

## **SISTER VETS NEWS ALERT**



Los Angeles Chapter National Associations Black Military Women

# TRIBUTE TO OUR UNFORGOTTEN FALLEN SISTER'S

#### **Officers**

#### Irma Cooper, President

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Martha Marshall Secretary

Linda Rogers Board Member

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On March 11, I received notice from Carol St. Pierre, President of the New York Chapter that our Sister Vets, Hattie Harris went home to be with the lord. Ms. Hattie Harris was a member of the New York Chapter, NABMW.



## My Memory of Ms. Hattie B. Harris



Sisters of NABMW,

Please indulged me as I share a special story about our Sister, Hattie.

As we each mourn Mrs. Hattie B. Harris in our own individual ways, and soon publicly in her going home celebration - as I remember her fondly - I would like to share the attached.

Prior to becoming a member of NABMW, I met the endearing Mrs. Hattie B Harris at a NYC Chapter Scholarship Luncheon where she was being honored. As I chatted with her, she shared a part of her story, not much - but I found her warm and genuine. I snapped a pic, that I wanted to send to her with a note. (Picture attached) This was the day, that after two years of supporting NABMW, I decided to join. Hattie. was a huge reason why. It was through this experience of the day and in meeting the strikingly beautiful, Mrs. Hattie - and hearing a part of her story - that I understood what the soul of NABMW was all about. After joining, and later - being appointed as the Northeast Region Chairwoman, by National President Patricia Jackson-Kelley, and learning even more about Mrs. Hattie B. Harris' (her story attached) I learned that she was our oldest member in the

Northeast Region. Instead of sending her the pic snapped, I decided to commission a Portrait of Mrs. Hattie B. Harris, from African American artist, Sherrye Alves. Sherrye is the child of a U.S. Army Veteran and she lives in North Carolina - not far from US Army post, Fort Bragg - the Army's largest active duty installation. Sherrye Alves painted a beautiful portrait in oil from the photo, taken at the NYC Chapter event, of which Mrs Hattie was a long time member. And some of you can confirm - if Mrs. Hattie could very well be an original member, or one of the first of NABMW. Sherrye, captured the essence and spirit of the Army Corporal, who enlisted with honor and who went on to serve through her life in and out of the military. Mrs. Hattie B. Harris - was of the "Greatest Generation - WWII" and, she was the epitome of a NABMW sister to many.

I had hoped to present the portrait to Hattie in December during our Northeast Region Annual meeting on U.S. Army Garrison Fort Hamilton - but that never happened. She was unable to attend. A few of us, were going to visit her in her home - later. But...later, never came.

Now...we will present the distinguished lady in the Portrait and honor her through it, during her going home celebration - and then...the NABMW Northeast Region, on behalf of all of our members - will gift the portrait to the NABMW historical archives - in her spirit and memory, that we will strive to be as graceful as Mrs. Hattie B. Harris, Corporal, United States Army. May we always remember the grace, strength. heart, kindness and service that she exuded toward our community and to each other - as an example and in memory of Mrs. Hattie B. Harris. She loved NABMW, and we loved her and all she stands for.

Please enjoy the photo's, and copy of the Portrait attached. I have also attached her bio - in her own words - "her story" which was shared with the Brooklyn, NY community when she was recognized as a WWII Veteran, last year by radio host Valerie Smaldone and the Bensenhurst community. Sisters Carol, Bernice and Glennie and perhaps others who accompanied her, and cared for her - on that occasion will remember how excited she was.

May her son, Skip and family be comforted in knowing that she will forever be memorialized. May Mrs. Hattie B. Harris R.I.P.

Carol, I may not be able to attend services, but know my heart is with all who are grieving Hattie's loss.

All the best, Catherine Laporte, Northeast Region Chairperson

### Hattie Harris's funeral arrangements.

Date: On March 18, 2020 (Wednesday)

Viewing: Crawford Memorial Methodist Church 3757 White Plains RD 10462

Time: 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Church Service: Immediately after wake

Please send flowers to: Owens Funeral Home Malcolm X Blvd Manhattan, NY 10027 212 -427-7888

Carol St. Pierre, President New York Chapter, NABMW

COL (RET) Irma H. Cooper, President Los Angeles Chapter, NABMW

