



Kenneth Earl Lockett

October 19, 1935 - November 5, 2022

Kenneth Earl Lockett was born in Baltimore, Maryland on October 19, 1935 to the late Earl and Marguerite Lockett. He passed away peacefully at home on November 5, 2022. Kenneth lost his mother when he was 16. His grandparents, Frisby and Alice Lindsay, raised him with support from his beloved “Aunt Beatrice”. A tradition for men in the Lockett family was grocery shopping for the family. As a young boy, Kenneth would go shopping with his grandfather at the Lexington market in Baltimore, Maryland. As Ken grew older, he would venture to Lexington market on his own to shop for the family. Kenneth was educated in the Baltimore City School district. Kenneth graduated from Douglass High School in 1955. Following graduation, he attended Fisk University, a historically black university, located in Nashville, Tennessee where he majored in music. While at Fisk University he was a member of the world-renowned Fisk Jubilee Singers. In 1956, Kenneth became a member of the Eta Psi chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. In 1958, he transferred to Morgan State College in Baltimore, Maryland. While at Fisk University, Kenneth met the love of his life, June Radford. On a hot summer day, Kenneth and June married on June 27, 1959, in Chicago, Illinois. They settled in Baltimore, Maryland, and later relocated to New Jersey where they were married for 63 years. To this union, their daughter, Lynelle Marguerite Lockett was born on April 4, 1964.

Kenneth worked for John Hopkins University Hospital in the late 1950s. In 1967, he went to work for Gulf Oil Company. Shortly after working for Gulf Oil,

the family was relocated to New Jersey. Upon leaving Golf Oil, Ken began working with the City of East Orange in the finance department. The City needed a trusted individual to handle sensitive financial matters and tapped Kenneth for the job, sending him to the East Orange Court House and finally the East Orange Golf Course where he worked until he retired. Kenneth joined Bethel Presbyterian Church in 1970. During his time at Bethel, he was an Elder and a Deacon. He also held a position as church secretary. Kenneth prepared church bulletins and helped run the inner workings of the church. He participated in several church plays where he took on the role of "Scrooge" in The Christmas Carol. Kenneth, affectionately known as "Ken", was known for his wit and sense of humor. He was always ready to tell a joke at a moment's notice. Ken had the biggest heart. He was a dog and animal lover. He rescued a dog in the rain that was stranded on the side of the road. He brought him home naming the dog 'Misty'. Misty stayed at the Lockett household until Misty passed away. Kenneth was always a well-dressed man. He had suits for every occasion and owned several tuxedos. His suit, shirt, tie, pocket square, shoes, and socks were all strategically coordinated. He kept a running subscription to GQ magazine until his death. Ken loved music. He was known for having perfect pitch, often giving the pitch for the Fisk Jubilee Singers when in concert. His love of music extended beyond college. He heard an all-male chorus sing and joined the North Jersey Philharmonic Glee club, where he sang baritone. The Lockett men were well-known chefs in Baltimore. As a boy, Ken would watch his grandfather and his uncles prepare meals in the kitchen. Ken picked up the art of cooking from his grandfather and began preparing meals to build his craft. He was known for making the best crab cakes around. Ken's poundcake was a hit with everyone. The family was a very important thing to Ken. He cherished time with June and Lynelle. During holidays he enjoyed spending time with them and creating life-long memories. Kenneth is survived by his wife, June Lockett, his daughter, Lynelle Lockett, his sister, Hilda Council, nieces, nephews, and friends who are like family.

Funeral Service will be livestream on Facebook Live on Van Tassel Funeral Home page.

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100048174404855>

Cemetery Details

Private

Previous Events

Memorial Service

DEC 17. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Bethel Presbyterian Church
290-294 Dodd St
East Orange, NJ 07017

Tribute Wall



“ <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100048174404855>

Van Tassel - December 17, 2022 at 11:18 AM



Facebook Live Service

Van Tassel - December 17, 2022 at 11:19 AM



“ *"Memories" Keepsake Memory Box was purchased for the family of Kenneth Earl Lockett.*



December 16, 2022 at 11:09 PM



“ *Uncle Ken put the C in cool. He wasn't a pretentious person. Being "cool" came naturally to him. He would sometimes pick up me and Lynelle from parties that we attended as teens --making sure we got home safely. At times we would be late getting to the car at the agreed upon time, we would wonder what his reaction might be. He simply asked: did you have fun? I remember him being a loving dad and husband to Lynelle and Aunt June. He was a sweet uncle and will be sorely missed. My heart goes out to his daughter, Dr. Lynelle Lockett and Aunt June*

Felecia Nace - December 16, 2022 at 08:59 PM

FN

“ *Felecia Nace purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Kenneth Earl Lockett.*



Felecia Nace - December 16, 2022 at 01:53 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Kenneth Earl Lockett.*



December 15, 2022 at 11:52 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Kenneth Earl Lockett.*



December 15, 2022 at 01:38 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Kenneth Earl Lockett.*



December 14, 2022 at 11:19 PM

JM

“ Dear June,

Please accept my sincere condolences on the loss of your husband Kenneth. Sending prayers and asking God to hold on to you extra tight as he carries you through.

Sincerely,

Joseph N. Maccia

Joseph Maccia - December 02, 2022 at 10:21 AM

NA

“ *New Jersey Fisk Alumni Association purchased the Ocean Breeze Spray for the family of Kenneth Earl Lockett.*



New Jersey Fisk Alumni Association - December 01, 2022 at 07:55 AM

DP

“ *New Jersey Fisk Alumni Association have fond memories of Ken as he was a pillar and founding member of the Club. We appreciated his wisdom and humor as he was quick on his feet. We celebrate him and June longstanding marriage which started at our beloved Fisk University. He will be sorely missed.*



Dr Willie Moody, NJFAA Prest - November 29, 2022 at 08:26 AM



Sending condolences to the family 🌿

Lisa Lester - November 30, 2022 at 08:01 AM



“ *Joyful Memory was purchased for the family of Kenneth Earl Lockett.*



November 09, 2022 at 12:25 PM