

Words cannot express the feeling in my heart. Thank you for being with me during this difficult time. Your thoughts, prayers and words of sympathy will always be remembered.

Tracia Maria Riley

Audrey Yvonne Riley

April 22, 1945 - September 10, 2016

Forever in our Hearts

*In Loving
Memory*



Audrey Yvonne Riley

SUNRISE: April 22, 1945 • **SUNSET:** September 10, 2016

Viewing: Friday, September 16, 2016
5:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.

Andrett Funeral Home

199 Bleecker St, New York, NY 10012

Service: Saturday, September 17, 2016
10:00 A.M.

Immaculate Conception Church

414 E 14th St, New York, NY 10009

Audrey Yvonne Riley, 71, of New York City departed this life on September 10, 2016. Audrey was born in Washington D.C. on April 22, 1945 to the late Marie Adams and Samuel Cueford.

Audrey is survived by her daughter Tracia Maria Riley, the Gomez family, her favorite and only nephew Richard L. Spencer, her cousin Loretta Whaley and closest friends Daisy M. Grissom, Audrey Greer, Sylvia Matthews, Delores Frasier and Patricia "Trish" Whitsett. She is preceded in death by her sister Juanita Wimpye and brother Michael Adams.

Audrey moved to New York City from Washington D.C. in the early 1960's to make a life for her daughter and herself. By April 1, 1969, Audrey made a move that would last her the rest of her life. She moved to Stuyvesant Town where she and her daughter were the fourth black family in this community. At this time, she made another lasting move, working at Beth Israel Medical Center. Audrey proudly worked as a registered nurse there for more than thirty years. As Dr. Russell Berdoff, tenderly recalls, she began her career in 1980 as a secretary for Dr. Manny Goldberg, and soon after she went to nursing school at Borough Manhattan Community College. She graduated with a nursing degree in 1984 and worked as a Cath Lab nurse rising to head nurse by 1989. Audrey wittingly wrote in her bible, "10/1/89 charge nurse title although I have been doing this job since 11/1/84." Dr. Berdoff is known to have said, "She set the kind of human tone that still defines our lab staff and was the nicest person you could know. Audrey was special to me. She gave an interview to my youngest son David for his high school project on race. He never forgot her generosity and warmth for a nervous high school kid." Another testament to her kindness was given by a fellow nurse named Trish. She told Tracia, "I loved your mom like an auntie and I will do anything for her. She was a very classy lady and an extremely proud woman. I will always remember her humor, her kindness and how she helped make my transition to the Cath Lab."

During these years she also served in the United States Army Reserve as a nurse. She entered the reserves in 1985 as a 2nd Lieutenant, rose to the rank of Captain in 1992 and was given an honorable discharge in 1993. Audrey sustained her connection to the service by being involved in a civic organization called the National Association of Black Military Women. Her dedication to society continued by her being part of the Stuyvesant Town community and a faithful, active participant in the Immaculate Conception Church.

Audrey was also an avid traveler that traveled the world via plane, water and land. No destination was too close or too far. She went as far as Africa, Israel, and Alaska, as close as New Orleans for the Jazz Festivals or on a cruise with her fiends to the Bahamas. Her active world, also consisted of ways to stay healthy. She started her days walking around the Stuyvesant Oval, some days she did yoga and other days she did water aerobics. Audrey continued her exercises by walking to Whole Foods, Trader Joe's or picking up her greens at the Farmers Market on 14th Street.

Audrey was a loving, compassionate, caring and had a great sense of humor. If you were ever in need of anything Audrey was always there to offer a hand without ever expecting anything in return. She shared these traits with all of the people she met, and they returned the love easily and unconditionally.

Audrey's greatest pride and joy was her daughter Tracia Maria Riley, which she raised to be strong and independent. Up until she went to her glory, she was always checking up on her. When she spoke of her to her friends and family she glowed with pride.

Tracia's closing thought of her mother:

A memory of my mother. I joined the United States Army like my mother. I was stationed in South Korea. She called me on a Monday and asked how I was doing. I said I was ok and that everything was fine. There must have been something in my voice that told my mother I was depressed (I was but I just didn't want to worry her). On Friday I received a call to report to Seoul Korea; when I walked into the Army hotel on base my mother was standing there. We stayed together until Sunday when she flew back to the USA. My mother flew 6863 miles one way to make sure her pumpkin was ok. Thank you for everything, love you always, I will see you again.

Ching, Ching Audrey!

Tracia M. Riley

ORDER OF SERVICE

Liturgy of the Word

Homily

Pray of the Faithful

Presentation of the Gift

Eucharistic Prayer

Our Father Song

Sign of Peace

Holy Communion

Final Commendation

Reverend Monsignor Nelan