



William Lomax

April 12, 1931 - December 21, 2018

As a child in Richmond's East End, William served as a delivery boy for those in his neighborhood. He used the small change he made doing deliveries to buy tickets and popcorn at The Old Robinson Theatre where he loved to go see westerns. In high school, he had many favorite teachers. His favorite subjects were English and Mathematics. He graduated in the eleventh grade from Maggie L. Walker High School in 1949.

While in high school, William Lomax was known for being very neat and groomed. He made extra money shining shoes in a barber shop. His experience working in the barber shop led him to enroll in trade school at Maggie L. Walker in barbering. After completing trade school in the early 1950s, he took his first job at Scottie's Barber Shop located at 515

North Second Street in Jackson Ward. Around that time, he was drafted by the U.S. Army in 1952 where he served two years active duty, stationed for a period in Germany. Following his active duty, he served four additional years in the Army Reserves.

He first met Ora Perry in 1951. They later became engaged in 1952 and were married in his parents' home on July 3, 1955 by Rev. Freeman Roosevelt Berlack, pastor of Great Hope Baptist Church, where Ora was a member.

William Lomax worked at Scottie's Barber Shop for nearly four years before the shop closed. That's when he moved a block down the street to Walter & Wally's Barber Shop at 420 North Second Street. When the owners of Walter & Wally's Barber Shop retired, William Lomax assumed ownership and named it Lomax Barber Shop. Working there with six chairs, Lomax was able to hire and mentor many apprentices, who would later become full-fledged barbers. He also helped organized a statewide barbers' association.

As a professional barber, William Lomax helped hundreds of customers look their very best. Among his regular customers were the professionals like Congressman Bobby L. Scott, Judge Eugene Cheeks, and Dr. William F. "Fergie" Reid, a surgeon who was the first black member of the Virginia general Assembly since Reconstruction, and many

others. Lomax Barber Shop was a place where one not only went to get a haircut, but also talk about the happenings in local politics. If you're interested in knowing who was running for office, you could find out at Lomax Barber Shop. After working as a barber for more than 50 years, he retired in June 2015.

Outside of his work as a barber, William Lomax was heavily involved in the local and national Democratic Party. He joined an organization called Richmond Crusade for Voters and served on its bylaws committee for many years. He dedicated hundreds of hours to voter registration and voter education.

Elsewhere in the Richmond community William Lomax was a Shriner, an Odd Fellow and a 32nd degree Mason. As a life member, he served faithfully on the executive board of the Richmond Branch NAACP. He was an active member of the Branch's Life Membership Committee and assisted with the Youth Work Committee.

As a longtime member of the NAACP's voter registration committee, William Lomax worked diligently to make sure everyone made it to the polls on Election Day.

William Lomax joined Mount Olivet Baptist Church and was baptized by Reverend E. C. Kent in 1971. He became a member of the Male Usher Board that same year. He remained an active member for more than a decade, serving on the installation, finance and scholarship committees. Among his many accomplishments was leading a fundraiser for the Mount Olivet Boy Scout troop. On May 16, 1982, he was ordained a deacon. During that time, he was actively involved in the Deacon's Conference of Richmond and Vicinity.

He is survived by his wife, Ora, to whom he was married 63 years; and four nieces, Latrice, Rose, Sheila and Yvette.

Cemetery

Virginia Veterans Cemetery at Amelia

10300 Pridesville Road
Amelia, VA, 23002

Events

JAN **Visitation** 12:00PM - 08:00PM

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March Funeral Home-Laburnum Ave.
2110 E. Laburnum Ave., Richmond, VA, US,
23222

JAN **Celebration of Life** 11:00AM

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March Funeral Home -Laburnum Chapel
2110 E. Laburnum Ave., Richmond, VA, US,
23222

Comments



“ Viesta Washington lit a candle in memory of William Lomax



Viesta Washington - January 26 at 09:11 PM



“ Viesta Washington lit a candle in memory of William Lomax



Viesta Washington - January 26 at 09:09 PM



“ We the March Family and Staff wish to extend our deepest and heartfelt sympathy in the passing of your loved one. Our prayers go out to you and your family in your time of loss. We know and understand that you have received many expressions of love and we will continue to lift you up in prayer. May the memories you cherish of brighter and happier days help to ease your sorrow and comfort you always.

March Funeral Homes - January 04 at 05:29 PM