



## Lois Elizabeth Lanier

October 26, 1930 - June 12, 2020

### Remembering Lois E. Lanier

Lois E. Lanier was born in 1930 in Brooklyn, New York. She is the eldest of her four siblings Levi, Lloyd, Phoebe and Anna. Her parents, Joseph and Elizabeth Person proudly raised the family in Newark, NJ and became devout members of The Church of God and Saints of Christ. At an early age, Lois was afforded the opportunity to learn church decorum under the skillful tutelage of her grandmother, Elizabeth Andrea Hudson, who keenly sparked Lois' affinity for learning. She quickly grasped the art of proper meal preparation, was an avid participant in the Daughter's Sewing Circle and selflessly dedicated much of her time to the visitation of the sick and shut-in. Grandmother Hudson ensured that Lois was well prepared to execute Daughter duties, as she herself was the Mother Sarah in Boston. She also mastered the meticulous art of penmanship, composition, reporting, record keeping, and a multitude of other valuable administrative skills. Her proficiency allowed her to become an integral member who supported "The Man, the Land and the Plan". She performed and nurtured these life skills to perfection in order to fully seize all of life's challenges with vigor, confidence and courage. Lois would spend her youthful summers in Brooklyn attending Brooklyn New York Tabernacle. When asked about her childhood reflections of church in the "old days", she would share details of enjoying family and community meals at Evangelist Nathaniel Nelson's (aka Pop Nelson) big dining room table.

Lois attended public school at Burnet Grammar School. She graduated from Central Commercial and Technical High School, 1948.

Lois cultivated an interest in modeling. In 1947, when attending a dance at Barringer High School she won a photo shoot door prize. Later, those pictures were used to showcase the first-time usage of Sepia Tones. This hallmark event helped signify the evolution of black and white photos to capture hue tones, paving the way for color photos. Additionally, Crescent Photographic Studios won bids to produce high school yearbooks throughout the city of Newark, N. J.

She attended Barbizon Modeling School, at the CBS building in New York City. As it were, her mother, Elizabeth Person, did not send the girls anywhere by themselves so luckily that meant her younger sisters had the opportunity to attend many sessions with Lois. For Phoebe, the commentary was that she was the smartest one in the class because she learned trade model secrets while Anna enjoyed lavish spa treatments for free. These were times the sisters enjoyed. They are memories that helped to not only build, but also solidify a lifelong bond between them that has remained steadfast to this day.

Her first modeling job was with Colgate, advertising toothpaste featured in Life magazine. Lois' was also featured in the Herald News announcing the Black and Gold Jewelry Show hosted by the Bennett Sisters in 1949. This was an annual show sponsored by the Masons to fund educational scholarships. In 1951, the GI School of Photography commissioned Lois to be the students' photogenic model. She was also hired by the garment industry as a body measurement model as the industry was developing standardized sizing to capture the petite clothing market as the "off the rack" market began to expand. She enjoyed a significantly impacting modeling career from 1948 to 1952.

Lois worked for NJ Bell Telephone Company, Manufactures Hanover Trust Company in NY as a transit processing operator with the excitement of new banking processes where being developed. Later, she took a job with First National State Bank in New Jersey. This allowed her to be closer to home for her children. She assisted computer program processing when punch cards were the mode of setting computer programs. She was promoted in the rank of the banking industry to Lead Transit Operator, who trained many learning in her footsteps. She researched problems and made policy and training recommendations to improve operations. While employed in the banking industry, she attended The American Institute of Banking in 1969-1970 and again in 1973. In 1973 she enjoyed being able to share attending Upsala College banking certification classes with her eldest daughter Del-Lora who was also gainfully employed in the banking industry. Lois retired from banking in 1990 from what has been currently renamed through the years and finally, known today as Wells Fargo. Lois enjoyed an extensive banking career and is celebrated for taking on challenges with the migration of new technologically systems in the banking industry

In her early twenties, she married James Z. Parrish. From that union she had three children: James, Del-Lora and Cyndrell. After 14 years of marriage she became widowed. Years later, she married George Lanier enjoyed a full family life raising the children in Newark, NJ until he passed in 1990. Lois moved to Maryland to spend time with her daughter Cyndrell and participate in the rearing of her grandchildren. She took the greatest joy watching them grow and in having an opportunity teach them as she had been taught by her grandmother. Lois readily offered her services to the church. As a member of Alexandria Tabernacle, she served as chairperson of the Ways and Means Committee, the Look Out Committee, Sabbath School Secretary and an active

choir member throughout her church life.

Lois will be forever known for her quick wit, historical recall, medicinal home remedies, record keeping, good cooking, phone ministry of keeping up with convalescent saints, composing various writings including condolences, her forever-stunning smile and for her desire to leave people laughing.

St. Lois was predeceased by husbands James Z. Parrish, George Lanier, her son James Lloyd Parrish and sister Phoebe Kemp. Among her family, Lois leaves the legacy of a life well lived to her Daughters; Del-Lora Parrish, Cyndrell Parrish Parker, and Tracey Waters. Grandchildren; Elder Ethan Parker, Alitzah Parker, S.Lovey Parker, Dennis Kelly, son Silas and Justin Waters. Siblings: Levi and wife Shirley Person; Lloyd and wife Jean Person, and Anna Thomas. Continued heartfelt extended family members include: Rose Burney, Al Stinson and a host of cousins, nieces, nephews, church family and friends

# Cemetery Details

## Belleville Cemetery

Bridge Rd (rt 17)  
Suffolk, VA

# Previous Events

**Live Streaming Link for Lois E. Lanier viewing:**  
<https://client.tribucast.com/tcid/21094600>

JUN 20. 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Raymond-Wood Chapel  
10684 Southern Maryland Blvd.  
Dunkirk, MD 20754

## Viewing

JUN 20. 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

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10684 Southern Maryland Blvd.  
Dunkirk, MD 20754

## Interment

JUN 21. 2:00 PM (ET)

Belleville Cemetery  
Bridge Rd (rt 17)  
Suffolk, VA



# Tribute Wall



“ *Phillip Bell Sr. and Winona Morrissette-Johnson Funeral Service, P.A. created a Tribute Video in memory of Lois Elizabeth Lanier*



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**Phillip Bell Sr. and Winona Morrissette-** - June 20, 2020 at 04:47 AM