



Dorothy Isabella Proctor passed away peacefully on March 8, 2022 at home with her husband by her side. She was born in Bryantown, Maryland on March 28, 1937 to the late William Leon Thompson and Mary Goldie “Dorothy” Thompson. Dorothy attended Cardoza High School in Washington D.C. She married Martin “Vincent” Proctor in 1956 and they settled in Cheltenham, Maryland, soon after to raise their family.

She worked for the former Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company, which eventually became Verizon, for over thirty years. After retirement, Dorothy enjoyed spoiling her grandchildren and taking classes at Southern Maryland Community College. She also volunteered at Boys Village of Cheltenham making a difference in the lives of troubled youth. She also worked as an afterschool tutor for over a year helping kids with their homework. In recent years, Dorothy and Vincent relocated to Annapolis, Maryland, where they entertained and enjoyed visits from family and friends.

She is survived by her husband Martin V. Proctor Sr., four children, Jacqueline, Martin (Charlene), Lisa (Anthony), and Robin, seven grandchildren, Alexis (Justin), Brandon (Cory), Perrye (Chuma), Brent, Myles, Blair, and Leila, and three great grandchildren, Eric Jr., Sage, and Archer. She is also survived by her siblings Jean High (Lonnie, deceased), Gloriadean Jackson (Tyrone), Paul Robert Thompson (Rose), Judy Proctor (Woody, deceased) and her aunt Paige Coates as well as brother and sister in-laws, Elaine Proctor (Matthew, deceased), Irene Proctor (David, deceased), Paul Proctor (Doris, deceased), Evelyn Swann (who she affectionately referred to as “Sister in-Law☺), John Smith (Shirley, deceased), Gwynette Artis (George), Linda Proctor (Ken), Kermit Proctor (Janice) and Joanne Proctor (James, deceased).

She was preceded in death by two sons, William Reginald and Thomas Vernon, her brothers Davis Leon Thompson (Margaret Thompson, deceased), Roger Thompson (Mary, deceased) and her sister Ernestine Neal (Wendell) as well as in-laws, Matthew Proctor, Mervine Mason (Winston, deceased), Charles Proctor (Althea, deceased), Joseph “Leo” Proctor, Shirley Smith, and James Ricardo Proctor.

Affectionately known as Dot or “Snooty”, she was as tough inside as she was tiny in stature. A favorite story that is often recalled is how the 6 ft. tall Security Guard at the phone company asked Dot to walk him to the bus stop at the end of his shift because he was concerned for his safety. Notably, Dot was one of the first African American women to work as a cashier at a Washington, D.C. retail store. Dot was also a neighborhood activist. From 1998 to 2002, she served on the Citizens Advisory Board for Southern Maryland. Dot fought against the expansion of nearby landfills and her testimony was officially noted by the Judge as a determining factor in not approving the request for additional landfills.

She dispensed unconditional love and tidbits of simple advice that continue to ring true decades later. A few of her most loved gems:

- Try your best and to blankety blank with the rest! (She literally said “blankety blank” because she didn’t curse).
- You just got to get out there and enjoy life!
- It (whatever your situation) isn’t too bad, it’s just one bad

Whenever she encountered a piano player, without fail she would request the song Wind Beneath My Wings. This is also the very best way to describe her. She was the rare person that could renew your spirit while keeping you accountable for living up to your potential.

In lieu of thoughts and prayers, her family asks that you be kind to the living and generous with what you have, be it your love, hope, or wealth. Reach back to those in need, lift them up, raise them higher, and love love love thy neighbor.

The family requests donations to the Capital Food Bank ([Donate to Capital Area Food Bank](#)) in lieu of flowers. We also ask that attendees of the services wear yellow accents, such as in a tie or scarf, to honor her love of yellow flowers.