



Ms. Excenia J. "Zinie" (Momma Zee) Foote

January 11, 1964 - April 22, 2025

Excenia Jetaun "Zinie" Foote, affectionately known as Momma Zee, was born to Mary E. Jordan (Cannon) and Mayes Foote on January 11, 1964, in Peoria, Illinois. She resided at 65 Lenox Ave and was a true trailblazer in her community. Zinie was renowned for her warmth, her ability to bring people together through her cooking, and her efforts to preserve generations of Black culture in Harlem.

As a matriarch and a pillar of her block on Lenox Ave, Momma Zee was the glue that held her family together and meant a great deal to many. She attended and served as the armor bearer and administrator for the "Promise Made, Promise Kept" ministry under her sister, Pastor Diane London, whom she always referred to as "Pastor," no matter where they were.

Zinie served on the annual Harlem Week Chamber of Commerce Committee and sponsored various events, including comedy shows, musical performances, modeling contests, and concerts.

In 2018, she opened "Momma Zee's Food to Plez" at the intersection of 123rd Street and Adam Clayton Powell Jr. Boulevard. This bodega holds the distinction of being the only Black woman-owned bodega in all of New York City and the first to exist in the city since 1987. Zinie honored her grandmother, who shared her name, by pursuing her dream of opening a renowned restaurant.

On Sundays, Ms. Mette would host worship services outside her deli, emphasizing her connection to God and the community. Her bodega was also featured in Arizona Tea's Great Buy Magazine, which created a tote bag in her honor. Excenia was also a dedicated member of Al Sharpton's National Action Network, advocating for the advancement of Black Americans, not only in Harlem but nationwide. She inspired her family, friends, and the Harlem community, serving as a powerful example of Black women's leadership. Her warmth, compassion, kindness, and delicious cooking were cherished by all who knew her.

Zinie received her call from heaven on April 22, 2025. She leaves behind her loving companion, Adama Fofana of New York; one son, Jarian (Wendy) Jordan Sr. of New Jersey; two grandsons, Jarian Jordan Jr. and Walter Heredia, both of New York; her beloved granddaughter, Skylie Jordan, of New Jersey; two brothers, Antonio "Tony" (Lisa) Foote of Peoria and Terry Foote of New Albany, MS; five sisters, Diane (Fred) London of New York, NY, Kristina (Jeffrey) Nelson Wright of Atlanta, GA, Selathia Foote of Atlanta, GA, and Kathy Jo Berry, Margaret Ann Foote, and Brenda Kay Ivy both of New Albany, MS; a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, relatives, friends, and the Harlem and Peoria community, all of whom respected and adored "Momma Zee" and her "Food to Plez."

She is preceded in death by her mother, Mary E. Jordan; her father, Mayes Foote; her twin brothers, Kevin and Kelvin Jordan; and her special nephew, DeAndre (Slikk) Foote.

Funeral services will take place at Morning Glory Community Church, 2906 Twelve Oaks Drive, Peoria, IL, on Friday, May 9, 2025, with viewing from 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM and the service from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Bishop Marlon E. Young Sr. will host, Pastor Spencer Gibson Jr will be Master of Ceremony, and Pastor Diane London (Sister) will present the Eulogy

Zinie will be laid to rest at Lutheran Cemetery.

Arrangements were made especially for the "Foote" family and professionally directed by T.W. Parks Colonial Chapel. Live streaming can be viewed by clicking the link for TW Parks Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/tw-parkscolonialchapel>. To send flowers or a memorial gift to the family of "Excenia J. "Zinie" Foote.," please visit our Sympathy Store.

Cemetery Details

Lutheran

914 S Pleasant St
Peoria, IL

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 9. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

Morning Glory Community Church
2906 N Twelve Oaks Lane
Peoria, IL 61604

Celebration of Life

MAY 9. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Morning Glory Community Church
2906 N Twelve Oaks Lane
Peoria, IL 61604

Tribute Wall

AL

“ *Annette Lucy lit a candle in memory of Ms. Excenia J. "Zinie" (Momma Zee) Foote*



Annette Lucy - May 30, 2025 at 12:39 AM

EL

“ *Ella Lee lit a candle in memory of Ms. Excenia J. "Zinie" (Momma Zee) Foote*



Ella Lee - May 11, 2025 at 08:37 PM

BI

“ *My sincere prayers and condolences to the Family. May God be with you all during this difficult time. Rest In Peace Zinie*



Brenda Idreez - May 09, 2025 at 09:35 AM

CR

“ *Carolyn Reynolds lit a candle in memory of Ms. Excenia J. "Zinie" (Momma Zee) Foote*



Carolyn Reynolds - May 09, 2025 at 09:30 AM

MB

“ *Mildred Baldon lit a candle in memory of Ms. Excenia J. "Zinie" (Momma Zee) Foote*



Mildred Baldon - May 08, 2025 at 10:18 PM

SG

“ *Now another soul has wings. May GOD wrap HIS Loving arms around your entire family.*



Sherri Green - May 08, 2025 at 07:50 PM

KJ

“ *Karen Jones lit a candle in memory of Ms. Excenia J. "Zinie" (Momma Zee) Foote*



Karen Jones - May 08, 2025 at 07:41 PM

DJ

“ *Darlene Jackson lit a candle in memory of Ms. Excenia J. "Zinie" (Momma Zee) Foote*



Darlene Jackson - May 08, 2025 at 06:00 PM

MC

“ SENDING MY CONDOLENCES TO THE ENTIRE SO SAD ABOUT THE LOSS ZEE WAS A BEAUTIFUL LADY WITH A GOOD HEART AND SHE IS MISSED STAY STRONG FAMILY GOD GOT YOU ALL.



Maxine Clash - May 07, 2025 at 12:57 PM

NK

“ Nichole Kingcade lit a candle in memory of Ms. Excenia J. "Zinie" (Momma Zee) Foote



Nichole Kingcade - May 06, 2025 at 10:35 PM

DG

“ Denise Burns Green lit a candle in memory of Ms. Excenia J. "Zinie" (Momma Zee) Foote



Denise Burns Green - May 06, 2025 at 08:50 PM

CA

“ Carrie Antosz purchased the Days of Sunshine Bouquet for the family of Ms. Excenia J. "Zinie" (Momma Zee) Foote.



Carrie Antosz - May 06, 2025 at 08:44 PM

CA

“ Carrie Antosz planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ms. Excenia J. (Momma Zee) Foote.

Carrie Antosz - May 06, 2025 at 08:44 PM

FO

“ From all of us at Apex Optical purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Ms. Excenia J. "Zinie" (Momma Zee) Foote.



From all of us at Apex Optical - May 06, 2025 at 08:38 PM

RB

“ Rozz Bond lit a candle in memory of Ms. Excenia J. "Zinie" (Momma Zee) Foote



Rozz Bond - May 06, 2025 at 05:53 PM

KC

“ Kathy Collins lit a candle in memory of Ms. Excenia J. "Zinie" (Momma Zee) Foote



Kathy Collins - May 06, 2025 at 12:34 PM

SH

“ *Shirley Robertson Hughes lit a candle in memory of Ms. Excenia J. "Zinie" (Momma Zee) Foote*



Shirley Robertson Hughes - May 05, 2025 at 01:49 PM