

*Heaven's Gates  
Have Opened  
for*



*Lullelia  
Walker  
Harrison*

*A Celebration of the Life  
of*

*Lullelia  
Walker  
Harrison*



**Friday, October 17, 2008  
11:00 a.m.**

**Windsor Village United Methodist Church**  
6000 Heatherbrook Drive  
Houston, Texas  
Rev. Kirbyjon H. Caldwell, Pastor

**Dr. Lewis L. Jackson, Sr.**  
*Pastor, Mount Vernon United Methodist Church*  
*Officiating*

*Resurrection  
Prayer*

*Most merciful Father, we commend  
our departed into Your hands.*

*We are filled with the sure  
hope that our departed will rise  
again on the last day with all who  
have died in Christ.*

*We thank you for all the good things  
you have given during  
our departed's earthly life.*

*O Father, in Your great mercy, accept  
our prayer that the Gates of Paradise  
may be opened for Your servant.*

*In our turn, may we too be comforted  
by the words of faith until we greet  
Christ in glory and are united with  
you and our departed.*

*Through Christ our Lord, Amen.*





*Lullelia Walker Harrison*





## *Her Life and Legacy*

Lullelia Walker Harrison, native Houstonian, well-known educator, community servant, and pioneer in Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. transitioned into eternal rest at Methodist Hospital in the Texas Medical Center on October 11, 2008. She dedicated her life to helping others and doing what was right for the greater good of all people and her accomplishments have been recognized at the local and national level.


Lullelia was born on January 24, 1913 to Franklin Pierce Walker, Sr. and Etta Day Walker. She was the oldest of three children. Her parents, as well as her two brothers, Franklin Pierce Walker, Jr. and Henderson Day Walker, preceded her in death. Her mother was a direct descendant of Isaiah Cates Day for whom the city of Dayton, Texas is named. Franklin Pierce Walker, Sr., was a master carpenter and boat builder. He ventured to Texas from Franklin, Louisiana in search of work opportunities in the early 1900's, examples of his exquisite craftsmanship can still be found in the Fifth Ward Community.

Her parents were two of the early settlers in the Fifth Ward Community of Houston and contributed significantly to the development of the area. As a result the family joined Mount Vernon United Methodist Church, one of the historical institutions and landmarks in the Fifth Ward community. Lullelia remained a member of the church throughout her entire life and served as church historian and on the board of trustees.

Throughout her long life, education remained a significant focus of Lullelia's endeavors. She attended Houston public schools where she graduated from Booker T. Washington High School. She earned a baccalaureate degree from Wiley College which was followed by graduate studies at the University of Chicago and Texas Southern University. Lullelia later had an honorary doctorate conferred on her from Wiley College.

While attending Wiley College, Lullelia joined Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., in 1929, at the age of 16. Throughout her years of service, she held numerous leadership positions, received countless awards, and actively raised funds for the sorority's many endeavors. Noteworthy positions held by Lullelia include: 12th International Grand Basileus (President), Southern Regional Director, National Executive Secretary, Coordinator of National Projects, Founder and National Director of Amicae, and National Historian. In addition to being a Golden Life Member of the sorority, she was an active and faithful member of the Lambda Zeta Chapter in Houston. During her tenure as National Historian, she authored the history book: *Torchbearers of a Legacy*.

Lullelia's professional career encompassed the teaching and counseling of young people. She taught English for one year at Colbert School in Dayton, Texas, followed by 19 years of teaching English at Jack Yates High School in Houston. She spent the last 17 years of her career at Ryan Middle School serving as a guidance counselor. She retired from the Houston Independent School District in 1975.



Prior to retirement, Lullelia still managed to serve the community and tear down racial barriers. She was influential in the establishment of Texas Southern University and the location where it was built. She later went back to speak before the Texas Legislature, as the only woman on the committee for the Heman Sweatt Victory Fund, to help establish Thurgood Marshall School of Law.


Lullelia was involved for many years with DePelchin Faith Home and was the first black to chair the governing board of the Negro Child Center. In this position, she initiated the move to equalize board rates for all foster parents and eventually made the recommendation to abolish racially separate boards and to include minorities on the board of directors of Faith Home, now DePelchin Children's Center. She was the first black named to the board and served in that capacity for more than 20 years, during which time minority representation increased and all programs were integrated.

Caring for her community, and always a civic-minded individual, Lullelia was known for her dynamic and eloquent speaking. Her retirement afforded her an enhanced opportunity to embrace a wide-range of volunteer assignments for many diverse organizations. Her enthusiasm and dedication to serving others resulted in a myriad of community service awards including, Community Leadership Service to Agency Award (from Sheltering Arms Senior Services), Savvy Award (from Foley's and the Houston Chronicle), GAIA Award (from the Houston Grand Opera), Texas Star Award (from the YWCA) and Volunteer of the Year Award (from the United Way of Texas).

As part of her allegiance to community service, Lullelia served on the Board of Directors of more than a dozen organizations including, Houston Chapter of the March of Dimes, United Way of Texas Gulf Coast, Hester House, the Houston Area YWCA and later the Blue Triangle YWCA/Multipurpose Center, Florence Crittenton Center, Heman M. Sweatt Victory Fund, National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women, DePelchin Children's Center, Houston Advocates for Mentally Ill Children, Child Care Council of Greater Houston, Sheltering Arms Senior Services, Houston League of Business and Professional Women, and the Houston Area Pan Hellenic Council.

In the early 1930's, Lullelia married Alexander Crystal Harrison. They were blessed with two sons, Charles "Tex" Harrison and Alexander Crystal Harrison, II. Both Alexander, her husband, and Alexander, her son, preceded her in death. Her husband was a small business operator through much of his life; and her son, Alexander, served as a regional manager for General Foods, Inc. Her son Charles has a long-standing affiliation with the Harlem Globetrotters, where he began as a player after completing his undergraduate education.

Lullelia Walker Harrison is survived by her son, Charles "Tex" Harrison (wife: Tommye); a daughter-in-law, Margaret A. Harrison; seven grandchildren: Olivia Tanyel Harrison Bennett (husband: Alfred), Lullelia Teno Harrison Sigmon, Charee Tonett Harrison, Alexander C. Harrison, III (wife: Anita), Thomas C. Harrison, Margaret Harrison Neal (husband: Delvert), and Anthony C. Harrison; three nieces: Etta Frances Walker, Vanita Davis Reed, and Evelyn Chambers; two nephews: Franklin Pierce Walker, III and Gerald Pettiford; 14 great-grandchildren; 6 great-great-grandchildren; and a host of other relatives across the United States.





## Order of Service

Prelude

The Words of Grace

Hymn.....No. 369  
*"Blessed Assurance"*

The Invocation

Lessons from Holy Scripture

The Old Testament (Psalm 23) .....Dr. William A. Lawson  
*Pastor Emeritus, Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church*

The Epistle (II Timothy 4:1,5-8) .....Dr. Robert McGee  
*Trinity United Methodist Church*

The New Testament (John 14:1-6).....Rev. Jeremiah B ooker  
*Mission Bend United Methodist Church*

The Affirmation of Faith.....No. 881

The Gloria Patri

Resolutions

Solo .....Robert Tapscott

Expressions

Solo .....Isaac Bryant  
*"How Great Thou Art"*

Sermon .....Dr. Lewis L. Jackson, Sr.

Closing Hymn.....No. 701  
*"When We All Get To Heaven"*

Benediction







## *Active Pallbearers*

Alfred H. Bennett  
David Forrow  
Alexander C. Harrison

Anthony C. Harrison  
Thomas C. Harrison  
Jesse A. Reed III

## *Honorary Pallbearers*

Isaac Bryant  
Felix Cook  
John Caldwell

Marvin Hamilton  
Johnny Powell  
Ira Scott

## *Acknowledgements*

The family members of Lullelia Walker Harrison wish to acknowledge, with deep appreciation and gratitude, the many expressions of love and kindness shown during our time of sorrow. They also wish to express their gratitude to the nursing staff at the Holly Hall Retirement Community for the excellent care provided to our loved one over the years of her residence at that facility.

Finally, the help of Windsor Village United Methodist Church in hosting the service is acknowledged.



## *Interment*

### **Golden Gate Cemetery**

8400 Hirsch Road  
Houston, Texas 77016

## *Arrangements Entrusted To*

**Ross Mortuary**  
3618 Lyons Avenue  
Houston, Texas 77020  
(713)-223-8071