



Geraldine Ritchie

October 19, 2016

A Memorial Service for Ms. Geraldine Ritchie will be held at 3:00PM Friday, October 28, 2016 at Gregory B. Levett & Sons Funeral Home 4347 Flat Shoals Pkwy, Decatur, GA 30034. Geraldine Ritchie (aka Mwezi Ayana Dafina) passed away peacefully after a long illness at her home in Lithonia, Ga. on October 19, 2016. She was 75. She was born in Morristown, NJ on July 2, 1941 to the Late Charles and Catherine Ritchie. Some knew her as Gerri, others knew her as Mwezi; to know her was to love her. Gerri may not have given birth to children but to her nieces and nephews she was like a mother. Gerri was a very independent and creative woman. She was a writer, a poet, and a collector. She published her first book in 1996 entitled "Portraits of a Family-- On to the Sixth Generation;" She also published a poem in The National Library of Poetry -Echoes of Yesterday 1994 entitled "Self-Realization." Professionally, she was a para legal and a real estate agent/broker for over 30 years. Geraldine is survived by Jerry Thomas, Her sisters, Myra Parson (Georgia), Lydia Ritchie (Maryland) and Diana Ritchie (New Jersey). Her nieces and nephews (7): Geraldine Jackson, Charles Ritchie, Catherine Parson, Tanitia Jones, Dorian Ritchie, Christopher Parson and Rhasahna Booze. Her great nieces and nephews (18): Christian, Morgan, and Charles Isaiah Ritchie, Matthew and Jeremy Ritchie, Noelle, and Najee Lattimore, Nicolas McCatty, Javar Tillett, Jasmin and Jarred Johnson, Ashden Parson, Keyera and Brandy Jackson, Ryan Brown, Rhaeven and Christopher Edward, Jr (CJ) Parson. She also has one great-great niece Shayla Ritchie-

Dixon and two great-great nephews Desmond Gonzalez and Elijah Campos.. She devoted her lifetime to loving nieces and nephews. She watched avidly online via Facebook as they have grown over the years and accomplished so much; it was what sustained her for so long. She will be truly missed by all who had the pleasure of knowing her and loving her.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

OCT **28**. 3:00 PM (ET)

South DeKalb Chapel
4347 Flat Shoals Pkwy.
Decatur, GA 30034
(404) 241-5656
info@levettfuneralhome.com

Tribute Wall

TR

“ *The Harrell's Family & Melinda Ritchie purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Geraldine Ritchie.* ”



The Harrell's Family & Melinda Ritchie - October 28, 2016 at 12:15 PM

TF

“ *Thomas and Betty Harris family purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Geraldine Ritchie.* ”



Thomas and Betty Harris family - October 26, 2016 at 01:23 PM



“ *Heavenly Heights Bouquet was purchased for the family of Geraldine Ritchie.* ”



October 26, 2016 at 01:12 PM

BJ

“ *Byron Johnson*

I first met Gerry in 1970. She was the secretary of a newly created program at Essex County College, Newark, NJ. ECC grew out of the rebellions in Watts (1966), Newark (1967), where 19 people were killed, and across the nation (1968) when Dr. M. L. King was assassinated. Gerry showed love and generosity toward all, but she loved her family above all. She was a kind and gentle woman that I never saw angry. She will be loved and sorely missed.

Byron Johnson - October 26, 2016 at 11:44 AM

RS

Mwezi is my very dear friend since as long as I can remember. We were cousins first and jumped rope together at family gatherings in parks and in her parents yard. We laugh&worked together in our 20 30' and 40's great times and fun. I'm glad she has peace but she is alive and well in my heart. Stanley too!

Rowena E. Simpson - October 27, 2016 at 04:44 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Geraldine Ritchie.*



October 26, 2016 at 10:47 AM



“ *Geraldine was a wonderful and thoughtful woman. Had been friends since high school. Will really miss her and my prayers go to her family. Penny Kalish*

Penny Kalish - October 26, 2016 at 10:38 AM

MD

“ Mwezi was an admirable and respected friend. We laughed a lot together and I loved hearing her stories about her family. I feel as if I have met you all but I only had the opportunity to meet Lydia a couple of times. She always made me feel special and important to her. I hope I can carry her legacy on of loyalty, kindness, loving, forgiving and always encouraging. I will truly miss her.

Mary Dent - October 25, 2016 at 07:55 PM

FJ

“ Gerrie was a very dear friend and co-worker. She was blessed with a heart of gold and had the sweetest personality. I will certainly miss hearing her calling me and greeting me with "Hey kiddo. " She's not gone, she's just not here anymore but her light will shine in all of us who knew her forever.

Fred Jackson - October 24, 2016 at 05:06 PM


Michele
McDougal

“ Geraldine was one of many, many first cousins. She, if not the humblest, closest to it. Her spirit was amazing. She created my logo and did the artwork for a business I owned through the mail when Internet was just coming full circle. Although miles apart she always invited me to play games on line. After my move to California I truly miss all my cousins but this is a very special message for all of the family she was a real example of a loving spirit. God has called one of his best home. RIP, cuz. Love Michele & daughter, Donchele

Michele McDougale - October 23, 2016 at 12:44 AM

PW

“ I would like to offer my condolences to the Ritchie family and may God be a refuge and strength in your time of sorrow.(Psalms 46:1)

P. Watts - October 21, 2016 at 07:08 PM

CA

“ 2 files added to the album Remembering Geraldine Ritchie



Catherine - October 21, 2016 at 02:09 PM

VJ

I have heard nothing but great memories of cousin Mwezi & I have treasured her book which shared the Harris legacy. Though I have not met her, I say thank you my cousin. That is what's up when you pass on peacefully & your legacy lives on. May God give my Family strength during these difficult times. ♡♡

Vicki Johnson - October 21, 2016 at 10:14 PM

MS

She was a treasured member of the Morristown New Jersey High School Class of 1960. We are sorry for your loss.

margot solodar - October 25, 2016 at 10:12 PM

CW

I will always hold such fond memories of Gerry from our days at Morristown HS, class of 1959. Gerry was such a sweet, bright, friendly girl with a warm smile for everyone. So deeply saddened at her passing. Heartfelt condolences to Gerry's family.

Carol Sutton Willadsen - October 26, 2016 at 04:56 PM

CM

*To all the Ritchie Family
Heartfelt condolences to all of the family. I remember I was at the house and Geraldine came in and I said "Hi Gerri". She said, "Mrs. Manley my name is Mwezi now, with this great big smile. I know you will miss seeing her but, the flesh is gone but she is still in your heart. Comfort each other and God will see you through.*

The Manley Family

Carrie E. Manley - October 26, 2016 at 09:25 PM