RUBY'S JEWELS

Art | Fashion | Family

VOLUME 1 EDITION 1

SPRING & SUMMER 2021

Church Hat Season

Viewing

FRIDAY, JAN 15. 2021 • 10:00 AM (MST)

PILGRIM REST BAPTIST CHURCH
1401 E. JEFFERSON STREET PHOENIX, AZ

Service

FRIDAY, JAN 15. 2021 • 11:00 AM (MST)

PILGRIM REST BAPTIST CHURCH
1401 E. JEFFERSON STREET PHOENIX, AZ

LIVE STREAM

FRIDAY, JAN 15. 2021 • 11:00 AM (MST)

https://youtube.com/channel/UCcO2-paoD2hZNiHiNg09Y8g

•OK• STRIP MALL

MUSIC • FOOD • STYLE

BUY 1 DINNER GET 1 AT 50% OFF

Must present coupon at time of purchase

Valid 3pm-Close exp. 1/50/21 MEMA

BARBER STYLING
11AM-3PM
MONDAY - FRIDAY

RECORD STORE
11AM-3PM
MONDAY - FRIDAY

Call Ahead to Order and Schedule Your Appointment Today!

RUBY JEWEL'S
MAGAZINE

What's Inside ?

A LIFE OF STYLE & GRACE

EDITORIAL TEAM

DIRECTOR: TEMAKO J. ROQUE | **ASSISTANT DIRECTOR:** CARLETTA A ROQUE | **GUEST WRITER:** TANYA P. FLANAGAN | **LAYOUT:** EARL S. GARDNER

CREATIVE: SYDNI SAYLES | **DESIGNER:** RICKY HOLMES

THIS ISSUE

ON THE COVER

Ruby Joe Roque

Fashionista

LOVE & HAPPINESS LEONARD & RUBY ON LOVE, MARRIAGE & CHILDREN *PG 7*

A LIFE BY DESIGN *PG 8*

FAMILY FIRST MEMORIES OVER THE YEARS *PG 10*

CROWN & GLORY *PG 12*

SUNDAY'S BEST *PG 13*

PROGRAM

Processional …… Soft Music

Scripture Reading …… Miss Tanya P. Flanagan

Old Testament Ecclesiastes 3:1~8

Prayer of Comfort …… Pastor Terry E. Mackey

Selection …… Goin' Up Yonder …… PRBC Musicians

Special Reflections …… Family and Friends

(Two minute limit please)

Selection …… Be Encouraged …… William Becton

Obituary …… Miss Tanya P. Flanagan

Eulogy …… Rev. John W. Haddix

Parting View & Selection …… I'll Fly Away …… Rev. John W. Haddix

Entombment

Resthaven / Carr-Tenney Mortuary & Memorial Gardens

4310 E. Southern Avenue Phoenix, AZ 85042

The Life of Ruby Joe Roque

March 17, 1938 - January 3, 2021

The 12th of 14 children, Ruby Joe Hale was born March 17, 1938 in Gilmer, Texas to Sailvanion and Laura Hale. She was a spirited and loving child who valued family and visited her parents daily until their heavenly departure.

Ruby attended Booker T. Washington School (K-12) in Greenville, TX where she was an astute student and flag girl. Ruby especially liked traveling to away games and performing as a flag girl. The Hale family moved to Arizona in 1946 living in Eloy, Stanfield and Yuma. The family migrated between Arizona and Texas, and during her senior year moved to the South Phoenix community near 24th Street and Marguerite Avenue. She and her siblings loved sitting on the front porch watching all the action on 25th Street and Broadway Road. Ruby shared a special bond with her two younger siblings - Vannie and Essie. They were the last three Hale girls and when you saw one, you saw the other two. They had a sisterly bond like no other. They went through the stages of life together from elementary school to long summers, graduations, first jobs, weddings, purchasing new homes/property, and building families - they never failed to support one another over the years.

Ruby worked in various industries from sales to nursing. Ruby loved working because she loved shopping. She would tell stories about how she loved dresses and matching shoes so much that before she realized it, she purchased the same navy dress three times. Although she was of age, her mother often would not allow Ruby and her siblings to go out to the dance hall. So, instead, she would get dressed from head-to-toe in her finest clothes and jewelry, and model around her bedroom imagining how she was going to strut her stuff when given the chance.

While attending her younger sister, Essie's wedding, she captured the gaze of Leonard J. Roque, a Sr. Airmen in the United States Air Force. He was the unofficial wedding photographer and he asked Ruby for a date and she politely declined, but with perseverance, he eventually won her heart. They dated until he received orders to fight in the Vietnam War. They maintained a relationship through correspondence for four years. After returning from Vietnam, he was stationed at Nellis Air Force Base in Las Vegas, NV and traveled the lonely highway many times to maintain their courtship. Leonard asked Ruby for her hand and the couple married on July 20, 1968. The next year they celebrated the birth of their first daughter, Carletta Adrian on May 5, 1969, and welcomed their second daughter, Temako Joe, on January 6,1971.

The family was stationed in Las Vegas for five years. She began working at the Sands Hotel and Casino on the famed Las Vegas Strip, the first iconic Las Vegas hotel to allow Black performers like Nat King Cole to stay as a guest. During this time, Ruby saw and met Mr. Cole along with Gladys Knight and the Pips, Rudy Ray Moore, Maurice Hines, the father of Gregory Hines, and many others who took the star-studded stage in the Copa Room at the Sands. While the girls were young, like an excited young mother, Ruby spent her hours spoiling her girls with lavish dresses, pretty ribbons and shiny shoes. She could often be found reading to them, coloring with them and taking them to the neighborhood park.

Ruby left the City of Entertainment when her husband's military career moved them to Laredo Air Force Base in Laredo, TX, followed by Columbus Air Force Base in Columbus, MS; and later Williams and Luke Air Force bases in Arizona. While living in Columbus, she became very talented in ceramics, teaching classes and even receiving awards and special recognition for her creations and work as an instructor. She often made popular mushroom canisters for her friends and family. The family home is still adorned with her beautiful creations, some of which we share with you in the pages of this program.

The family spent a decade moving to the various cities as Mr. Roque advanced his military career. In 1977, Ruby returned to Arizona with her children and husband. Family was always her priority - the core ingredient in life - and so she was ecstatic that her husband's last years working would be spent at Arizona military posts allowing her to visit her parents every day until Sailvanion and Laura preceded her in death.

Leonard ultimately closed out his military career in 1990 as a Senior Master Sergeant at Luke Air Force Base in Glendale, AZ. At his retirement, Ruby received a certificate of appreciation for her unselfish, faithful and devoted service as her unfailing support and understanding helped make possible her husband's lasting contribution to the nation through the United States Air Force.

Ruby and her late husband, Leonard, began attending Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church in 1990 and became members in 1993. Her husband took immense pride in escorting his beautiful wife to their regular pew seats every Sunday. She had a passion for elaborate hats and matching shoes and purses. Ruby had a hat for every occasion in every style and color -- be it hats trimmed in mink to ones covered in feathers, she styled and profiled. She took delight in posing for photographs taken by Randy Heflin, resident photographer, every Sunday after church. As a young adult, Ruby would often share how she desired to own fancy cars and a full length mink coat one day. And true to her word, she acquired those items and many more with hard work and smart financial planning. If you look closely at the many photos, you can see her hands positioned just so with her diamond rings in view.

When the couple returned to Arizona, Ruby began working for her nephew, Tommy Hicks, who owned OK Records & Tapes, a staple in the community at 16th Street and Southern Avenue. She managed the record store - a stop for everyone when the newest music came out. This allowed her to keep abreast of all the latest tunes from the Gap Band to Tupac. Her work at OKs enabled her to witness the evolution of the music industry from cool 45s and albums to compact discs. Through it all, Ruby built relationships with everyone in the community. She always had advice with a moral to the story. She would tell you a thing or two about what you should and should not do because you should know better even if you didn't want to hear the advice.

Ruby's quick-wit and personality drew people to her. She shared her Jewels of Knowledge, Experience, and Wisdom. Always offering nuggets of life to young people, telling them to always respect and love yourself, honor your parents, and work hard to be successful in life despite the many obstacles our people faced. Ruby had a way with words that would leave lasting impressions on all who she came in contact with. She was honest with her wit and gave it to you straight even if you did not agree or particularly care for her frank assessment. She had advice that would help in any situation. She loved to talk and if she caught you in Frys or Safeway, you knew you would be there in the aisle for hours on end.

Aunt Ruby was everyone's favorite Auntie. Any one of her nieces, great nieces, nephews or great nephews will say that she always showed them love and made each of them feel special.

She and her husband also were foster parents to five children over the years, who were all grateful for the time invested. She provided these children a chance at a normal loving home. One special young lady, Jessica Durbin, was absorbed into the Roque family so much so that many thought she was a biological family member. One of the case managers at the agency commented that he had never seen a foster child treated so well. Ruby placed her in dance classes and recitals just as her daughters were when they were young. Their goal was to ensure Jessica and the other children felt loved and as family members, allowing the children a chance to realize that any dream they hoped to achieve was possible with love and a nurturing environment.

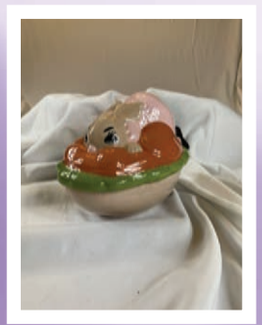
If you truly knew Ruby, you would know that she adored her girls. She took the job of parenting seriously. She instilled the very same values into her children that her parents taught her. Ruby's mantra was to respect and love yourself above all. She taught them that hard work would result in the achievement of any goal they set for themselves. She wanted her girls to be independent women with a voice and encouraged them to use it boldly and loudly. She wanted her children to be well-rounded and enrolled them in Brownies and Girl Scouts, dance classes, piano lessons, gymnastics, and Pop Warner cheer just to name a few. She entertained and supported any class or training they wanted to do. Ruby also taught the value of a dollar and to save more money than you spent. She would remind them to maintain their sisterly bond and to never let anyone tear it apart. All her rearing prepared them for adulthood and life. She was so proud of them and their many accomplishments. We can all agree that Ruby raised two phenomenal women.

Ruby leaves to cherish her precious memory, her loving daughters, Carletta A. and Temako J. Roque of Phoenix, AZ; three sisters, Ella Pulley (Floyd) of Rancho Cucamonga, CA and Vannie Hale and Essie Ballew of Phoenix, AZ; one brother, Tommy Hale of Phoenix, AZ; one sister-in-law, Margaret Davis of New Orleans, LA; one honorary daughter, Jessica E. Durbin of Lima, OH and a host of nieces, nephews, great nieces, great nephews, family and friends.

Classic Beauty

Love & Happiness

A Life By Design



PALLBEARERS

Earl S. Gardner
Tommy E. Hicks, Jr.
Weighlynn C. Madison
Martennace Ingram
Tyson V. Williams
Kenneth R. Young

HONORARY PALLBEARERS

Eric Ballew
Tommie L. Flanagan
Octave L. Picot, Sr.
Boyd Rodgers
Tommy W. Hale

The Roque Family's Expression of Appreciation and Gratitude

Carletta and Temako Roque gratefully acknowledge all the acts of kindness extended to us during our time of bereavement. The family believes that grief is lessened when it is shared and the support has brought us consolation.

We would like to thank everyone for their contribution to making the homegoing of Mrs. Ruby J. Roque a memorable celebration and tribute to a phenomenal woman.

We are extremely grateful for all the outpouring of expression, prayers, visits, and sympathetic concerns that have been extended to us. May God richly bless every one of you. The family will cherish your kindness forever.

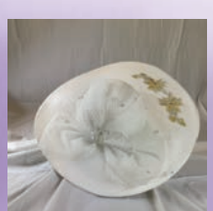
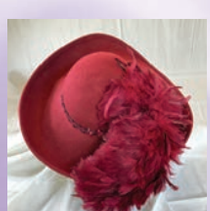
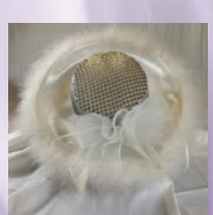
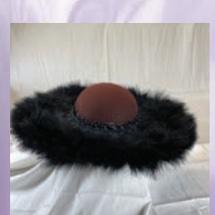
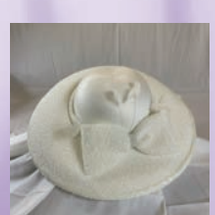
Final Arrangements Entrusted to:

East Lake Mortuary

"Caring, Courteous, Professional"
1715 E. Jefferson Street ~ Phoenix, Arizona 85034
602.253.4105
Shawn Miller - Licensed Funeral Director

Family First

Crown & Glory

Sunday's Best

You Will Be Missed

And my soul shall be joyful in the Lord

-Psalm 35:9