

51.

C. Rees

Cy Clerk to

Ordered: Prepare suitable resolution on death of
Ruh Jones

LV/9

FAX to Jackie Carroll
at the request of Emma Lathan

ONE PAGE

OBITUARY

Ruth Veletta Jones

September 29, 1895 † May 8, 1996

Ruth Veletta Jones was the daughter of Sydonia White and John E. Jones and grandniece of abolitionist, Frederick Douglass. She attended the Willard and Fletcher Elementary schools in Cambridge, graduating from the Somerville High School in 1911. Her career included being a mail clerk and switchboard operator at the MSPCA, Boston for 25 years until her retirement in 1952. Ruth remained active in her church and civic life. A lifelong member of St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church in Cambridge, although her parents were members of Union Baptist Church. She was chairperson of church fairs and chaplain for the Episcopal Church Women, until failing health.

During World War II, she worked with the Civil Defense. For 36 years, she worked on the polls for the City of Cambridge as counter of ballots, inspector and was asked to be a Warden until March, 1984. Ruth was one of the first women to register to vote in Cambridge. Her fine example was instrumental in her recommendations of other black citizens to the Election Commission.

Her home was always open to area black college students, entertainers and other visiting dignitaries who could not get accommodations elsewhere. Like her granduncle, Frederick Douglass, she can say, "I have battled for liberty, brotherhood and citizenship."

She also was the recipient of numerous awards.

She leaves to mourn, her loving and devoted niece, Helen Jones Hatcher and husband John Hatcher of Philadelphia; grandnieces and nephews, Bernadette H. Stegall of Ordmore, PA, Jay Jones of California, Janet J. Honomick of Kansas and Jacquelyn Jones of San Francisco; two cousins, Isabelle Vaughan Harrison and Eleanor Isaacs of Dorchester; 10 great nieces and nephews; a dear friend, Esther Bright of Cambridge; a dear friend and companion of 16 years, Ruth Marshall; a host of relatives and friends and a godmother to many.

from Eve Sullivan 253-7182 w
864-3802 H

E.O.S.

Speakers at the funeral included Councillor Reeves
whose comments might be added in any Council
resolution

Order

[do draft order →
+ do not use
the obituary verbatim]
Reeves

5/13/96

add
KT

Order on the Death of
Ruth Velitta Jones - Centenerian
of Cambridge. Born September
29, 1895, died May 8, 1996.

For Wrote paper
to memorial before
funeral submission

VV/9

OBITUARY

Ruth Veletta Jones

September 29, 1895  May 8, 1996

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the City of Cambridge as counter of ballots, inspector and then was invited to be a Warden until March, 1984; ~~and~~ throughout this time ~~she~~ ^{by deed and} example she encouraged ~~Black~~ ^{Open American} citizens to vote and the Electric Commission to employ Open Americans

Whereas: Ruth was a lifelong member of St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church; ~~she~~ ^{she} chaired countless Church fairs and served as Chaplain for the Episcopal Church Women; and

Whereas: Ruth's home was always open to area Black college students, entertainers and other visiting dignitaries who could not get accommodations elsewhere; and

Whereas: Ruth was the recipient of numerous civic awards; and

Whereas: Ruth's lifelong ~~civic~~ civic involvement was a blessing to her community and an inspiration to all who met her; and

Whereas: Ruth will be sorely missed by all she loved and touched; her loving and devoted niece Helen Jones Hatcher and husband John Hatcher of Philadelphia; grandnieces and nephews

Pennsylvania
Blunadette H. Stigel of ~~Quinn~~ PA; Jay Jones
of California; Janet J. Honomick of Kansas;
Jacquelyn Jones of San Francisco; her cousins
Isabelle Vaughan Harrison and Eleanor
Isaacs of Onchester; ten great nieces and
nephews; ^{and} her dear friends Esther Bayne
of Cambridge and Ruth Marshall; now therefore
be it

Resolved: That this City Council go on record
expressing its intention to select a suitable
location to name and designate in honor

preferably near her
former home on
~~Yerxa~~ Yerxa Road

of Ruth ~~Willata~~ Veletta Jones; and be it
further

Resolved: SEC to the family of Ruth Veletta
Jones

C. Reers
Mayn Russell
+ all

DRAFT

51.

Whereas: This City Council was deeply deeply saddened to learn of the death of Ruth Veletta Jones on May 8, 1996, in the hundredth year of her life; and

Whereas: Ruth was the daughter of Sydonia White and John E. Jones and the grandniece of abolitionist Frederick Douglass; and

Whereas: Ruth attended the Willard and Fletcher elementary schools in Cambridge, graduated from Somerville High School in 1911 worked at the MSPCA for 25 years until her retirement in 1957; ~~and had a long and active career of life of civic and church involvement; and~~

Whereas: [~~Ruth's lifelong commitment and civic involvement was an inspiration to all a blessing to her community and an inspiration to all who met her; she~~ ^{Ruth} was one of the first women to register to vote in Cambridge and for 36 years she worked on the ^{election} polls for



City of Cambridge

51.

IN CITY COUNCIL

May 13, 1996

COUNCILLOR REEVES
MAYOR RUSSELL
VICE MAYOR BORN
COUNCILLOR DAVIS
COUNCILLOR DUEHAY
COUNCILLOR GALLUCCIO
COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN
COUNCILLOR TOOMEY
COUNCILLOR TRIANTAFILLOU

WHEREAS: This City Council was deeply saddened to learn of the death of
Ruth Veletta Jones on May 8, 1996, in the hundredth year of her life; and

WHEREAS: Ruth was the daughter of Sydonia White and John E. Jones and the grandniece of abolitionist Frederick Douglas; and

WHEREAS: Ruth attended the Willard and Fletcher elementary schools in Cambridge, graduated from Somerville High School in 1911, and worked at the MSPCA for 25 years until her retirement in 1952; and

WHEREAS: Ruth was one of the first women to register to vote in Cambridge and for 36 years, she worked on the election polls for the City of Cambridge as counter of ballots, inspector and then was invited to be a warden until March 1984; throughout this time, by deed and example, she encouraged African American citizens to vote and the Election Commission to employ African Americans; and

WHEREAS: Ruth was a lifelong member of St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church; she chaired countless church fairs and served as chaplain for the Episcopal Church Women; and

WHEREAS: Ruth's home was always open to area black college students, entertainers and other visiting dignitaries who could not get accommodations elsewhere; and

WHEREAS: Ruth was the recipient of numerous civic awards; and

WHEREAS: Ruth's lifelong civic involvement was a blessing to her community and an inspiration to all who met her; and

WHEREAS: Ruth will be sorely missed by all she loved and touched; her loving and devoted niece Helen Jones Hatcher and husband John Hatcher of Philadelphia; grandnieces and nephews Bernadette H. Stegel of Pennsylvania, Jay Jones of California, Janet J. Honomick of Kansas, Jacquelyn Jones of San Francisco; her cousins Isabelle Vaughan Harrison and Eleanor Isaacs of Dorchester; ten great nieces and nephews; and her dear friends Esther Bright of Cambridge and Ruth Marshall; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That this City Council select a suitable location, preferably near her former home on Yerxa Road, to name and designate in honor of **Ruth Veletta Jones**; 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 family of **Ruth Veletta Jones** on behalf of the entire City Council.

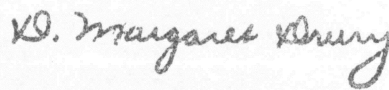
In City Council May 13, 1996

Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-



D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk

WHEREAS: Ruth's lifelong civic involvement was a blessing to her community and an inspiration to all who met her; and

WHEREAS: Ruth will be sorely missed by all she loved and touched; her loving and devoted niece Helen Jones Hatcher and husband John Hatcher of Philadelphia; grandnieces and nephews Bernadette H. Stegel of Pennsylvania, Jay Jones of California, Janet J. Honomick of Kansas, Jacquelyn Jones of San Francisco; her cousins Isabelle Vaughan Harrison and Eleanor Isaacs of Dorchester; ten great nieces and nephews; and her dear friends Esther Bright of Cambridge and Ruth Marshall; now therefore be it

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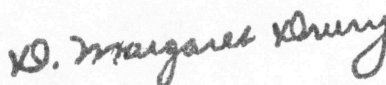
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VICE MAYOR BORN
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WHEREAS: Ruth was a lifelong member of St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church; she chaired countless church fairs and served as chaplain for the Episcopal Church Women; and

WHEREAS: Ruth's home was always open to area black college students, entertainers and other visiting dignitaries who could not get accommodations elsewhere; and

WHEREAS: Ruth was the recipient of numerous civic awards; and

Consent Order #51

R-535

Councillor Reeves, Mayor Russell
and entire membership re:
Resolution on the death of Ruth
Veletta Jones.

In City Council May 13, 1996

Order adopted