



Obituary

Died: Thursday, August 13, 2020

“A Tribute To A Life Well Lived”

Loretta Patricia Whitlock, affectionately known as “Rhett”, was born November 30, 1933 to Nathaniel and Lallie Hammons Bady in Chicago, Illinois. She grew up in St. Louis, Missouri and was the second oldest and only girl of 5 children. Loretta received her formal education in the public schools of St. Louis, attending Vaschon High School. She also attended Poro Beauty School in Indianapolis, Indiana.

In the late 1950’s, Loretta moved to Indianapolis to begin her adult life. She worked at and managed the 40-minute cleaners on Clifton Avenue where she met and married the late Archie G. Johnson; that marriage was later dissolved.

Loretta was a woman with an infectious smile that would light up a room. She never met a stranger and took pride in caring for her children, Archie, Yo-Yo, and countless others. Loretta worked at Fairmont Glass, then realized she thrived being around people and became a waitress/bartender, working at the hottest spots in Indy including the Red Carpet Lounge, Scotty’s and the infamous Red’s, where she served others and met many lifelong friends. She was the life of the party!

She also worked part-time in beauty salons, as her curiosity for learning never seemed satisfied. While her work seemed like play to others, Loretta was a wise woman who studied and mastered her craft, with a faith and belief that one day it would pay off.

In the 1970’s she met and married James “Jimmy” Whitlock and in that union, she gained two sons-in-love, Jim-Jim and Jason. During their marriage, Loretta and Jimmy combined their knowledge of business and pursued a few entrepreneurial endeavors, including The Triangle Club and Jimmy’s J-Bar-J.

Upon her divorce from Jimmy, she left the nightclub business and recommitted her life to the Lord, joining Messiah Missionary Baptist Church, where she was a devoted member, deaconess and usher for almost 30 years. Her professional pursuits took her to Jenn-Aire where she worked until the company relocated to Alabama. Loretta finished out her professional career at the Indiana Blood Center, as a donor recruiter, where her purpose was evidenced daily through the impact she made on the lives of many until her decision to retire in 2004, to care for her granddaughter Madison.

Loretta’s love was unconditional, and everyone felt welcomed in her home. She was not shy about giving her opinion, whether you wanted it or not, however, her nurturing spirit instilled confidence and gave hope and encouragement

Service Summary

Visitation

9:00 AM to 11:00 AM, Sat Aug 22, 2020

Stuart Mortuary Chapel

2201 N. ILLINOIS STREET
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46208

Private Services

11:00 AM Sat Aug 22, 2020

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to all that crossed her path.

Loretta's daughter: Muriel "Spring" Bady, parents; four brothers, Raymond, Wilbur, Norvell and Harold; and grandchildren, Jacquelyn and Curtis Johnson preceded her in death.

She leaves to cherish her memory her sister-in-law, Carol Bady; her children, Archie Johnson, Yolanda Smith (Kenton); her sons-in-love James Whitlock Jr. (Sherry), and Jason Whitlock; her grandchildren Jordan Johnson (Samantha), Austin Johnson, Michaela Johnson, Madison Moton, Donald Norman Jr., Brooke Norman, Victoria Moton and Mason Moton III; her great grandchildren, Curtis Lee, Jalen, Olivia, and Addison; special daughters; Raelynn, Janice, Deidra, Damita, Gina, Mia, Lisa and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and cherished friends.