



Dyan French Cole

May 20, 2017

Dyan French Cole "Mama D" entered into eternal rest on Saturday, May 20, 2017.

Relatives and friends of the family are invited to a wake service at 7:00 PM on Friday, May 26, 2017 at Historic Second Baptist Church, 2505 Marengo St. A dismissal service at 10:00 AM on Saturday, May 27, 2017 at Historic Second Baptist Church, 2505 Marengo St. Interment: Liberty, Mississippi.

An account has been set up at Liberty Bank and Trust for "Dyan H. French Cole Memorial Fund"

Previous Events

Wake

MAY **26**. 7:00 PM (CT)

Historic Second Baptist Church
2505 Marengo St.
New Orleans, LA 70115

Service

MAY **27**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Historic Second Baptist Church
2505 Marengo St.
New Orleans, LA 70115

Tribute Wall



“ A grand marcher in New Orleans parade.
Leonard Earl Johnson ~ www.LEJ.org

Leonard Johnson - May 27, 2017 at 07:29 PM



“ Mama D...the silence of your voice is DEAFENING!! To me, there was ALWAYS Mama D! You were, and ARE, a GIVEN! Although, aside from the occasional hug at oft met public functions and civil meetings, I couldn't say we were "friends," but I KNOW we were SISTERS! I PROMISE YOU, Mama D, that this city that you LOVED AS YOUR OWN CHILD, will NEVER forget you, or allow your name and legacy to fall by the wayside! WE, the COMMUNITY, will CONTINUE to fight the good fight, take care of the hopeless and helpless, OUR neighborhoods and EACH OTHER, and show the WORLD what LOVE AND CHRISTIANITY LOOKS LIKE, and is TRULY about!! THANK YOU, MAMA D! For ALL that you've done, will to continue to do as our GUARDIAN ANGEL, but MOST OF ALL....THANK YOU, MAMA D, for... YOU!! I LOVE U MORE THAN MERE WORDS can EVER portray! BIGHUG



Darlene Jones - May 27, 2017 at 01:47 PM

AC

“ *"Mama D" was an example for those of us who were much younger in the late 60's/early 70's. Her influence on our lives can never be measured. She loved us and we loved her, whether or not we personally met. May our ancestors be pleased with her selfless sacrifices and embrace her with open arms.*



Our deepest condolences to her family, close friends, and all in the community who appreciated her.

Althea Cooper - May 27, 2017 at 12:29 PM

MA

“ *Rest in Paradise Mama D! Your earthly work is done! Peace & Blessings!*

Maryam - May 27, 2017 at 05:19 AM

RU

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*

A small image of a tribute wall post. The text is too small to read clearly but appears to be a message of condolence.

rukiyaBrown - May 26, 2017 at 06:49 PM

RU

“ *RukiyaBrown sent a virtual gift in memory of Dyan French Cole*



rukiyaBrown - May 26, 2017 at 06:48 PM

FW

“ *Flora Watson lit a candle in memory of Dyan French Cole*



Flora Watson - May 26, 2017 at 02:52 PM

H(

“ *Dyan French Cole "Mama D" was a true Champion for the poor and un-represented people of this Community. I recall her sitting for hours in my Courtroom (Magistrate-Criminal District Court), if that's what it took to advocate for the Release or a lowered Bond on someone's behalf. She handled everyone or matter as if it were her own Children on whose behalf she was fighting. We gained a mutual love and respect for one another. My condolences to her Family & Friends. She will always be remembered truly missed.*
Hon. Marie A. Bookman

Hon. Marie A. Bookman (Ret.) - May 26, 2017 at 11:30 AM

EW

“ Rest in Peace Dyan, and may God's Grace and Mercy strengthen the Hamilton, French Cole Families during your moment of Bereavement. Dyan was a true Activist for the people.” With Love, --
Ethel Harris Williams and Dan Williams

Ethel Harris and Dan Williams - May 25, 2017 at 09:23 PM



“ Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Dyan French Cole .



May 25, 2017 at 07:10 PM

LC

“ May you Rest in Peace Mama D! Also praying that the spirit of the Lord console the hearts of the many who love you and grant them peace. Xoxo -LaToya Cantrell

LaToya C - May 25, 2017 at 10:02 AM

SB

“ I will not have my life narrowed down. I will not bow down to somebody else's whim or to someone else's ignorance. ” – bell hooks

I will forever hold you to the highest Queen.

Sonia Badon

s Badon - May 25, 2017 at 09:55 AM

MJ

“ *Mary Jones lit a candle in memory of Dyan French Cole*



Mary Jones - May 25, 2017 at 08:57 AM

MJ

*May your struggles always be remembered
Your footprints be made known
Filled with the strength, commitment and dignity that you possess
Let NOLA rise and complete the journey
You have brought us too far to stop now.*

Mary Jones - May 25, 2017 at 09:16 AM

MV

“ *Always a stalwart at City Hall Counsel meeting fighting for the forgotten of New Orleans*

Milton (Boo) Carr Positive Vibrations - May 25, 2017 at 07:23 AM

AH

“ *To the family,
Thank you for sharing your mother with this community. Although I didn't have a personal relationship with Mama D, I watched her tirelessly fight a good fight and work to save the children of New Orleans. Her tireless efforts, advocacy, perseverance and determination to bring the needs of the children and community will always be branded in my memory. Mama D....job well done! Rest in Peace.*

Angela Wiggins Harris, New Orleans, LA

Angela Wiggins Harris - May 24, 2017 at 10:51 PM

MC

“ *Such an amazing wonderful strong woman. She will be greatly missed. Blessings and peace to the family.* ”

Marianne Cufone - May 24, 2017 at 08:05 PM

RJ

“ I first saw her at J. S. Clark High School in 1959. She was only 14 at the time. She was a student worker in the office, where I had previously worked before graduating in 1959. She was so pretty at the time. We didn't speak and I didn't see her again until the next summer (1960) when she and her sister Audrey, attended a reorganizational meeting of the N.O. NAACP youth Council. She voted for me to be vice president. Later that year I became president. Sometimes I would escort her to meetings with instructions to bring her straight home. I did. Later she became the first female president of the adult branch of the NAACP just short of her 30th birthday!

While we both were community activists, we were always proud Clark Bulldogs. One of my last conversations with her was at Rhodes Funeral Home following the service for Alice Thompson. Dyan, Jerome Smith and I talked fondly about our time at Clark and how so many local activists were former Clark students, including Aretha and Doris Castle, Matt Suarez, Dodie Smith and her sisters, the Thompson siblings, and so many others. We couldn't quite figure out exactly what impact the Clark experience had on us, but we were all proud of our foundation there. Many remember "Mama D," but I will always Diane as my friend of more than 50 years.

So long Bulldog, you will be greatly missed.

May God give strength to your family and friends.

Raphael Cassimere, Jr.

(edited by Rhodes Staff and Cole Family)

Raphael Cassimere Jr - May 24, 2017 at 06:51 PM

LB

“ *My condolences to the family, mama D she was a soldier she fought for what she believed in no matter what! We will be losing a giant in our communities.*

May God bless you!
L. Baptiste

Leah Baptiste - May 24, 2017 at 06:46 PM

NM

“ *To the loving family of my Sister
MY COMMRADE Soljah MAMA D MY DEEPEST CONDOLENCES.
She will always be my sister in the struggle in this life and the next
for ever always. She will be sadly missed but never forgotten. May
she rest in peace power strength and the ancestors welcome her
with open arms. Peace, Blessings, Love, comfort at this time of
irreplaceable loss. LOVE YOU ALL! NATHIA , JACKSON, MS*

NmWms - May 23, 2017 at 08:11 PM

MD

*It would be proper to establish a monument for courage and
commitment in her honor for countless actions she took on behalf of
powerless citizens. She often said what many of us thought and we
applauded her courage to do what she thought was right. She often
spoke the inconvenient truth and challenged things that were wrong.
Her voice and actions will be missed.*

Mel Dangerfield - May 26, 2017 at 03:01 AM

GG

Dyan, "Mama D" and I were freshmen at Southern University in Baton Rouge in 1963. She is truly missed. I send my sincere condolences to her family.

*Glenda "Peaches" Simpkins Ganier
Prampram, Ghana
Western Africa*

Glenda Simpkins Ganier - June 07, 2017 at 09:50 AM