



Shirley Anne Cook

August 9, 2024

Shirley Anne Cook 87, of Portsmouth, RI formerly from Middletown, RI passed away peacefully August 9th, 2024.

Shirley Anne Cook was born in Atlanta, GA on July 12, 1937 to the late Willie Louis Finch and Annie Grace Finch. Over 60 years ago, Shirley met and married the man of her dreams Alphonsa Cook. This union produced two sons Dwayne and Brian. Shirley graduated from David T. Howard High School in Atlanta.

Shirley was drawn to helping people from an early age and decided to pursue a career in Nursing and then went on to attend the Carver School of Nursing obtaining her LPN. Shirley's experience and knowledge enabled her to specialize in Psychiatric Nursing which was a driving force motivating her to achieve her goal of her BSN. Beginning her career at Grady Memorial Hospital Atlanta, GA, Alphonsa took this city girl around the globe from Atlanta, GA to Florida, Italy, Germane, Spain, Panama, and Scotland before finishing her career at US Veterans Hospital Providence, RI retiring in 1985.

Shirley was extremely active in the community holding positions within several organizations including; Board Of Directors MLK Center, Mentor for Incarcerated Women, NAACP Newport Branch - Past Secretary, Women's Newport League - Past President, and Middletown Baptist Church - holding

various membership and leadership positions over the last 40+ years.

Shirley was preceded in her passing by her father Willie Louis Finch, her mother Annie Grace Finch and the love of her life Alphonsa A. Cook. Shirley leaves her sister Barbara Reeder of Atlanta, GA, sons Dwayne Cook & Tanya Thomas of Baltimore, MD, Brian Cook & Maria Rodrigo of Middletown, RI , and three cherished granddaughters Kendall Cook, Taryn Cook, and Alexis Cook and several nieces and nephews.

Donations in lieu of flowers can be made to Middletown Baptist Church, or Woman's Resource Center of Newport County in memory of Shirley Cook.

Celebration Of Life of Shirley Cook will be held August 24th at 10:00 a.m. in Middletown Baptist Church, 1818 West Main Road, Middletown, RI 02842.