Celebration of Life and Legacy

Hyacinth Matrid John (nee Hadley) passed away peacefully at her home surrounded by her family on Good Friday, March 29, 2024, in Chandler, Arizona, at the age of 82. She was born on May 30, 1941, in St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

She will forever live on in the cherished memories of her loving husband of 60 years, Ian John; her three children, Jennifer Andrews, Ronald John, and Alana Smith; two sons-in-law and one daughter-in-law, Robert Andrews, Dawn John, and Brian Smith; niece/honorary daughter Beverly Hadley; seven cherished grandchildren, Christina, Juanita, Nigel, Ava, Chloe, Julia, and Jossalyn; grandson-in-law Johnny; sister Angeline Pierre-Louis and many other family members and friends.

Hyacinth was preceded in death by her parents, Minelva and Theopholis Hadley, sister Dorothy Hadley, and her brothers, Dalton, Reynold and Ian Hadley.

Hyacinth spent her formative years in St Vincent at Girls High School and later spent her teen years in Trinidad before immigrating to Jersey City, New Jersey, United States with her parents and youngest sibling in 1960.

In 1963, Hyacinth married her childhood sweetheart Ian John, who also immigrated to the United States from St. Vincent, and they remained together until the time of her passing.  They initially raised their three children Jennifer, Ronald and Alana in Jersey City until moving to Piscataway, NJ in 1977. Hyacinth was a woman of strong faith who found a wonderful community at Christ United Methodist Church in Piscataway, where she remained a member until moving to Arizona in 2004.

Hyacinth dedicated over 25 years of her life to Rutgers University Administrative Services. She worked the night shift and ensured a delicious dinner was ready when everyone returned home from school and activities. Her commitment and strong work ethic left a lasting impact on all those she interacted with.

Outside of work Hyacinth loved to bake and would lovingly make beautifully decorated cakes for birthdays and other occasions.  More recently she is remembered for her amazing homemade bread and particularly her pepperoni bread. She was also a very good seamstress and knitter. She would make beautiful clothing and blankets for her children and grandchildren.

Hyacinth cherished spending time with her seven grandchildren as well as her many honorary grandchildren whom she grew to love during annual two-week family and friend vacations at Sandbridge in Virginia Beach.   Additionally, she was an avid lifelong reader and has always cherished the luxury of being able to own her own books, something that was often beyond her means as a small child in St. Vincent.

Hyacinth's life will be celebrated on Saturday, April 20th at 10 am EST at Christ United Methodist Church, 485 Hoes Lane, Piscataway, NJ. Family and friends are invited to honor and remember her legacy during this service; livestream will be available. Repast to follow at the church immediately.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donations to Christ United Methodist Church, Piscataway, or St. Vincent Girls High School in St. Vincent.