

*May the road rise up to meet you.
May the wind be always at your back,
May the sun shine warm upon your face;
the rains fall soft upon your fields.
Until we meet again,
May God hold you in
The palm of
His hand.*



PLEASE VISIT OUR MEMORIAL WEBSITE AT:
jean-ragin-carpenter.forevermissed.com

Acknowledgements

We sincerely appreciate the prayers and other expressions of sympathy extended to us in the loss of our loved one. We shall always remember with grateful appreciation all that you have done to help us through this most difficult time.

Donations to the **ALS ASSOCIATION** (1300 Wilson Blvd., Suite 600, Arlington, VA 22209) in honor of Jean Ragin Carpenter are requested in lieu of flowers.

ALS is a progressive neurodegenerative disease. People with ALS lose the ability to move, eat, speak and eventually, to breathe.

There is no cure for ALS. Yet.

Services Entrusted to:



BENTA'S
Funeral Home, Inc.

630 St. Nicholas Avenue
New York, NY 10030
Phone: (212) 281-8850
Fax: (212) 234-3600

Celebrating the Life of



Jean Ragin Carpenter

SUNRISE: MARCH 11, 1935 - SUNSET: JANUARY 19, 2022



Memorial Service

Wednesday, February 2, 2022

THE WOOLWORTH CHAPEL

THE WOODLAWN CEMETERY

Bronx, New York

Order of Service

WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYERRENEE ANN RAGIN

SONG SELECTION..... “I WON’T COMPLAIN” - JANICE SUBER

REFLECTIONSFAMILY & FRIENDS

READING OF THE OBITUARY..... CHRISTINA J. RAGIN

SONG SELECTION..... “MEMORIES” - JANICE SUBER

PRESENTATION TO RALPH J. CARPENTER

CLOSING PRAYER LUTHER M. RAGIN, JR.

RECESSIONAL

INTERMENT TO FOLLOW IN RAGIN FAMILY PLOT, WOODLAWN CEMETERY

Obituary

JEAN RAGIN CARPENTER (born Emma Jean Blackwell) passed away on January 19, 2022 at the age of 86 due to complications from ALS/Lou Gehrig’s Disease. The daughter of the late Mapel Windham Suber and the late Wade R. Blackwell Jr., she was born in Union, South Carolina but lived for much of her life in the Bronx.

Part of the historic ‘Great Migration’ of African Americans from the South in the first half of the 20th Century, her family (including her beloved grandmother and several aunts and uncles) moved to New York City when she was four years of age. She attended Julia Richmond High School but left after the 11th grade to help support her large family. Beginning her working life as a bookkeeper for the City College of New York, she rose over the years to become Budget Director for the New York Urban League, Deputy Borough Director of the Bronx Urban League, and Patient Relations Director for Bronx Lebanon Hospital, the position from which she retired in 2005.

In 1954 she married the late Luther M. Ragin and subsequently had two children. She earned a B.A. from Fordham University in 1982 at the age of 47 -- one of her proudest achievements. A woman of strong intelligence, she was also blessed with good looks, an infectious sense of humor, a keen sense of style, a talent for cooking and a love of books and crossword puzzles. She served for several years as an officer of her housing cooperative, her home for more than fifty years.

Struggling with failing health in recent years, she and her devoted husband of forty years, Ralph J. Carpenter, were residents of the Hebrew Home at Riverdale at the time of her death.

She leaves to honor her memory her beloved husband, Ralph J. Carpenter; her son, Luther M Ragin Jr. of New York City; her daughter, Renee Ann Ragin of Valrico, Florida; her daughter-in-law, Deborah Fish Ragin of New York City; two granddaughters, Renee Ragin Randall and Christina J. Ragin; five surviving siblings, Carol Stroy, Yvonne Suber, Leslie Suber, Madeline Jones and Darryl Suber; and many loving family members, neighbors and friends. Her blended family included two beloved stepsons, Kofi and Sule Carpenter of Atlanta, Georgia and their wives and children.

May her memory continue in our hearts and minds.
