

In Loving Memory



Ann Romans

April 3, 1929 – March 30, 2014

HOME GOING SERVICE

Friday, April 11, 2014

Wake 1:00 p.m.

AKA Beyond the Wall Celebration

Funeral 2:00 p.m.

CHURCH OF THE COVENANT

11205 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44106

Reverend Heidi L. Barham, Officiating

Order of Service

Prelude

Processional

Call to Worship & Celebration Rev. Carmen Cox Harwell

Scripture – Proverbs 3:5 – 6 Aryanna Jones

Romans 8:35 – 39.....Palmer Williams III

Prayer of Comfort..... Rev. Jonyrma Singleton

Solo – “My Tribute”.....Annetta Williams

Acknowledgements/Resolutions

Tributes..... Cordelle Stokes
Richard Perry
Palmer Williams Jr.

Poem(s).....Anthony Jones II
Aryanna Jones
Luke Williams

Obituary..... Read in silence

Solo – “Walk With Me” Palmer Williams Jr.

Words from a Sons Heart.....Anthony Jones

Eulogy..... Rev. Heidi L. Barham

Selection – “Precious Lord”Bertha Banks

Prayer of Gratitude for the Resurrection..... Rev. Heidi L. Barham

Commendation & Benediction..... Rev. Jonyrma Singleton

Recessional

Obituary



Ann R. Romans was born in Wetumpka, Alabama on April 3, 1929. She was preceded in death by 14 siblings: Calvin, Rainey, Augusta, Curtis, Cecil, Alberta, Julie Bell, Annie Maria, Valeria, Cateria, Maerener, Veolia, Arelia, and one at child birth.

She was a graduate of Parker High School in Birmingham, Alabama 1947 and Knoxville College 1951 in Knoxville, Tennessee along with being a proud member of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority.

Ann Romans moved to Cleveland, Ohio, and retired as a school teacher with the Cleveland Public School System after more than 40 years of dedicated service. Committed to life-long learning, she earned her Master of Education degree in Counseling from John Carroll University in 1996 at the age of 67. Because of her

profound love for children, she created a non-profit agency H.E.S. – Help Educate for Services. In addition to her 40+ year career in education with the Cleveland Public Schools, Ann Romans enjoyed working as a private duty nurse and as a real estate broker in her own firm, Ann Henry Realty.

In 2007, Ann Romans moved to Marietta, Georgia to be with her daughter, son-in-law and grandchildren where she continued to reside until she passed away on Sunday, March 30, 2014 at the age of 84; however, Cleveland, Ohio will always be her true home. Prior to the move to Atlanta, she was committed to her grandchildren here in Cleveland by helping to raise her sons children.

Ann Romans was part of early politics and activism in the Cleveland area. The Carl Stokes Brigade, The 21st District Caucus that became the 11th District Caucus, and other community programs designed to teach and help the community. She had the distinction of having participated in every parade they have had in the 44 year history of the annual Labor Day celebration, walking and subsequently riding on the back of a motorcycle in the last parade in September 2013 at age 84.

Ann Romans traveled around the world for the NAACP to study the relationship between the African American people and the people of other countries. In that awakening she realized African Americans were not treated as bad abroad as they were in the United States. This is where she coined her famous phrase, “Travel is the best social studies class you will ever have.” Throughout these travels she made a decision not to have her son born in the United States, she wanted to be treated like a person and didn’t want anyone attending to her that wasn’t going to honor those wishes. Needles to say her son Anthony was born in Ennis Ireland and stands as the first African American on record to be born there.

Ann Romans enjoyed making people laugh, her spirit of laughter and comedy gave her a bridge to the children she taught. In her retirement she wanted to do more shows and has traveled the country in that joy. As her years became heavy she had a goal to be on stage in Hollywood. She told her family she wanted to go and off she went. At 83, she stood in a line for amateur night with almost a hundred other people, in Los Angeles, California at the infamous “Comedy Store” on the Sunset Strip. She was chosen and able to preform on the stage that so many other great comedians had been. Atlanta Comcast Cable did a special on comedians in Atlanta and Ann Romans was one of the comedians featured in the broadcast for 4 months running. Her last show was at New Birth Missionary Baptist Church before a crowd of more than 2,000 people. Age never held Ann Romans back and is a testament of those in our community who continue to follow their dreams.

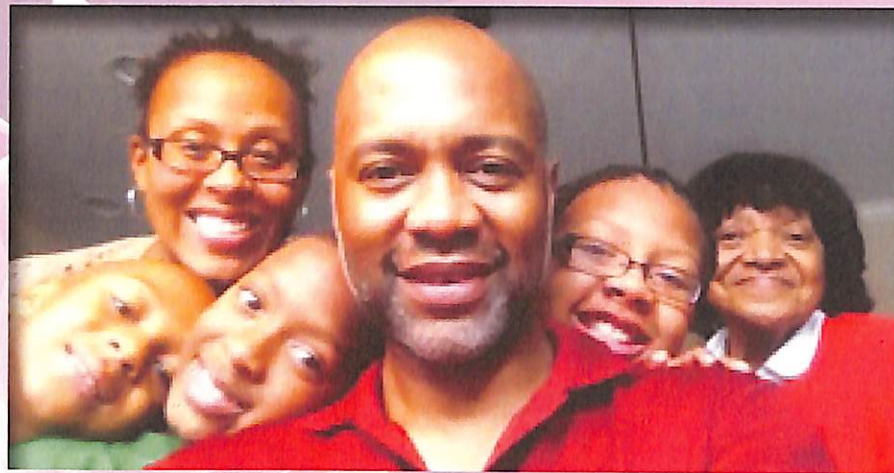
She leaves behind to cherish her memory and carry on her legacy, two devoted children: Anthony (Loretta) Jones, Shaker Heights, Ohio and daughter, Annetta (Palmer, Jr.) Williams, Marietta, Georgia; and six grandchildren: Aryanna Jones, Anthony Jones II, Nia Williams, Palmer Williams III, Luke Williams and Tierney Stewart; along with a host of other family and friends.

Her love for Life, Children and her Family is known by all. She lived by the phrase “Never Stop Learning.”





Memories



Fog brings
a baby
100,000
welcomes

NEGRO schoolteacher Mrs. Ann Jones wanted her first baby born in England—away from the race prejudice of America.

Her plans went wrong. And yesterday, her 7th baby boy, Anthony Lifford—as dark-skinned as the mother and mother—cried loudly in an Irish hospital.

Baby Anthony is the first baby boy born in Emnis, Co. Clare.

Yesterday he was given the young Co. Clare name of Michael Failla—the traditional Irish 100,000 were counted by names.

★

Mrs. Teresa Gloran, wife of the Mayor of Emnis, presented the baby to a religiously christening mass. She gave Mrs. Jones a bouquet of flowers and said: "I am glad to be the first to christen your baby."

Teacher Leaves U. S. for Birth of Her Son

By BETTY KLAMC

A Cleveland school teacher told The Times today from her hospital bed in Manila, Ireland, that she left here Sunday because she did not want her baby born in this country.

"That I definitely want him to be an American citizen," Mrs. Annie Jones, 3425 St. Charles St., said.

A teacher for 10 years, she is assigned to Woodbridge school, 4200 Kinnaman St.

The Cleveland Press article says she is leaving because for my baby to be a British subject rather than an American.

Mrs. Jones was on her way to England when her plane was hit in the Irish Sea last Sunday. She gave birth to a

son about her yesterday.

"I don't know what they put on that airplane," Mrs. Jones said, "and the United Press story."

"I thought it would be too costly to have my baby born in Ireland," she said before I left the U. S.," she said. "I am an American or English citizen. I had chosen before I left to have my American son."

Mrs. Jones said.

Mrs. Jones, who has been

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Memories



The Twenty Third Psalm

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth
me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of
righteousness for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of
death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod
and thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of
mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup
runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of
my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

ANN ROMANS "84"

Our mother believed in being kind to others. Her belief in giving to people would not be wasted on anyone. We've come up with Ann Romans "84". Personally do "84" acts of kindness in your life that you expect nothing in return.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The family of Ann Romans thanks you sincerely for your prayers, cards, telephone calls, flowers and other expressions of sympathy.

May God continue to bless each of you.

REPAST

Museum of Contemporary Art
11400 Euclid Avenue

4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.