

Obituary

Lucius H. Snowten

March 26, 1921 - November 19, 2013

The Fantastic Mr. Lucius Horace Snowten AKA "L.H." The son of William and Nannie Snowten was born in Decatur, Georgia on March 26, 1921..He went by the name of L.H. until his school teacher told him initials were not a name. This set off his first debate. He lost but got a taste of his conviction and tenacity. Despite the tragedy of losing his mother at the age of two, his paternal grandfather Henry Calvin Chandler raised him for most of his youth. Henry was the most influential person in forming his ethics, integrity, and honor. He was a gentleman with skilled hands. Lucius went on to answer the call of serving his country by becoming one of the first African American Marines known as the Montford Point Marines from January 21, 1944 to February 14, 1946. After honorably serving our country, Lucius met and married the love of his life Miss Mabel Chapel. He lovingly nicknamed her Penny. The two married and had four children Renee, Cynthia, Valerie and Derek. They moved north and settled in Philadelphia during the Great Northern migration.

Lucius worked his many trades including cook, baker, upholsterer, masseur, and supervisor at the Philadelphia Water Department. Once retired from the "PWD" he immersed himself in hobbies, sports and charitable work.

Lucius fished, hunted, gardened and renovated his home of nearly 60 years. He became more active in "New Bethel AME Church" of Germantown. He served as Usher, Trustee Emeritus, Treasurer. His compassion led him to work with the Congleton Funeral Home. He believed volunteering and staying actively motivated was the secret to longevity.

Lucius loved performing stand-up comedy for various church and social functions. He and Penny were also world travelers until Penny passed away on November 22, 1998. He often expressed his gratitude for his wife, family and world travel. He experienced the tough challenge of becoming one of the first African-American marines; to being invited to Washington DC to receive the Congressional Gold Medal. This was awarded to the Montford Point Marines on June 27th and 28th 2012. The bill was signed into law by the first African American president.

Something he never thought would happen in his lifetime.

Lucius H. Snowten has touched many lives with "Direct Advice If Solicited". He always offered timely anecdotes or jokes. No one escaped without some factoid that you probably did not know. He departed this life peacefully surrounded by his loving family on Tuesday, November 19th 2013. Lucius is survived by his four children: Renee, Cynthia, Valerie and Derek, daughter-in-law Mary, Six grandchildren: Brandi, Jason, Jessica, Andre, Elizabeth, and Michael, five great grandchildren: Logan, Brian, Isabella, Jacob, Justin and a host of family and friends who have adopted him as counsel and mentor. He will be missed.

Sorrowfully Submitted *The Family*