



City of Cambridge

R-32.

IN CITY COUNCIL

March 19, 2001

COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN
MAYOR GALLUCCIO
COUNCILLOR REEVES
COUNCILLOR DAVIS
COUNCILLOR BORN
COUNCILLOR BRAUDE
COUNCILLOR DECKER
VICE MAYOR MAHER
COUNCILLOR TOOMEY

- WHEREAS: This City Council was deeply saddened at learning of the death of Major E. Brooks, Sr. on March 3, 2001; and
- WHEREAS: Major was born in Stanford, Connecticut, and moved to Boston and attended public school there; and
- WHEREAS: In 1956 Major married the love of his life, Velmer Bolden, and they moved to Cambridge; and
- WHEREAS: Major served in the United States Air Force Reserves, where he rose to the rank of Master Sergeant from 1953-1973; and
- WHEREAS: Major was a City of Cambridge Recreation Department employee; for many years he was the Director of the Hoyt Field Community Teen Center (The Mission); and
- WHEREAS: At the Mission, Major was known by one and all as "Mr. B"; he treated every teen who came in with love and respect and in turn taught them to love and respect themselves, each other and the neighborhood they lived in; and
- WHEREAS: After many years of devoted service at the Hoyt Field Teen Center, Major served as Recreational Supervisor and Administrator of city-wide programs until he retired in June, 1993; and
- WHEREAS: Major was the lead singer of a '50's/60's R&B group, The Sophomores; they were one of the first black singing groups from the Boston area, and they appeared on Dick Clark's American Bandstand TV show in 1956; and
- WHEREAS: Major was very active in the civic life of Cambridge; he was a member of the board and an officer of the Riverside Cambridgeport Community Corporation, the Advisory Board for the Cambridge Youth Resources Bureau, the Board of Directors of the Cambridge Community Center and a member of several other community organizations; and

WHEREAS: Major's passing will leave a void in the lives of all his surviving family, his wife Velmer (Bolden) Brooks; his children Major E. Jr., Randy L., and Anthony S. Brooks, Julie G. Gardner and Loreyda Monroy; his siblings Gwendolyn Lisenby and Harriet and Raymond Gainville; his sister-in-law Jessie M. Bolden; his ten grandchildren; his one great grandchild; and his many relatives and friends; and

WHEREAS: Major will be sorely missed by all he touched and loved; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That this City Council go on record extending its deepest sympathy to the family of Major E. Brooks, Sr. at this time of such personal loss; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to the Brooks family on behalf of the entire City Council.

In City Council March 19, 2001.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of eight members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:- 

D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk



The Boston Globe

boston.com

Death Notices

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7, 2001

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Search results:

Your search matched **3** documents. **3** are presented below, listed alphabetically.

1. Brooks, Major E., Sr.

CAMBRIDGE

Of Cambridge Saturday, March 3, 2001, Major E., Sr. "Mr. B." Complete notice to follow. A.J. Spears Funeral Home Cambridge, MA 617-876-4047

2. Brooks, Major E., Sr.

CAMBRIDGE

of Cambridge, Sat. March 3rd, Major E. Sr. "Mr. B." Beloved husband of Velmer (Bolden) Brooks. Devoted father of Major E. Jr., Randy L., Anthony S. Brooks, Julie G. (Brooks) Gardner and (adopted daughter) Loreyda Monroy. Devoted brother of Gwendolyn (Brooks) Lisenby, Harriet and Raymond Gainville. He also leaves his "Angel of Mercy" sister in law, Jessie M. Bolden RN, 10 Grandchildren, 1 great grandchild and a host of other beloved in-laws, other relatives and friends. Funeral Services Thurs. Mar. 8th at 8:00 PM at Saint Paul A.M.E. Church, Corner of Bishop Allen Dr. & Columbia St., Cambridge. Visiting hours at Church, Thurs. 2-4 & 6-8 PM. Relatives and friends most kindly invited. Interment Cambridge Cemetery, Fri. 10:00 AM. Late City of Cambridge Recreation Dept. Employee (Retired). A.J. Spears Funeral Home Cambridge, MA (617) 876-4047

3. Hosmer, Major Humphrey B.

HOLDEN WORCESTER CONCORD

Of Holden, formerly of Worcester & Concord, December 29, Major Humphrey Buttrick Hosmer USAF Reserves (Ret.) Husband of Janet (Pierpont). Father of Hilary H. Hosmer of Bedford, Joan Hosmer Smith of Noank, CT, and Stephen P. Hosmer of Holden. Grandfather of Derek A. Smith of Seattle, WA, Katherine K. Holden of Watertown, and Jonathan B. Holden of Jamaica Plain. Brother of Samuel Hosmer of Scottsdale, AZ, and the late Herbert B. Hosmer Jr., Eleanor Friedman and Patience MacPherson. Funeral Service Tuesday, Jan. 2 at 11 a.m. in All Saints Church, 10 Irving St., Worcester. With a Reception to follow in the Church Hall. Interment following reception at Sleepy Hollow Cemetery, Concord. Contributions in his memory may be made to All Saints Church, 10 Irving St., Worcester, MA 01609. Arrangements under the direction of The Joseph Dee & Son Funeral Service, CONCORD. Army Air Corp Veteran WWII.

Search death notices

Name:

Town or city:

Optional search:

Search

Search tips:

Use the name field by entering last name alone or last name, first name.

Leave out apostrophes (O'Malley = O Malley)

Use optional search to look for street names, funeral homes, dates and other relevant items. Use "AND" to separate items, as in:

March AND Smith

2-32
MAS
MG
KR
3/5

NEWS AND MEDIA SERVICES INC.
P.O. BOX 15727
78 KILMARNOCK STREET
BOSTON, MA 022150015
OFFICE: (617)262-6397 FAX: (781)631-3587

DELIVERY MANIFEST

SUBSCRIBER: CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
CITY COUNCIL
CITY HALL 2ND FLOOR
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02139

Acct #: 271

CONTACT: SANDRA ALBANO MIS 17

DELIVERIES FOR MONDAY, 03/05/2001

QUANTITY	PUBLICATION
1	BOSTON HERALD MON-FRI.
1	BOSTON GLOBE MON-FRI
1	HARVARD CRIMSON MON - FRI

DELIVERY INSTRUCTIONS:

ROUTE ID: HH-004 SSQ: 44700

DELIVER MON-FRI ON PO RUN NO HOLIDAYS

M. Suller

3/5 810

M. Suller

MS + ~~AK~~ + AG + KR
Major Brooks

①

②

Dr. Gordon's wife

3/5

1:32 pm

Add Ken to Major Brooke

DEATHS

D16

Death notices

► By city or town

ABINGTON

Whelan, Harold A.

ACTON

Look, Master Sgt. Brian

ALLSTONEdmonston, Anna C.
Jones, Allien
Murray, Laughlin D.**AMESBURY**

Flanagan, John

ARLINGTONDella Piana, Pasquale J.
Kennedy, Francis A.
McDonough, Mary Frances
Neville, Paul D.
Shannon, Edward B.
Slaney, John M.
Stephens, George W.**BEDFORD**Cary, Benjamin H.
Erickson, Margery O.**BELMONT**

Brasco, Mildred R.

BEVERLY

Messina, Frances A.

BILLERICABaldwin, Catherine A.
Brown, Marjorie
Magliozzi, Lawrence J.
McCarthy, John J. Sr.
St. John, Frank J.**BOSTON**Carney, Julia
Cary, Benjamin H.
Erickson, Margery O.
Hurley, Miriam Greene
Jones, Allien
Kelly, Richard A.
MacLellan, Irene
Pio, Julia**BOURNE**

Maxwell, Mary E

BRAINTREEMauabourquette, Paul Joseph
Murray, Beverly M.**BRIDGEWATER**

Ciulla, Lee Francis

BRIGHTONBrauer, Theresa F.
Edmonston, Anna C.
Lapenta, Alice
Murray, Laughlin D.
Rivera, Angel Luis**BROCKTON**Castano, Marjorie F.
McGrath, Melanie Jeanne
Mullan-Castano, Marjorie F.**BROOKLINE**Goodman, Mary
Lisa, Joseph
Wilson, Lillian**BURLINGTON**Bastos, Joseph N.
Pais, Evelyn C.**CAMBRIDGE**Aldrich, Elizabeth Cannon
Brooks, Major E. Sr.
Flannigan, Donald E.
Kennedy, Francis A.
Manganelli, Rose Ann
Ryan, Patricia
Shannon, Edward B.**CANTON**

Murphy, Eleanor M.

CHARLESTOWNCastano, Marjorie F.
Donahue, Claire G.
Mullan-Castano, Marjorie F.**CHELSEA**Eaves, Ralph H.
Higgins, Edward H. Jr.
Ryan, Francis O.
Smith, Teresa E.**DANVERS**

Urbanski, Barry P.

DEDHAMGiannangelo, Elsie
Maxwell, Mary E.
Murphy, Francis E.**DORCHESTER**Flaherty, Mary M.
Kelly, Richard A.
Mauabourquette, Paul Joseph
McWhirk, Thomas J.
Messina, Frances A.
O'Reilly, Anthony J.
Toomey, Kathleen T.**EAST BOSTON**D'Amico, Arthur
Della Piana, Pasquale J.
Graceffa, Argentine M.
Ranese, Joseph Jr.
Sablon, Angelina A.
Angle
Terraecchia-Dodge, Emma F.**EAST DENNIS**

Sampson, Charles X.

HOPKINTON

Mercurio, Brenda C.

HYDE PARKCuskey, Lauri
Giannangelo, Elsie
Green, Sylvia E.
Henry, Joseph
Lyden, John J.
Murphy, Francis E.**IPSWICH**Keough, Gerald J. Sr.
Mahan, Scott G.
Palyka, Apollonia**JAMAICA PLAIN**Davis, Mary C.
Maloney, Marie M.
O'Brien, Katherine J.
Rivera, Angel Luis
Rodriguez, Jose**LEXINGTON**

Cary, Benjamin H.

LOWELL

Fortin, Mary E.

LYNNMurray, Beverly M.
Palyka, Apollonia**LYNNFIELD**

McDevitt, Rita M.

MALDENBarry, William F. Jr.
Candelora, Louis
Crandall, Edith M.
Cullen, Margaret B.
Graham, Ella M.
Johnson, Alvin D.
Magnani, Alfred P.
McDevitt, Rita M.
McGee, Josephine A.
Sicarella, Josephine R.**MANCHESTER-BY-SEA**

Michelini, Helen N.

MANSFIELDAppleton, Esther Grace
Murray, Laughlin D.**MARBLEHEAD**Bronstein, Albert
McCusker, Walter E.**MARSHFIELD**

O'Reilly, Anthony J.

MARTHA'S VINEYARD

Hurley, Miriam Greene

MATTAPAN

Corkery, Margaret M.

MEDFIELDBain, Harriet P.
Rhodes, Robert E.
Thibault, George A.
Williamson, Nora E.**MEDFORD**Brown, Marjorie
Magliozzi, Lawrence J.
Spinale, Frank J.**MELROSE**MacDonald Ruth M.
McDevitt, Rita M.
Rhodes, Robert E.
Thibault, George A.
Williamson, Nora E.**MILTON**Day, Joy E.
Devine, Pauline T.
Droustas, Afrodite
MacRae, Margaret A.**MISSION HILL**Rodriguez, Jose
Walsh, Peter J.**MONUMENT BEACH**

DeForest, Henry Randolph

NATICKDiPalma, Anthony J.
Santucci, Marion L.**NEEDHAM**Bain, Harriet P.
Bobillier, Maureen I.
Brauer, Theresa F.
Tisel, Ralph L.**NEWTON**Brasco, Mildred R.
Cronin, Theresa R.
DiPalma, Anthony J.
Neville, Paul D.**NEWTON HIGHLANDS**

Cronin, Theresa R.

NORTH ANDOVERBurgess, Suzanne
Morferose, Michael**NORTH ATTLEBORO**Dailey, Vernon G.
DiPalma, Anthony J.**NORTH END**

Pio, Julia

NORTH READING

Dailey, Vernon G.

NORTHBORO

Feeley, Shirley J.

NORWOODMoses, Michael
O'Brien, Katherine J.**ROCKLAND**

Whelan, Harold A.

ROSLINDALEDavis, Mary C.
Durnan, Rena A.
Fleming, Alice F.
Glovin, Ada
Green, Sylvia E.
Meloni, Charles R.
Murphy, Francis E.**SALEM**

Sullivan, Thomas A.

SAUGUS

Della Piana, Pasquale J.

SHARON

Ward, Therese Marie

SOMERVILLEBarbuto, Salvatore
Cavallaro, Patrick
Corkery, Margaret M.
Garrett, Ralph L.
Johnson, Alvin D.
Magliozzi, Lawrence J.
McCarthy, John J. Sr.
Morelli, Genaro J.
Sambrone, Mary**SOUTH BOSTON**Baldwin, Catherine A.
Cullen, Margaret B.
Dumas, Cyril M.
Flaherty, Mary M.
Holland, Frances E.
Mauabourquette, Paul Joseph
Messina, Frances A.**SOUTH DENNIS**Feeley, Shirley J.
Neville, Paul D.**STONEHAM**MacDonald Ruth M.
Chambers, Harold J.
Flannigan, Donald E.
Johnson, Alvin D.
McDonough, Mary Frances**STOUGHTON**Crimmins, Francis T.
Walsh, Peter J.**TEWKSBURY**Chambers, Harold J.
Keough, Gerald J. Sr.**WAKEFIELD**Brown, Marjorie
Keough, Gerald J. Sr.**WALPOLE**Tisel, Ralph L.
Ward, Therese Marie**WALTHAM**

Brasco, Mildred R.

WATERTOWN

Lapenta, Alice

WELLESLEYAldrich, Elizabeth Cannon
MacLellan, Irene
Rickard, Raymond
Santucci, Marion L.**WEST ROXBURY**Bain, Harriet P.
Brauer, Theresa F.
Cullen, Margaret B.
Davis, Mary C.
Fleming, Alice F.
Green, Sylvia E.
Maloney, Marie M.
O'Brien, Katherine J.
Rivera, Angel Luis
Rodriguez, Jose
Tisel, Ralph L.
Walsh, Peter J.**WESTON**Aldrich, Elizabeth Cannon
Hurley, Miriam Greene**WESTWOOD**

Moses, Michael

WEYMOUTH

McWhirk, Thomas J.

WILMINGTON

Churchwell, Cosette

WINCHESTER

DiNapoli, Christina M.

WINTHROPMosher, Richard E.
Terraecchia-Dodge, Emma F.**WOBURN**Craven, Michael J.
DiNapoli, Christina M.
Pais, Evelyn C.
Ryan, Francis O.**WOLLASTON**

Droustas, Afrodite

WORCESTER

Feeley, Shirley J.

YARMOUTHPORT

BRAUER—Of Needham, formerly of West Roxbury, March 5, Theresa F. (Doyle) Brauer, Beloved wife of Richard F. Brauer. Devoted mother of Richard F. Brauer and his wife Lynn of Shalimar, FL. Mary B. Payne and her husband William of Needham. Grandmother of William T. Payne Jr. Kelly A. Payne, Richard F. Payne, all of Needham. Sister of the late Richard F. and Agnes Doyle. Mary Flaherty, and Helen McNamee. Sister in law of Virginia L. Brauer of Brighton. Devoted friend of Dr. Earle G. Woodman of Needham. Funeral from the George F. Doherty & Sons Funeral Home, 1305 Highland Ave (Exit 19B off 128) NEEDHAM Friday at 10:15. Funeral Mass in St. Joseph's Church, Needham at 11 AM. Relatives and friends kindly invited. Visiting hours Thursday 2-4 and 7-9. Interment St. Joseph Cemetery, West Roxbury. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the Deaconess Glover Hospital, Needham or to the charity of your choice. Late member of the American Legion Auxiliary, West Roxbury, Post #167. Member of the Roberts Sisters, a vaudeville team & the Bernadines of the Holy Name Parish, W. Roxbury. Retired Real Estate Broker of West Roxbury & Needham. Parking area adjacent to funeral home.

George F. Doherty & Sons
Needham
617-444-0687

BRONSTEIN—Albert, age 79, of Fountain Hills, AZ, formerly of Marblehead, MA, died March 1, 2001. Mr. Bronstein was a WWII Navy Veteran and Realtor. He is survived by his wife Eleanor; daughters: Ann (Marc) Goldberg of Newton, MA and FL, Caryn Sabelli of Saugus, MA, Ruth (John) Fritz of Rockport, MA; 8 grandchildren: Joy, David, Alyssa, Michael, Craig, Leanne, Maylin, Jeffrey; 1 great-grandson: Andrew.

BROOKS—of Cambridge, Sat. March 3rd, Major E. Sr. "Mr. B." Beloved husband of Velma (Golden) Brooks. Devoted father of Major E. Jr., Randy L., Anthony S. Brooks, Julie G. (Brooks) Gardner and (adopted daughter) Loreyda Monroy. Devoted brother of Gwendolyn (Brooks) Lisenby, Harriet and Raymond Gainville. He also leaves his Angel of Mercy sister in law, Jessie M. Bolden RN, 10 grandchildren, 1 great grandchild and a host of other beloved in-laws, other relatives and friends. Funeral Services Thurs. Mar. 8th at 8:00 PM at Saint Paul A.M.E. Church, Corner of Bishop Allen Dr. & Columbia St., Cambridge. Visiting hours at Church, Thurs. 2-4 & 6-8 PM. Relatives and friends most kindly invited. Interment: Cambridge Cemetery, Fri. 10:00 AM. Late City of Cambridge Recreation Dept. Employee (Retired).

A.J. Spears Funeral Home
Cambridge, MA (617) 876-4047

BROWN—Of Billerica, formerly of Medford and Wakefield, March 5, Marjorie (Thistle) Brown. Wife of Herbert C. Brown. Mother and mother-in-law of Robert Brown and his wife Mary and Nancy Davis and her husband Gary of Billerica and James Brown and his wife Susan of Chelmsford. Sister of Bertram and Robert Thistle of FL and the late James and Richard Thistle. Grandmother of Kara, Robert, Christopher and Jillian Brown. A Funeral Service will be held Friday at the Sweeney Memorial Funeral Home, 66 Concord Rd., BILLERICA at 10 a.m. Relatives and friends respectfully invited. Visiting hours Thursday from 2-4 and 7-9 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, 36 Cameron Ave., Cambridge, MA 02140. Interment in North Cemetery, Billerica.

BURGESS—Attorney Suzanne (Derby) Burgess, June 18, 1944 - March 4, 2001 of North Andover, formerly of Andover, died Sunday evening at her home with her husband, son, and daughter at her side. Suzanne courageously fought a two year battle with colon cancer. She continued to play golf, attend Boston College sporting events, teach school and maintain her law practice during this two year period as she fought this disease. Born in Methuen, MA, she was the daughter of the late Joseph F. Derby, Jr. and Claire (Clegg) Derby. Suzanne attended grammar school in Methuen and was a graduate of the Buckingham Browne & Nichols School in Cambridge. She received her B.A. in French from North Western University, her M.A.T. in Cum Laude from the Massachusetts School of Law in Andover, MA. She was the Outstanding Student of her graduating class and was the Managing Editor of the Law Review. An educator for the past twenty-four years she taught Spanish and French at the Massachusetts Regional High School and developed a bilingual education program for the Methuen school system. She also spent four years as the Coordinator of Title VII, Project Career Program for the City of Lowell. Her most recently taught Spanish at Lowell High School. Outside of her teaching responsibilities, Suzanne maintained a successful family law practice in Andover, MA. Suzanne was a former President and owner of Blue Ribbon Realty in Andover, MA, and served as the Director of the Greater Lawrence Real Estate Board, and was a past Chairman of its Scholarship Committee. She was an avid golfer who enjoyed playing golf with her family at Indian Ridge Country Club in Andover for many years. She was an active member of the club serving on the club's Advisory Board, Social Committee and was past Chairperson of the Women's Golf Association. Her favorite event of the year was hosting the Indian Ridge Children's Christmas Party with her husband Jordan and daughter Catherine. Suzanne's several achievements in golf in-

2001 MAR -7 P 12:32

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

23

HD

11:15 3/7

① Deam of Eliz Aldrye 39

Today's Globe

2 Mary Brooks and name 38

- (2) w/7: Major was born in Stamford, Connecticut, and moved to Boston and attended public school there; and
- (3) w/7: In 1956 Major married the love of his life, Velma Bolden, and they moved to Cambridge; and
- (4) w/7: Major served in the U.S. Air Force Reserves, where he rose to the rank of Master Sergeant from 1953-1973; and
R-32.

March 19, 2001

COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN
MAYOR GALLUCCIO
COUNCILLOR REEVES
COUNCILLOR DAVIS
COUNCILLOR BORN
COUNCILLOR BRAUDE
COUNCILLOR DECKER
VICE MAYOR MAHER
COUNCILLOR TOOMEY

(1) WHEREAS: This City Council was deeply saddened at learning of the death of Major E. Brooks, Sr. on March 3, 2001; and

(5) WHEREAS: ~~Major was a retired City of Cambridge Recreation Department employee~~ ^{for many years} ~~and he was the~~ ^{Director of the Hoyt Field Community Teen Center (The Mission);}

WHEREAS: Major's passing will leave a void in the lives of all his surviving family, his wife Velmer (Bolden) Brooks; his children Major E. Jr., Randy L., and Anthony S. Brooks, Julie G. Gardner and Loreyda Monroy; his siblings Gwendolyn Lisenby and Harriet and Raymond Gainville; his sister-in-law Jessie M. Bolden; his ten grandchildren; his one great grandchild; and his many relatives and friends; and

WHEREAS: Major will be sorely missed by all he touched and loved; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That this City Council go on record extending its deepest sympathy to the family of Major E. Brooks, Sr. at this time of such personal loss; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to the Brooks family on behalf of the entire City Council.

(6) w/7: At the Mission, Major was known by one and all as "Mr. B." he treated every teen who came in with love and respect and in turn taught them to love and respect themselves, each other and the neighborhood they lived in; and

(7) w/7: After many years of devoted service at the Hoyt Field Teen Center, Major served as Recreational Supervisor and Administrator of citywide programs until he retired in June 1993; and
OVER

(8)

W/A

they were
Major was the lead singer of a '50's/60's R+B group, The Sophomores; one of the first black singing groups from the Boston area, and they appeared on Dick Clark's American Bandstand TV show in 1956; and

(9)

W/A

Major was ^{very} active in ^{the} civic life of Cambridge; ~~amongst~~ he was a member of the Board and an officer of the Riverside Cambridgeport Community Community Corporation, the Advisory Board for the Cambridge Youth Resource Bureau, the Board of Directors of the Cambridge Community Center and a member of several other community organizations; and

Major E. Brooks, Sr.
(Mr. B.)

Major Brooks, Sr., a longtime resident of Cambridge, passed on Saturday, March 3, 2001. **Major** was born in Stanford, Connecticut and moved to Boston, Massachusetts at an early age. He attended elementary, junior high and high schools in Boston. **Major** married in 1956, moved to Cambridge and decided to become a permanent resident and an involved citizen.

Major is survived by his wife of 44 years, **Velmer (Bolden) Brooks**, four children, **Major Jr., Randy L., Julie G. (Brooks) Gardner** and **Tony S.**, and 'self-adopted daughter' **Loreyda Monroy**, ten grandchildren, one great grandchild and two grand dogs. He leaves three surviving siblings, sisters' **Gwendolyn (Brooks) Lisenby, Harriet Gainville** and brother **Raymond Gainville**. Also cousins **Leah Griffin** and **James Grace**. He also leaves his mother-in-law **Gladys Bolden**, sister-in-law **Jessie Bolden** (Our Angel of Mercy) as well as other beloved in-laws, family and friends. **Major** has joined his brothers, **Rodney Brooks, Walter, Earl** and **Robert Gainville**.

Major served in the National Guard, in the US Air Force Reserves where he rose to the rank of Master Sergeant from 1953-1973. From 1958-1973 **Major** also held a civil service position at Hanscom Field Air Force Base as well as taking a position in the Cambridge Recreation Department as Director of Hoyt Field Community Teen Center (The Mission) where he was given the esteemed name "**Mr. B**".

"**Mr. B**" ran the Mission as an extended part of his own home, in his very strong and unique style, which consisted of **Rules, Love, Fun, Respect and Discipline**. Treating the teenagers as they came through the door with love and respect and in turn teaching them to love and respect themselves, each other, and the neighborhood they lived in. Everyone that came to the Mission knew it was, "**Gentlemen, hats off in the building, no swearing, no fighting, no smoking, no drinking, no drugs in and around the property**".

He was the "**Community Father**" to all, whether it was kids from the coast, the port, the Christ Child, North Cambridge, or even from in town.

He was a positive source of inspiration to many of the lives that he has touched. After many years of devoted service to the youth of the Hoyt Field Teen Center, **Major** continued his service in the Recreation Department as a Recreational Supervisor and Administrator of citywide programs until he retired in June 1993.

He was the lead singer of a 50's/60's R & B group The Sophomores. **Major** was lead tenor, **Donald Clements** baritone, **Rollie Clements** tenor and **Dan Hood** bass. The Sophomores all hailed from the Roxbury area, where they harmonized on the front steps of houses along Bower Street. They were one of the first black singing groups from the Boston area. They appeared on Dick Clark's American Bandstand TV show in 1956, singing their hit songs, "**Cool, Cool Baby**" and "**Every Night About This Time**".

Major had a multitude of interests and self taught skills. Some of which were musical instruments, fishing, building projects, antiques, gardening, baking sweet potato pies, barbequing in his yard and making his specially requested strawberry Daiquiris.

Most of all his greatest interest was interacting with his family.

Major was a member of the Riverside Cambridgeport Community Corporation and served as Treasurer, Secretary, Vice President and President. He was also a member of the Advisory Board for Cambridge Youth Resources Bureau, the Board of Directors for the Cambridge Community Center and a member of the United Community Services and the Area IV Budget Committee. He has received the Freedom Foundation (Valley Forge, PA) Essay Award (1970) and a US Air Force, Superior Performance Award (1961).

Major's unique personality, special qualities, energy and love will be missed by all of us on this earthly plain, but we know he's being well received by all in Heaven. We've all been blessed to have shared time with **Major** on earth and will rejoice when we embrace him again!

* * * * *

~Acknowledgements~

The family of **Major E. Brooks, Sr.**, deeply appreciates the many kind and loving expressions of sympathy shown during our time of bereavement.



Empty Place

*A voice from our house is gone
A silence that holds still.*

Though he will be missed, his place cannot be refilled.

*Sleep on grandfather, take your rest
We still love you but God loves you best.*



~Interment~

Friday, March 9, 2001

10:00AM

**Cambridge Cemetery
Cambridge, MA**

~Arrangements~

A. J. Spears Funeral Home

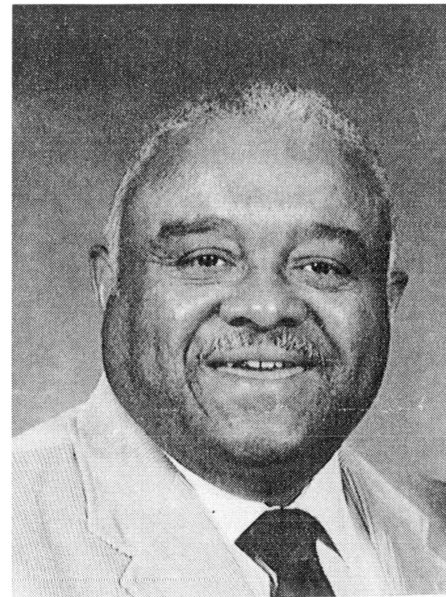
**124 Western Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02139**

(617) 876-4047

*Celebrating the Life
of
Major E. Brooks, Sr.*

(Mr. B.)

1935-2001



Thursday, March 8, 2001

8:00PM

St. Paul African Methodist Episcopal Church

***37 Bishop Allen Drive
Cambridge, MA 02139***

Reverend Dr. LeRoy Attles, Officiating

WHEREAS: Major's passing will leave a void in the lives of all his surviving family, his wife Velmer (Bolden) Brooks; his children Major E. Jr., Randy L., and Anthony S. Brooks, Julie G. Gardner and Loreyda Monroy; his siblings Gwendolyn Lisenby and Harriet and Raymond Gainville; his sister-in-law Jessie M. Bolden; his ten grandchildren; his one great grandchild; and his many relatives and friends; and

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City of Cambridge

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IN CITY COUNCIL

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COUNCILLOR DECKER
VICE MAYOR MAHER
COUNCILLOR TOOMEY

WHEREAS: This City Council was deeply saddened at learning of the death of Major E. Brooks, Sr. on March 3, 2001; and

WHEREAS: Major was born in Stamford, Connecticut, and moved to Boston and attended public school there; and

WHEREAS: In 1956 Major married the love of his life, Velmer Bolden, and they moved to Cambridge; and

WHEREAS: Major served in the United States Air Force Reserves, where he rose to the rank of Master Sergeant from 1953-1973; and

WHEREAS: Major was a City of Cambridge Recreation Department employee; for many years he was the Director of the Hoyt Field Community Teen Center (The Mission); and

WHEREAS: At the Mission, Major was known by one and all as "Mr. B"; he treated every teen who came in with love and respect and in turn taught them to love and respect themselves, each other and the neighborhood they lived in; and

WHEREAS: After many years of devoted service at the Hoyt Field Teen Center, Major served as Recreational Supervisor and Administrator of city-wide programs until he retired in June, 1993; and

WHEREAS: Major was the lead singer of a '50's/'60's R&B group, The Sophomores; they were one of the first black singing groups from the Boston area, and they appeared on Dick Clark's American Bandstand TV show in 1956; and

WHEREAS: Major was very active in the civic life of Cambridge; he was a member of the board and an officer of the Riverside Cambridgeport Community Corporation, the Advisory Board for the Cambridge Youth Resources Bureau, the Board of Directors of the Cambridge Community Center and a member of several other community organizations; and

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Resolution #32

Resolution on the death of Major E.
Brooks, Sr.

**Councillor Sullivan, Mayor
Galluccio, Councillors Reeves,
Davis and entire membership**

In City Council March 19, 2001

ORDER ADOPTED