

Alma Irene Snowden Curry



## *Obituary*

Alma Irene Snowden Curry, first child of the late Florence Alma Powell and Robert Lee Snowden was born on April 23, 1931 in Washington, DC. Irene grew up in Rockville, MD. She would often tell a story of growing up at the Funeral Home. Irene, being an adventurous person, decided she would spend the night in the new or "Big House" as she and her brother, Junior, referred to it. So Irene packed a bag and went off to spend the night in the new house with running water and an indoor bathroom prior to her younger brother and parents. Let us just say that Irene didn't get much sleep before she returned to the old house with her family due to loud noises created by the settling.

She was educated in Montgomery County, MD and later in Washington, DC where she graduated from Dunbar High School. She went on to further her education at West Virginia State College obtaining a Bachelor of Music degree in 1953. Irene was a committed student. Her late husband, Rupert told his grandsons, "I was trying to get with your grandma, but she didn't hang out around campus, so I started going to the library" . Needless to say the library trick worked. Irene married Rupert in 1952 and they were married for 49 years.

After college, Irene and her husband lived in Saint Louis, MO and Fort Knox, KY until he was discharged from the U.S. Army in 1955. Returning back home to Rockville, MD, with their daughter, Cheryl, and son, Bobo. Irene was glad to be home near her parents to raise her family. Being "Daddy's Little Girl", Miss Poo as she was affectionately called by her father, began creating new bonds and reinforcing old ones.

In Rockville, Irene began teaching at Lincoln High School in 1957 until her father insisted she come to work with the family at Snowden Funeral Home. Her parents retired in 1971 leaving the family business to Irene and her brother, George R. "Junior" Snowden Sr.

Throughout Irene's life she was a rock and silent supporter of her family, church, and community. Although, she was not so silent to her family. She taught lessons without

others knowing they were being schooled. She walked tall and proud and demanded nothing less from her family. Whether called upon to speak publicly or support you quietly, she always showed up and often, showed out, with the eloquence, poise and dignity she possessed.

Irene loved her children but adored her grandchildren, spoiling and showering them often. As a former teacher, she knew love was a verb and she spent her life showing them all what love looks, like in action. She was a charter member of Montgomery County Alumni Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. She was a member of Jerusalem-Mt. Pleasant, playing the organ since the age of 12 and directing the Men's Choir for 35 years. Her community involvement grew to include memberships in The Saint Louis Club of Wash DC, Cover to Cover Book Club, Patuxent Rod & Gun Club Women's Auxiliary, and The Willing 3C's Social Club.

Early on Sunday December 9, 2018, Irene was called from labor to reward. To cherish her memory are her children, Cheryl, Rupert II (Christine) and Robert Sr. (Gloria) Curry; 9 grandchildren, who called her "Dayah", Robert Jr; Daniel Sr, Karl (Betsy), Anthony Sr. (Nancy), Brittany (Shelia), Kimberly, Haley, Rupert III (June) and Jamaal Curry; 22 great grandchildren, Shedarius, Trevon, Tyson, Davon, Deonte, Anthony Jr, Daniel Jr., Danielle, Dayna, Kamea, Austin, Markus, Brooklyn, Autumn, Laela, Tori, Dominic, Dorian, Rupert IV, Rosalie and Dayana, two devoted nephews, George Jr. (Dia) and Bryan Snowden, a sister-in-law, Joyce Snowden. She also leaves a devoted friend and travel companion Ruth Brown; a host of nieces, nephews, great nieces, great nephews, countless other relatives .and a host of friends. She was preceded in death by her husband Rupert Sr., her brother, George R. Snowden Sr., and sister- in-law Shirley Shields Snowden.