

Obituary

Died: Tuesday, October 27, 2020

Dorothea Elizabeth Parker-Poindexter joined God in heaven on October 27, 2020 after a long fight with Alzheimer's. Dorothea was born on August 13, 1934 to Nellie Goree Shelton and Daniel O'Bryant Shelton.

Dorothea attended Crispus Attucks High School and graduated in January of 1951 as the 3rd in her class. She worked full-time at the Army Finance Center at Fort Benjamin Harrison from June 25, 1952 until her retirement December 31, 1989. She started her work experience as a file clerk and ended her civil service career as a system analyst. In 1982 she received an "Employee of the Year" award from the Indianapolis Council of Federal Agencies.

She actively participated in the voluntary desegregation of Northwest High School in 1965. She quietly fought the battle of segregated schools with long letters to the newspaper and to the President of the School Board at the time, Richard G. Lugar. While cleaning out her home, her daughter found the letter she wrote on the original "carbon paper" with no mistakes or corrections. In summary she wrote that for her daughter and any student to be successful in life that they should learn early how to work with people of a different race.

Additionally, she served as a Girl Scout Leader, President of the Progressive Mother's Club, charter member of Federally Employed Women (FEW), as a Deacon and member of the Women's Association at St. Andrew Presbyterian Church and as a member of the Crispus Attucks Alumni Class of 1951. She also tutored young children in reading through OASIS. Although she loved her volunteer work, she discovered after retirement how much she loved to travel. She made up for lost time through vacations to Nevada, Arizona, Florida, New York, Virginia, Washington, D.C., Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Missouri, Alaska, Toronto, Vancouver, Amsterdam, Spain along with several cruises.

Dorothea Elizabeth Parker-Poindexter had two brothers, Richard O. Stevenson and William O'Brien Shelton. Her parents and siblings preceded her in death. Her first husband, Thomas Edward "Buddy" Parker preceded her in death in 1990. Her second husband, Charles N. Poindexter, died in 2019. Dorothea and "Buddy" were parents to Paula Michelle Means (formerly Parker-Sawyers) and Michael Edward Parker. Dorothea's children blessed her with seven grandchildren, Elizabeth Hart, Parker Sawyers, Patrick Sawyers, Taylor Ryan, Kyle Ryan, Nick Ryan, and Noah Ryan. Her marriage to Charles N. Poindexter welcomed Karin Estrada and Jay Poindexter as her stepchildren and grandchildren Megan Estrada, Jonathan Estrada, and Jessica Estrada. Her blended family also provided joy from nine great grandchildren.

Humbly Submitted.....The Family



Service Summary

Interment following funeral service

Fri Oct 30, 2020

Visitation

10:30 AM to 12:30 PM, Fri Oct 30, 2020

Tabernacle Presbyterian Church

418 East 34th Street
Indianapolis, IN 46208

Celebration of Life

1:00 PM Fri Oct 30, 2020

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