

*Honoring
the
Life of*

**RENEE YVETTE
HOPWOOD**

SEPTEMBER 19, 1951 -
DECEMBER 4, 2023

**Local Hero - The first African
American Female to serve on the
USS Sanctuary AH-17, Vietnam
War. HM3 USN Corpsman &
Laboratory Tech.**

1971 - 1976

MOUNT TABOR MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

6614 S Western Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90047

Saturday, June 20, 2024-11:00 a.m.

Pastor Dr. Tacey M Brown



Order of Service

Presiding Dr. Ticey M Brown

Musical Prelude

Processional Clergy and Family

Welcome Minister

Old Testament Scripture Psalms 23 Rev Stanley White

New Testament Scripture 1st Thessalonians 4:13 Rev Stanley White

Music - *I'm Going Up Yonder* Walter Hawkins Tramain Hawkins

Prayer of Comfort Pastor Dr. Mathew Wheaton

Reading of the Obituary Ms. Verna Woodfox

Music - *Rise Up* Andra Day

Acknowledgements & Remarks Audience (2 Minutes only)

Video Presentation

Eulogy Rev Dr. Michael Hopwood

Music - *Faithful is Our God* Hezekiah Walker

Benediction

Recessional Song...*Battle Hymn of the Republic* by Whitney Houston
"Welcome Home Heroes" concert, Norfolk, Virginia, USA,

Reception following the Service

Elegant Arrangements & Creative Space
13110 Hawthorne Blvd, Ste B, Hawthorne, CA 90250

In Loving Memory

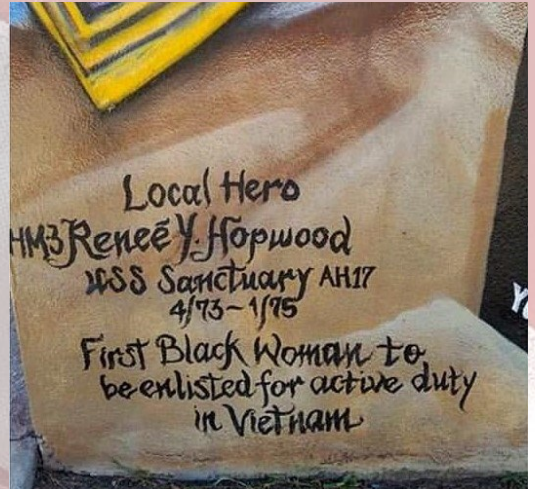


It is with great sorrow that we announce the passing of Ms. Renee "Nene" Hopwood on December 4th, 2023. Renee was Born on September 19, 1951 in Los Angeles, CA. She attended Mona Park Elementary School, Walton and Vanguard Middle Schools in the city of Compton California. Rene graduated from Compton High school in 1969 where she excelled academically and athletically and was a member of the French Club. In 1970 Renee enlisted in the Navy and moved to Naval Air Station Lemoore, Lemoore, CA. In 1971 Renee completed training at USO Naval Hospital Illinois Great Lakes Center, Naval Station Great Lakes in North Chicago, IL.

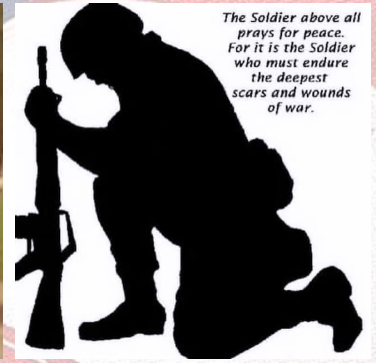
Rene was predeceased by her brother Theodore Davis, her mother, Lorraine Adams, her father, Leroy Hopwood, and her step-father, Willy Adams. She is survived by her brothers Michael Hopwood, Charles Davis, Aaron Hopwood, and William Adams, her sister, Yvonne (Hopwood) Rodgers and sisters-in law Chiquita Adams, Evelyn Hopwood, Helen Davis, and Beverly Jackson Hopwood. Their love for Rene is a testament to the life she lived and the love she shared.

Rene was a woman of many firsts. Notably, she was the first black woman to be enlisted for active duty in a pilot program to see if women could serve in the Navy at sea during the Vietnam War. At 19 years old she bravely served aboard the hospital ship USS Sanctuary AH-17 as Hm3, Corpsman, Fire Controlman FC, and Labtech. She was a member of the inboard Fire Team Sect. 5 & the only Drug Exempt Rep, leading the way for many women after her. She used the medical knowledge she gained saving lives in war time to provide guidance and assist schools, family, and friends throughout her life. Her legacy is a testimony of kindness, forgiveness, and generosity. If there is one thing Rene taught us all, it was to "Do unto others as you have them do unto you. She put God first and always Pray."

Rene "Nene" Hopwood is not just a name to be remembered; she symbolizes a life full of service, love, Hope, and strength. She will forever be in our hearts and will be remembered for her genuine heart, vibrant personality, and for her commitment to serving others. Rene proudly served. She will be forever loved.



Family - Friends - Ministry



The Soldier above all prays for peace. For it is the Soldier who must endure the deepest scars and wounds of war.



Poem

I've changed My Address

I've changed my address to Heaven

I've crossed the Great Divide.

I know there's no sorrow or crying,

Because I've reached the other side.

I am so happy to be here, the Lord Himself I see.

I've changed my address to Heaven, I bid this world goodbye.

Now live forever with Jesus in my new home in the sky.

I have no burdens or heartaches and from tears I am now free.

I've changed my address to Heaven, I'm safe forevermore.

For the Lord built a mansion, and my name is on the door.

You can find us walking together, for where He is, I will always be.

I have changed my address to Heaven, That's the place that you'll find me

~Author Unknown



Acknowledgements

Renee was interred with full military honors Friday, January 19, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. at Los Angeles National Cemetery. Whether you attended the cemetery service, the Celebration of life, or sent a card, called, or said a prayer, the family wishes to express their heartfelt gratitude for the many kind acts shown to us in our time of loss for our Loved one, Renee Yvette Hopwood.



COMPTON 125 HISTORICAL SOCIETY

CSUDH
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, DOMINGUEZ HILLS

Online Zoom SPEAKER SERIES

Our Speaker



Renee Hopwood

Contact Compton 125 Historical Society at 213.399.2325 Email: Compton125@yahoo.com

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Renee Hopwood is a true California kid. She attended Mona Park Elementary, Raleigh J. Bunch Jr. High (9th) and graduated from Compton High (1969).

She joined the military after High school (July 1970) and attended boot camp in Bainbridge Maryland, 80 miles outside of Baltimore, Maryland. She was the only African American female out of seventy-five in her boot camp company. Her first duty station was Lemoore Naval Air near 29 Palms, California. There she was one of two black women out of twenty-five. During the years of 1974 to 1975, Renee was assigned to the USS Scantuary AH-17, a one hundred bed floating hospital attached to the Pacific Fleet, ported in Jacksonville, Florida. Sixty-three women were selected for a pilot program to see if women could serve aboard a naval vessel. She was the only African American woman selected as well as the only female corpsman and laboratory technician. While on board, she was sent to firefighting school and served on the inboard firefighting team, section 5.

History is Alive in Compton!

When Tomorrow Starts Without Me

by David Romano

*When tomorrow starts without me, please try to understand.
That an angel came and called my name, and took me by the hand
The angel said my place was ready, in Heaven far above,
And that I'd have to leave behind all these I dearly Love,
But when I walked through Heaven's Gates, I felt so much at home,
For God looked down, smiled at me, And told me "Welcome Home"
So when tomorrow starts without me, Don't think we're far apart,
for every time you think of me, I'm right there in your heart.*

