



Mrs. Ruth Patterson

October 30, 1915 - July 29, 2016

Ruth Patterson was born on October 30, 1915 in Gary, Indiana to the union of Mabel Butler (Woodfolk) and Frank Butler, Sr. The Butler family later moved to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where Ruth completed her formal education at Girls Tech High School.

On December 23, 1939, Ruth Butler was united in holy matrimony with Jack Sylvester

Patterson. Their 61-year marriage was a testament to their love, devotion and spiritual commitment.

In 1945, Jack became the first African American driver hired by the Milwaukee Electric Railway and Transport Company, which later became the Milwaukee County Transit System.

Ruth joined the Master Lock Company, as an Assembly Tech, and remained with the company

for 28 years. Through her good standing with the company, she recommended other candidates

for hire including three of her nieces and several personal friends.

In 1945 Ruth and Jack were among a growing number of African Americans to build homes

on land between North Sherman Blvd and 60th Street to West Hampton Avenue and Villard.

The friendships, camaraderie and fond memories, of good times shared, kept them comfortable in the home for 71 years.

Ruth enjoyed many things, including traveling, cooking, entertaining, boating, dancing and much more. She and Jack were members of Pilgrim Rest Missionary Baptist Church for more than 20 years. Both shared a zest for life, a love of God and a legacy of togetherness.

Ruth departed this life of 101 years on July 29. She did so with dignity and pride following a life well lived. She was preceded in death by her husband, Jack Patterson; sisters, Juanita Butler, Naomi Trice, Sylvia Cole, Mabel Coleman, Mozelle Sanders and Lillian Lewis; and brother, Frank Butler, Jr. She leaves to cherish her memory: sisters, Louise Bell and Betty Payton; and many nieces and nephews.

Cemetery Details

Wisconsin Memorial Park

13235 W. Capitol Dr.
Brookfield, WI

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 4. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Northwest Funeral Chapel
6630 W. Hampton Ave
Milwaukee, WI

Service

AUG 5. 11:00 AM (CT)

Pilgrim Rest Missionary Baptist Church
3737 N. Sherman Blvd.
Milwaukee, WI

Tribute Wall

BT

“ Love you Ruth, may you enjoy your eternal peace with your Heavenly family. ❤️ love Barbara Thomas and family.



Barbara Thomas - February 13, 2017 at 05:46 PM