and in his early years he was an altar boy at Union Memorial. Vivian kept Al busy as well in activities to help shape his life positively. She became a Den Mother of a Boy Scout troop; Al became a Boy Scout. She attended every one of his baseball games and cheered him on enthusiastically. When Al developed medical issues at a young age, she reach

out for resources to assist him. Vivian never stopped being there to support him. Vivian wanted to protect Al from all harm. Vivian made many sacrifices for her family so they could be happy. Every summer Vivian traveled with her family down to her hometown of Camden, South Carolina to visit her mother, mother-in-law, father and her sister, Etta and her family. Everyone looked forward to these visits. She loved to celebrate holidays and make them special for her family. She always wanted everyone to be together.

Vivian was a communicator and she enjoyed talking. She really, really liked to talk. She would make early morning phone calls and wake you up just to talk. She was direct and straightforward and you couldn't be too sensitive around her; that was who she was. On many occasions her niece, Joyce from New York, would call her for support and encouragement. Vivian was adventurous and she liked to travel. She flew to California with Cynthia to see her brother John. Also, she went on a cruise to the Bahamas with Cynthia and they both had a ball.

In her young life, she worked in private service for former Governor Marvin Mandel and his family. They were very kind to her. Vivian knew the value of education and she desired to advance and improve herself. She took numerous workshops and received various certificates. She began to taking classes at what was then called, Community College of Baltimore (CCB). During this time she became a Teacher's Assistant in the Baltimore City Public School System. When this position ended, she became a Substitute Teacher in the Baltimore Public School System. She worked with elementary, junior and senior high students. They all knew "Miss Davis" because she kept them straight! During the summer months Vivian worked for the Department of Parks and Recreation at the Patterson Park swimming pool, she enjoyed the water.

One of the proudest moments of her life was March 29, 1998, when surrounded by family and friends, her and her husband renewed their vows and celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Everyone had a wonderful time.

Vivian had to be the caregiver in many situations; with her son, her husband, her brother, Andrew and her sister, Harriet (affectionately called Irene). Vivian cared for her husband during his medical challenges and GOD called him home on January 3, 2004. They were blessed to have spent 55 years together. Vivian talked about Cal every day for many years following his death. After losing her husband life took on a new form. It was her and Al together, supporting each other and Cynthia, giving them both support from afar, in Philadelphia. Vivian's niece Shirley, would often stop by her house and check on them to help with whatever was needed.

In May of 2014, Vivian became ill and her medical issues required that she have 24 hour care. She was moved to a nursing facility, Genesis Multi-Medical Center, Towson, MD. She lost her ability to be mobile. She no longer had the independence and freedom that she was use to and this was extremely challenging for Vivian. She didn't want to be "stuck in a bed looking at the four corners of the wall" and she said this often. The Recreation Staff at the nursing facility worked hard to keep Vivian engaged in all the activities, Bingo, Sing-A-Longs and Arts and Crafts. She did enjoy these activities and she always perked up when she received cards from her very dear friend, Mrs. Edna Ruff and other members of Union Memorial. Visits from her nieces and nephews always brightened her day and she always loved to see Cynthia's girlfriend, Soraya and her husband.

The second love of her life, her son Al, passed on December 1, 2014. Vivian was a strong woman but it's a major heartbreak when a mother loses her child. Vivian spoke of Al often, remembering all the happy times they had

spent together. Vivian continued to maintain her strength trusting in GOD and knowing that he doesn't any mistakes. Her niece, Tula would visit her Aunt Viv (as she was affectionately called) regularly to make certain she was ok and lift her spirits. Vivian faced her most challenging medical hurdle ever, in December 2017, when she suffered a major stroke. Following the stroke, Vivian was not able to communicate as easily and her medical prognosis was not good. The doctors were reluctant to continue further treatment but they failed to acknowledge who was in charge; GOD was the ruler of Vivian's fate. Cynthia took up the sword and fought to ensure her mother received the medical care she so rightfully deserved. GOD continued to bless Vivian but her recovery was difficult and Cynthia realized that her mom needed to be physically closer to her. Cynthia moved her mom up to Pennsylvania. They were able to see each other more often. During their visits Vivian was always able to acknowledge that she remembered everyone.

On July 9, 2018, GOD called Vivian home to join her first love, Cal and Second love, Al. We know she is walking and talking all day! GOD and the angels are surely getting an earful. The sound of Vivian's voice and our conversations with her will never be forgotten.

Vivian was preceded in death by her husband, Cal Davis, Jr.; and son, Alfonzo (Al) Eric Davis.

She leaves to cherish her memory: her daughter, Cynthia Ann Davis; brother, Clifton Harrington Anderson of Camden, South Carolina; sisters-in-law, Ethel Mae Anderson of Camden, South Carolina and Lelia Montgomery of Baltimore, Maryland; and a host of nieces and nephews who were all special to her, other relatives and friends.

# Cemetery Details

## King Park

8710 Dogwood Road  
Baltimore, MD 21244

# Previous Events

## viewing

JUL 21. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

Union Memorial U.M.  
2500 harlem Ave  
Baltimore, MD

## Wake

JUL 21. 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM (ET)

Union Memorial U.M.  
2500 harlem Ave  
Baltimore, MD

## Service

JUL 21. 10:30 AM (ET)

Union Memorial U.M.  
2500 harlem Ave  
Baltimore, MD



# Tribute Wall



“ *Vivian L. Davis*

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Vivian L. Davis.*



July 19, 2018 at 08:51 AM



“ *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** - July 16, 2018 at 07:25 AM