



Louise Williams Thomas

June 16, 1934 - September 8, 2020

Beloved Louise Williams Thomas transitioned to glory on September 8, 2020 in Stamford, Connecticut. She was born in Washington, DC to Charlie Williams and Mary Lindsey Williams. She was raised in Pendleton, South Carolina.

She attended boarding school at Allen High School in Ashville, North Carolina. She received her undergraduate degree from Allen University in Columbia, South Carolina. Following college, she began her Master's in Education at Howard University, Washington, DC. Completing her Master's in Education at Fairfield, CT and continuing to pursue her 6th year in Education at University of Bridgeport, Bridgeport, CT.

It was there in South Carolina, while teaching, she met the love of her life, Tom J. Thomas. They were united in marriage in December of 1961. They began their life together in New Jersey where Louise taught English at Clinton Place High School in Newark, NJ. It was there in Newark, NJ they welcomed their daughter, Angela Thomas Graves, into their life. Shortly after they moved to Stamford, Connecticut began teaching at Burdick Middle School. She stayed at Burdick until closing. She continued her 39 year career with Stamford Public Schools by teaching English at Rippowam High School until its closing. Her final stop was at Stamford High School where she remained a vibrant part of the English Department until her retirement in 1996. It was at that time, Louise still continued to serve and worked with Stamford Adult & Continuing Education teaching English to those seeking their high school

diploma until she officially passed the baton in 2007.

Louise Thomas achieved much in her earthly life. She was a member of her beloved sorority, Delta Sigma Theta since 1954, and charter member of the Fairfield County Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta. Louise was a member of Bethel A.M.E. Church in Stamford, CT, since 1968, where she has worked with several ministries throughout her time. Her most treasured ministry was the Coalition for Mutual Respect in collaboration with Rabbi Emily, and the Jewish foundation. They raised funds to support many students' educational tutoring and financial college assistance.

Louise had a wide variety of interest. Most recently, she participated in a weekly literature class at the Darien Senior Center wherein she loved sharing her literary appetite with others. She was a world traveler, having traveled to five continents. When she was not traveling internationally, she enjoyed her time at her second home in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

Louise's crowning characteristics were eloquent style, literary knowledge, wisdom, her command of the English language and her incredible strength to endure. She was viewed as an amazing woman of strength, which she credits to her Faith. She was a nice blend of old and new, Louise will be greatly missed by all who knew her best.

She leaves her daughter, Angela Thomas Graves, and her son-in-law, James Gregory Graves, and several nieces and nephews, friends and family to continue this amazing journey she called life. She is predeceased by her husband, Tom J. Thomas, a sister, Gloria Williams Heath, her beloved aunt, Louise Vance Martin and Grandmother, Conyers Vance Williams.

There will be a public viewing on Saturday, September 12, 2020 from 9:00 am – 11:00 am at Graves Medley Funeral Services, 31 Stillwater Ave., Stamford, CT followed by a private graveside burial at Spring Grove Cemetery in Darien, CT. Due to Covid-19, a more formal celebration of her life will take place at a future date.

Cemetery Details

Spring Grove Cemetery

41 Hecker Ave.
Darien, CT

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **12**. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Graves Medley Funeral Services
31 Stillwater Avenue
Stamford, CT 06902
(203) 323-2666

Tribute Wall

RO

“ I enjoyed talking with Louise. Where she was calm and contemplative, I was a tad raucous. Louise would smile at a comment I had made, lift her eyes and smile and say really Rodger, you can be outrageous. Of course, outrageous meant something very different to Louise, as it would have been impossible to say anything that might upset her. Louise was a lady, and that forced you to be a gentleman in her company. Louise was composed and elegant in both dress and speech. I never saw her angry, I never heard her utter a mean word. Louise was a gentle soul and I cannot think of her without a smile appearing on my face. My condolences to her family.

Rodger - September 13, 2020 at 08:45 AM

HW

“ Thinking of you with love!
Helen Weaver

Helen weaver - September 12, 2020 at 10:35 AM

BH

“ Angela
I am so sorry to hear anout your mother. She was a fabulously classy and awesome woman. Praying for you and your family.
Bridget Wilson Hall



Bridget Wilson Hall - September 11, 2020 at 10:06 AM

JP

“ To Angela and Greg Mrs Louise was a beautiful intelligent woman of knowledge and wisdom.I always admire her outstanding voice like Mayo Angelou.She was my adult high school english teacher my favorite. She always give me advice and tell me put one foot in front of the other.I know she have her golden crown with one foot in front of the other with our Father who art in Heaven.I am going to miss you.Love you always. May you rest in Peace.Love Joy Poteau.

Joy Poteau - September 10, 2020 at 06:54 PM