

***Life Celebration
of
Emma Lucille Minor***



***May 19, 2018
Hilton Garden Inn
700 Beta Drive
Mayfield Village, Ohio 44143
and
May 21, 2018
St. Peter's Baptist Church Cemetery
Route One
Pollard, Alabama 36441***

PROGRAM

***Life Celebration
of
Emma Lucille Minor
May 19, 2018***

***10:00am – 12:00pm
Luncheon Repast***

***Welcome
Dr. Heidi Barham ~ Officiant***

***Omega Service Honoring Soror Minor
Phi Delta Kappa Sorority***

***Her Journey though Family Remarks
by***

Dr. Valerie Alloy ~ Daughter

Sara Alloy ~ Grand Daughter

Jacqueline McMickens, J.D. ~ Niece

Timothy Walton ~ Nephew

Elizabeth Minor ~ Daughter in Law

Dr. Dale Minor ~ Son

Dr. Gail Christopher ~ Daughter

***Closing Remarks
Family Acknowledgments***

*A Life Celebration
of
Emma Lucille Minor
March 16, 1925 – October 7, 2017*

Emma Lucille Minor's life story is an amazing reflection of the resilience embodied by so many African Americans born in her era. Born March 16, 1925 in Pollard, Alabama, she rose from humble beginnings as one of twelve children on a family farm in Jim Crow, segregated Alabama to become one of the 100 most influential African Americans in the United States. She often said, "I am a little piece of leather, but I am well put together." She said that her Mother use to say that, too.

Her journey required overcoming so many obstacles, self-financing her way through college in her late 30's, attending Kent State University, nights, driving to and from Cleveland, Ohio after working during the day as a secretary. She became a teacher and loved teaching.

Her love and passion for this work provided the force that led her to national leadership. Psychologists suggest that the quality of "grit" distinguishes the stars from the average. Emma Lucille Minor embodied, "grit" and absolute determination to do it her way. It may have been this very quality that enabled her to outlive all her siblings. She passed this inner drive along to her three children and for this, we will always be grateful.

During her lifetime she received the highest respect and admiration from her peers. In addition to being recognized by Ebony Magazine, she received many proclamations dedicating the day in her honor and earned keys to numerous cities which she would display with pride in her homes. In time her keys, plaques and proclamations honoring her achievements grew to cover an entire wall!

E. Lucille attended Dunbar High School in Dayton, Ohio; earned her Bachelor of Science Degree in Education from Kent State University in 1967, and her Master of Arts Degree in Education from Cleveland State University in 1971. An acclaimed educational leader she served Cleveland Public School system in a variety of roles, retiring as principal of Oliver Perry Elementary School in 1985.

Today she is being honored for her service to the National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa where she first joined the Cleveland Alpha Xi Chapter in 1966. Her distinguished service record to Phi Delta Kappa includes roles of member, Board of Trustees, First and Second Supreme Anti-Basileus, and election to the office of Supreme Basileus in June 1988.

During Ebony Magazine's Tenth Annual American Black Achievement Awards, contemporaries also receiving recognition for their outstanding contributions to athletics, business, dramatic and performing arts, and public service included: Michael Jordan, Dr. Benjamin Carson, Eddie Murphy, Denzel Washington, Oprah Winfrey, Kathleen Battle, Toni Morrison, Whitney Houston, Michael Jackson and Lt. General Colin Powell, to list a few.

Emma Lucille was happily married to James Henry Minor for 46 years. They are survived by their three children Dale, Gail and Valerie and five grandchildren, Hassan, April, Heather, Ethan, Sara, and one great grandson, Abija. A longtime resident of Cleveland, Ohio Emma Lucille and her husband James, known to many as "Uncle Jimmy" would open their home and hearts to family and friends alike, living and loving by example. In the Minor's family home, all would receive unconditional love, continuous support and always the wisest of counsel.

Emma Lucille retired in 1985, she and her husband James, enjoyed their early retirement years in Bonita Springs, Florida. After the passing of her husband, in 1992, Emma Lucille moved from Bonita Springs, Florida to Atlanta, Georgia where she enjoyed quality years living near her sister Jeanette Reid. Both sisters mastered the games of bridge and golf, hosted friends from near and far, and treasured family get togethers. Her next move brought her back to Ohio living in both Columbus and later Athens, to be closer to her immediate family.

Emma Lucille went to Mexico to live with her son and his wife Beth in 2012 after they retired there for warmer weather and completed construction of their home. There Emma Lucille enchanted the staff that assisted with her care, demonstrating her special ability to bring out the best in them as well as anyone who would come to know her. Emma Lucille loved walking on the beach, 'getting caught in the rain', and enjoyed Margaritas (not Piña Coladas).

Emma Lucille's next phase of care was provided in a unique retirement community for exPats in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico. In Mexico, the elderly are loved and revered and Rancho los Labradores, in San Miguel was Emma Lucille Minor's last home. Her children visited her there and were very happy with the care she received.

The staff fell in love with our Mother, and Emma Lucille went peacefully on October 7, 2017 at the age of 92. She is loved and revered by all whom she encountered.

Her Legacy is a Testament to her Values of:

*Grit and Determination,
Love of God and Family,
Service to Community,
and Enrichment to All!*

*Thank You Mother
Grandmother
Great Grand Mother
Sister and Aunt
We Love You and Dad
and Cherish You Forever!*