

PATRICIA SCIPIO-BRIM **A Life well Lived**

How do we best summarize and highlight the committed life of this beloved woman, Patricia Scipio Brim, who was so accomplished and giving yet so private and discreet? Kind and caring, smart and savvy, brilliant but humble, Patricia lived an exemplary life that was a paradigm for anyone striving for both personal and professional success.

Born in Port of Spain in Trinidad and Tobago, to Betty Scipio on August 29, 1947, Patricia was the first of 6 children. Patricia and her 3 sisters and 2 brothers loved the sun and warmth of growing up in her tightknit Caribbean family. She always enjoyed reading, excelled as a student and graduated from Bishop Anstey High School before moving to New York City.

Patricia was awarded a Juris Doctorate from New York University School of Law. After graduating from law school, she earned a Master of Laws from New York University Law School's prestigious tax program. Patricia began her legal career at Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft, New York City's oldest law firm and one of the oldest continuously operating legal practices in the United States. In 1984, she left Cadwalader to join Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison, a multinational law firm, where she worked with some of the best lawyers in the industry on sophisticated, high-profile tax matters for some of the world's largest and most important public and private corporations, asset managers and financial institutions. In 1987, Patricia moved to Carter Ledyard where she provided tax planning for corporations, partnerships, individuals and estates.

Eventually, Patricia reconfigured her legal career and moved away from large firm private practice to the New York City Department of Finance where she served for many years as Supervising Administrative Law Judge. She trained incoming judges, provided legal guidance, and resolved litigants' issues with measured patience and empathy. Patricia served the public with intelligence, firmness, and compassion. Patricia was also the Real Estate Liaison for the Office of The Public Administrator for New York County, and she often appeared in The United States Federal Court, Eastern District of New York as an Appointed State Referee.

Many know Patricia as an avid supporter of the arts. She could be found any evening of the week visiting a gallery, museum, or artist's studio. She was first exposed to the art scene in the 1980's by her next-door neighbor and has supported African American artists and artists of the African diaspora ever since. Over the years, she developed a strong palette for artwork ranging from abstract expressionism to figurative, but she always stayed true to her principle of buying art that evoked beauty and emotion. She maintained close relationships with several African American art galleries such as Dorsey's Art Gallery, Kenkeleba, Stella Jones, Peg Alston and Spiral Gallery. In particular, Patricia was an avid supporter of the Studio Museum in Harlem and the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture. She often encouraged others to support and donate to black cultural centers and was a true representation of how giving can impact the lives of so many.

**August 29 , 1947 -
February 20 , 2023**



PATRICIA SCIPIO-BRIM A Life well Lived

Besides regularly attending art events, Patricia's schedule was jam-packed with concerts, theater and dance performances. She supported Off-Broadway theater by emerging black playwrights while shows were in development as well as Broadway blockbusters like HAMILTON and FELA, both of which she saw more than twenty times. When her favorite musicians were in town, she'd be there, especially for her favorite singer Nina Simone. But everyone knew about her special interest in dance. Patricia attended many Alvin Ailey performances in NYC every December and June, and she traveled the world with International Ailey Partners. She especially enjoyed her trips to South Africa, Paris and London and the friendships she established with other avid fans who became her dance buddies along the way. Patricia thoroughly knew Ailey's dance repertoire, savoring the developing artistry of various dancers and choreographers. When one of her favorite dancers was commissioned to choreograph his first ballet for the main company, Patricia eagerly signed on as a donor to show her support. And after seeing Kyle Abraham's first ballet for Ailey, she began attending his own Abraham in Motion performances, becoming a committed contributor to Kyle's company. Generous in spirit and willing to donate funds to help encourage dancers and choreographers she appreciated, Patricia attended rehearsals, previews and events in smaller venues as they worked on developing new ventures. Once Patricia was a fan, or a friend, she continued to cheer for your success. She invited individuals who were no longer performing to lunch and offered sage advice on how to move on with their plans after leaving the stage. She always wanted the best for others.

Left to cherish her memory are Patricia's sisters Pamela Thomas, Marlene Scipio Simmons, Sharon Scipio; her nieces Aminata Simmons, Onika Boucage Butcher, Makeda Simmons, Ahoafe Simmons, Ainka Simmons, Katisha Simmons, Nicole Thomas, Leslie Ann Scipio, Roxanne Thomas, Felisha Thomas, Nikita Noel; her nephews Alfonso Simmons, Orlando Thomas, Mathew Thomas, Carlyle Thomas, Xavier Castellanos; and great-nephews Andwele Denner, Ade Simmons, Amari Simmons, Makesi Mentore, and many others. Preceding her in death are her beloved life partner, Abibe Thiam, and Patricia's brothers, Glenford Noel and Frankie Scipio.

in lieu of flowers, the family suggests that contributions be made in her memory to one of Patricia's favorite dance companies ~ either Abraham in Motion, Inc (aimbykyleabraham.org/donate) or Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater (alvinailey.org/tributegifts).

