

Eulogy

Calmeta Challenger was born, Calmeta Veronica Hanley, in Cuba on March 17, 1924. Her parents, Ernest Hanley and Urania Pollock Hanley were migrants from the island of Nevis who had moved to Cuba to seek work in the sugar industry.

In 1929, the global economy was severely impacted by the crash of US Stock Market, and as a result the Hanleys returned to Nevis with their three young children (Calmeta 5, Doris 3, and Louvinia 1).

Calmeta was therefore raised in Nevis and knows nothing about the country of her birth. She received her formal education in Nevis and graduated at the top of her class from the prestigious Bridgewater High School with honors. She entered the nursing profession age 17 and worked in several departments in nursing and ultimately became the leading midwife on the island. She was the oldest of four sisters and became a tower of strength and role model for her sisters. As a result, two of her sisters followed in her footsteps and became nurses as well.

In 1952 she wedded William Challenger, and as was customary then, gave up her career and became a devoted housewife. On one occasion when her husband was sick the doctor was summoned for a house call. During that 'house call' the doctor observed Calmeta's Certificates of Achievements which were prominently displayed. He immediately demanded that she return to the hospital, stating that a talent like that was too valuable to be utilized solely as a housewife. She took the advice and was immediately reinstated to her nursing position at the hospital.

Throughout her career Calmeta worked in several departments including Medical, Surgical, Pediatrics, Dental Assistant, Public Health, District Nursing, Maternal Child Health and delivered a multitude of babies during that time. She was affectionately called "Nurse Challenger" and was highly respected by everyone throughout the island.

Very early in the union with her husband, Calmeta undertook to assist her sister Louvina in taking care of her child Joan who was six years old at the time. Through mutual agreement, this arrangement became permanent and Calmeta ultimately raised Joan to womanhood. Through her kind heart and generosity, Calmeta was also instrumental in the upbringing of her sister Doris' kids - Ken, Keith, Janice and Lenore.

In 1968 after 27 years of sterling service in Nevis, Calmeta migrated to St. Croix and took Joan with her. After a short stay in St. Croix, they moved to Brooklyn, New York.

While in New York, Calmeta went back to school and obtained her LPN (License Practical Nurse) license. She obtained employment at Brooklyn's Cumberland Hospital where she worked for 20 years as an Operating Nurse Technician until her retirement.

In 1989 Calmeta relocated to Miami and quickly adopted to the warm tropical climate which she was accustomed to from the Caribbean. She was particularly attracted to Opa Locka's Flea Market and looked forward to her weekly Saturday visits.

Calmeta was a faithful and dedicated member of The Fountain Church in Pembroke Pines under Pastor Wayne Lomax. In 2014 she made a decision to relocate to Virginia with her nephew Ken and his wife.

Calmeta was in excellent health until she suffered a stroke on June 1st, and subsequently passed away peacefully on June 9, 2020 at Sentara Nursing Care Facility in Virginia Beach. She was 96. Her three sisters pre-deceased her. Lou (at age 83) and Edith (at age 84) both died in England in 2011 and 2014 respectively. Doris passed away April 20, 2020 in St. Thomas, Virgin Islands at age 93. All these sisters had longevity in their genes. We pray that the next generation of Hanleys inherit some of those genes.

Calmeta will be sadly missed by her family, and many close friends and relatives. May her soul rest in eternal peace.

Pallbearers

Spencer Hanley
Keith O'Brien
Theodore Daniel
Jelani Miller

Honorary Pallbearers

Duane Coleman
Kenrick Clarke
Ashton Keith Hanley
Kipling Hanley
Oscar Walter
Roger Browne

Afterglow

*I'd like the memory of me to be a happy one.
I'd like to leave an after glow of smiles when life is done,
I'd like to leave an echo whispering softly down the ways,
Of happy times and laughing times and bright and summer days.
I'd like the tears of those who grieve, to dry before the sun,
Of happy memories that I leave When life is done.*

Acknowledgements

The family wishes to thank each of you for your sincere and genuine care, kindness and love throughout this special time in our lives. May God place a special blessing upon each of you. We sincerely thank you.

Interment

Dade Memorial Park/Miami Dade County
1301 NW Opa-locka Blvd
Miami, Florida 33167



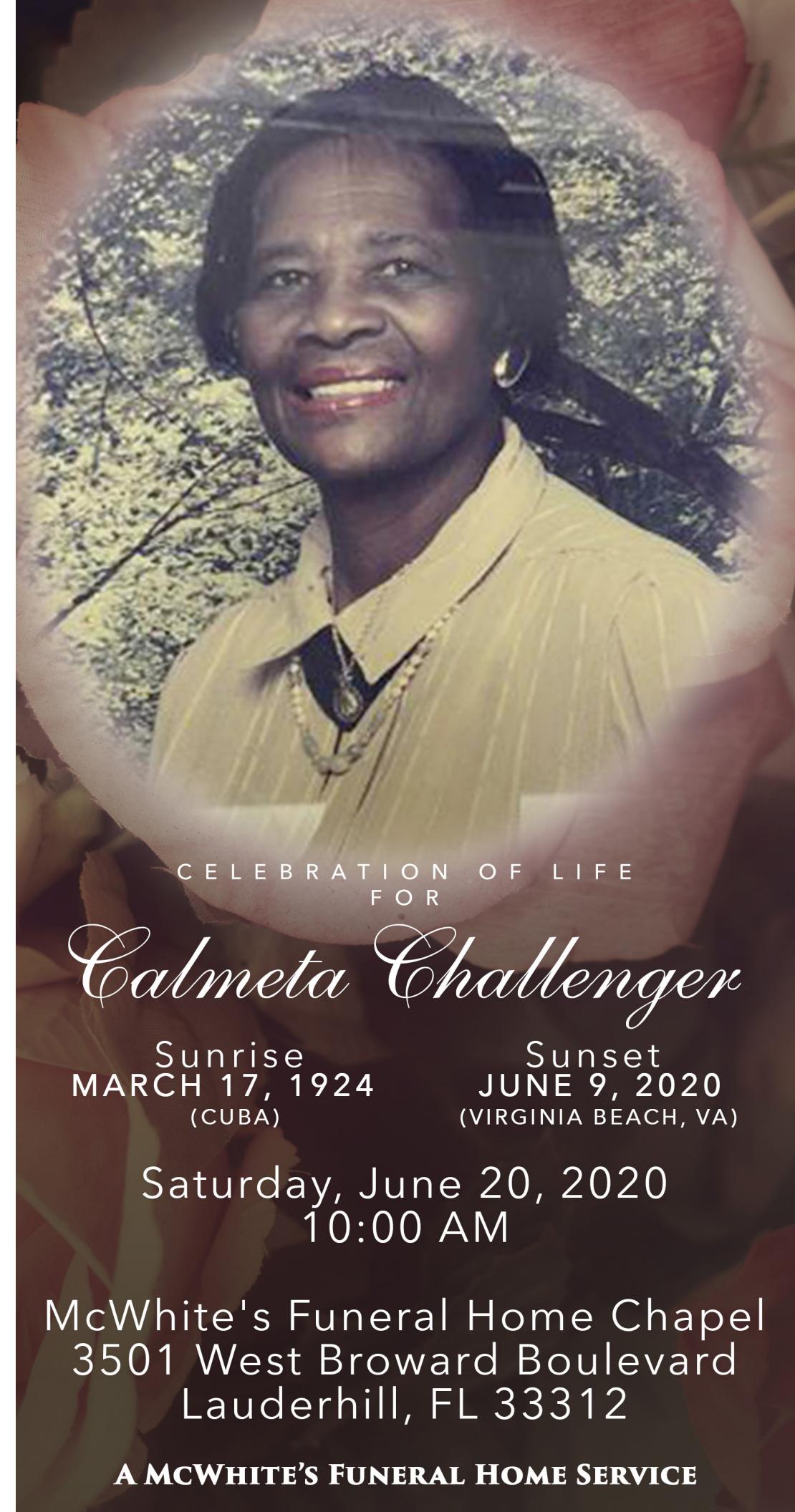
Funeral Arrangements Entrusted To:

MCWHITE'S FUNERAL HOME

*"Satisfaction Is Our Business" * "Because Families Deserve The Best!"*

3501 West Broward Boulevard
Lauderhill, FL 33312
(954) 584-0047

1215 North Tamarind Avenue
West Palm Beach, FL 33401
(561) 225-1141



CELEBRATION OF LIFE
FOR

Calmeta Challenger

Sunrise
MARCH 17, 1924
(CUBA)

Sunset
JUNE 9, 2020
(VIRGINIA BEACH, VA)

Saturday, June 20, 2020
10:00 AM

McWhite's Funeral Home Chapel
3501 West Broward Boulevard
Lauderhill, FL 33312

A MCWHITE'S FUNERAL HOME SERVICE

Calmeta Challenger

LEAVES TO MOURN

Brother: Spencer W. Hanley

Joan O'Brien & husband Keith O'Brien (Florida) Kenrick Clarke & family (Virginia) Keith Hanley & family (New York) Lenore Hanley & family (Florida) Sonia Ferris & family (Georgia) Patricia Alcendor & family (St. Thomas) Dulcina (Dolly) Thompson & Kipling Hanley (St. Thomas) Elton & Joy Hanley (England) Michael (Walla) Hanley (Nevis) Jensen, Desmond & Dawn Thomas (England) Ivor & Shirley Jeffers (England), Charlie Hanley (Barbados) Dahlia Prentice, Leesa Bussue, Sylvester (Colo) Bussue, Terrence Bussue (Nevis) Nicola Matthews & Spencer A. Hanley (Florida).

Great Neices & Great Nephews:

Duane Coleman & wife Nakia, D'Avion Coleman, Precious O'Brien, Takiya, Brian and Eric Hanley, Shaniece Charlemagne, Shakaja Mercer, Juwan and Jayla Ferris, Trenton Benjamin, Teniesha Alcendor, Stephen Matthews, Tatianna Matthews, Damois Matthews, Leah Matthews, Brie Ann Hanley, Lea Ann Hanley.

Sister-in-Law: Jacqueline Hanley

Predeceased by:

Sisters: Louvinia Hanley – Thomas, Edith Hanley – Jeffers, Doris Hanley

Brothers: Edmund Hanley, Charles (Eddy) Hanley, James (Pappy) Hanley

Devoted Friend: Harriet Nell Hanley

Many cousins including:

Lennard Brown, Sylvia James & family, Lorna Webster & family, Myrna Walwyn & family, Beulah Eddo & family, Josephine Deane & family, Ernestine Bussue & family, Merle Coker & family, Peggy Rigg & family, Mark & Tempe Nisbett, Edric Stanley & family, Doretha & Cynthia Herbert, Ivan Hanley, Ruby Hanley, Lynette Hanley, Regla Huggins & family, The French Family of Nevis, Paula, Shauna, and Dawn James. Helen Bradley, Maisy Maynard.

Many other family and friends including:

Annette, Barbs, Suzie and Hazel Francis, Nurse Armbrister, The Daly Family, Nelta Wade Richards, Millicent Wade, Ermine Brookes, Jelani Miller & family, Tinika Fields, Dr. Roger Browne, Theodore & Vernie Daniel, Oscar Walters, Yolanda & family, Church Ground & Bath Village Communities of Nevis.



Order Of Service

Reception Of Body

Opening Prayer and Comments

Pastor Wayne Lomax

Hymn

Amazing Grace

Old Testament

Psalms 30:5

Precious O'Brien

New Testament

Revelations 21:1-5 Theodore Daniels

Eulogy

Spencer Hanley

Reflections

Joan O'Brien

The Lords Prayer

Congregation

Hymn

It Is Well With My Soul

Words Of comfort

Pastor Wayne Lomax

Recessional Hymn

When We All Get To Heaven