



Sophie Weatherspoon

May 25, 1948 - January 14, 2023

Soboghana (Sophie) Weatherspoon entered into eternal rest peacefully with family by her side on January 14, 2023, in Vancouver, Washington.

Sophie was born on May 25, 1948, in Mount Clemens, Michigan, to Julius and Glendora McClendon. She was the oldest of six children. She graduated with high honors from Clintondale High School in Clinton Township, Michigan. She earned her Bachelor of Science and Mathematics degree from Michigan State University and married Anthony Weatherspoon in 1970. They moved to Colorado after Anthony was enlisted in the Army. This union was blessed with three children. Anthony's Bachelor of Wood Science degree later brought them to a small town in Klickitat, Washington. Sophie later settled in Vancouver after their divorce, where she lived out the rest of her life.

As a child and early adult, Sophie was raised in the Muslim faith. She later converted to Christianity and made First Church of God, now known as Vancouver Church, her church home where she attended with her children.

Sophie grew up in a time when women and people of color fought for everything that was needed to be successful. She overcame obstacles over her lifetime and shined a light for others. She laid the groundwork for her siblings, children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, students, and friends to realize their dreams. She created a successful math program as a teacher that enabled inner-city students and their parents to acquire a passion for the subject. Her brother Jamal and sister Elnora became engineers with her encouragement. She passed on her passion for math and science to her three

children; Elnora is a nurse practitioner and nurse manager, Sultan is an entrepreneur, inventor, and engineer, and Hakim is a tenured-professor, entrepreneur, and engineer. All of her grandchildren know the importance of a higher education and this passion for knowledge will be passed on for generations to come. Sophie would give the shirt off her back to make sure all others could make a better life for themselves.

Sophie was a math and science teacher in Portland Public Schools and taught at Whitaker Middle School, Harriet Tubman Middle School, Woodlawn School, and Self Enhancement, Inc. She retired after nearly 40 years of exemplary work as an educator.

Sophie LOVED her family. She LOVED traveling. She LOVED fellowship. Her most memorable travel destinations include Hawaii, California, Florida, Washington, D.C, New York, Las Vegas, Arizona, Disneyland, and Disneyworld. She enjoyed going to movies and restaurants with her family and friends, bargain shopping, entertaining, trips to the casino, and hanging out. She enjoyed the beauty of the Pacific Northwest. Her greatest joy was attending her grandchildren's events, such as sports, concerts and graduations. Her favorite hobbies were cooking, entertaining, sewing, educating, writing, designing clothes and bragging about her children and grandchildren.

Sophie is preceded in death by her parents, Glendora and Julius McClendon and her brother, Tadar McClendon. She is survived by her children, Elnora Grant (Jerald), Sultan Weatherspoon (Jackie), Hakim Weatherspoon (Makda); grandchildren: Shalamar, Kieran, Nia, Menelik, Saba, Ava, Isaiah, Malcolm, Elsa and Yared; seven great-grandchildren; sisters: Rose Hussain, Elnora Rogers and Doranna McClendon, brother Jamal Abraham; and numerous cousins, nieces, nephews and friends.

A funeral service will be held on Friday, January 27, at Vancouver Church, 3300 NE 78th St., Vancouver WA 98665. The viewing will be at 10:30 a.m. and the service begins at noon. Burial will be held at Evergreen Memorial Gardens 1101 NE 112th Ave. in Vancouver at 2:30 p.m. Please join us for a

reception at Vancouver Church immediately following the burial to honor the life and legacy of Sophie. Dinner will be served.

Tribute Wall

DA

“ My name is Diane Armstrong. I was Sophie's friend and roommate at Michigan State. I just found out about her passing-my sincere condolences to her family. If any of her family wishes to contact me, they can do so by texting me at 313-3631974. God Bless you all!

Diane Armstrong - May 16, 2025 at 12:00 AM

ML

“ Sending my condolences to the Weatherspoon family. Sophie was a wonderful woman and she will be missed.

Michelle Love - September 12, 2023 at 12:00 AM

BM

“ A Tree for a true angel, rest in peace Sophie

Betty J Matthews - January 30, 2023 at 12:00 AM

BM

“ Dear Sophie, Thank you for being a wonderful friend and confidante. Your beautiful smile always made me feel loved. Even though we lived miles apart, you were very close in my heart. Your name "Soboghana" says it all - a strong, determined, caring woman and mother who was very reachable with high expectations. I will always remember your beautiful smile that your niece Jamillah inherited and loves to show off (smile). I thank God for being a part of your life. Always your Sister, Bobbie McClendon

Bobbie McClendon - January 30, 2023 at 12:00 AM

BM

“ *My cousin Sophie who always had a smile and laughed a lot. Always a bright spot at the Family reunions. A very giving person who loved her family and children. I will miss you. Rest in Heaven.*

Betty J Matthews - January 30, 2023 at 12:00 AM

CR

“ *My dear Aunt Sophie you were such an inspiration. You had such an amazing aura and I just loved being around you. You were so loving and caring. I will miss you so much and can't wait until we can meet again.*

Corica Rodgers - January 27, 2023 at 12:00 AM

AN

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Anonymous - January 27, 2023 at 12:00 AM

JV

“ *A part of my heart is empty. You were the first person I met when we moved to Vancouver when I put the boys in day care on the same day you were enrolling Hakim. From that day forward we became fast friends, sharing all our families ups and downs, joys and concerns. I loved our friendship and will cherish the memories. I will miss you so much. Rest in the arms of the Angels my wonderful friend. JoAnne VanNess*

JoAnne VanNess - January 26, 2023 at 12:00 AM

ER

“ My dear sister Sobaghana - meaning Queen. Always a beautiful, caring, loving and giving individual. Being the eldest sibling became so nurturing to me. A natural leader, independent, ambitious and courageous. She had a sharp mind and natural ability with words; a born communicator, clear and fluent. Sophie, when you closed your eyes and soared to the Heavens I could hear the faint flutter of your wings as you left. I will miss your beautiful smile as I hold you forever in my heart. Your sis, Elnora

Elnora Rodgers - January 26, 2023 at 12:00 AM

JA

“ May Allah bless the family of Sophie weatherspoon for such a loss.. She was a real champion in. academia Of education



Jamal and Marjorie Abraham - January 26, 2023 at 12:00 AM

RH

“ Sophie, you are my big sister, I love you so much and will cherish all the memories and unconditional love you gave me. I will never forget all the visiting together we did and fun times. I heart is broken right now and lost for words because it is so heard to believe your gone. Forever love you. Rest in paradise

Rose Hussain - January 23, 2023 at 12:00 AM

AW

“ We are deeply sorry for your loss ~ Evergreen Memorial Gardens Cemetery, Funeral Chapel and Crematory

A Memorial Tree was planted for Sophie Weatherspoon - January 21, 2023 at 12:00 AM