

OBITUARIES

BRUNETTE "NELLY" HUNTER Four times a grandmother

Brunette "Nelly" Hunter's fatal accident in front of her Ambassador Hotel home in June denied her her dream of celebrating the birth of a grandchild who would visit her often and make her proud.

"She was so excited about the birth and had requested a larger room," Rachel Throm, a social worker at the Ambassador, said at Mrs. Hunter's Aug. 5 memorial. "We were looking for one but then her terrible accident happened."

On June 22, Mrs. Hunter was talking to someone in a car stopped in front of the Ambassador. Suddenly, the car lurched and took off with Mrs. Hunter, maybe 5-foot-6, holding on, according to J.L. Marribe, an Ambassador neighbor who was outside and saw her fatal fall happen. She hung on for just a few yards, then lost her grip and fell off, her body and head violently smashing the pavement as the car sped away.

"Two white dudes held her down, because she was really bleeding and trying to get up," Marribe said after the memorial. "I think they got a license number."

Mrs. Hunter was taken to San Francisco General Hospital's intensive care unit and never woke up. She remained in a coma for a month and July 23 died of her many injuries. She was 50.

Her pregnant daughter, Monica Hunter, visited her several times in the hospital but Mrs. Hunter never knew that her granddaughter, Lauryn, was born July 17.

News of the accident and its particulars sent a shock wave through the hotel.

At the memorial, the mourners sat in a circle in the Ambassador's Listening Post room, where a colorful and fragrant floral spray had been placed on a ledge in Mrs. Hunter's honor. Several of the eight mourners who visited Mrs. Hunter in the hospital lamented the tragedy and the coma that had cheated her.

"But you never know what a person in a coma can realize," said Rev. Glenda Hope, who conducted the memorial. "And she didn't die alone."

Mrs. Hunter, who was born in Conroe, Texas, and came to the city when she was 18, had four children, Monica, Jasmine and Dominique, all born in San Francisco, and a son, Toussaint Hunter, born in Conroe. He flew here twice after the tragedy. Mrs. Hunter had three grandchildren from her son: All live in Texas. A memorial service was held July 28 in Bayview and 100 people attended.

Her friends said Mrs. Hunter was "sweet," "good people," "a nice lady who never complained."

"She taught me how long to boil eggs," said one man.

Monica Hunter, who didn't attend the memorial, said her mother was "outspoken" and a "people person" with a good sense of humor who loved reading books and working the Chronicle crossword puzzles. She was an Ambassador resident nearly four years.

Police found the driver, Monica Hunter said, but he wasn't held in custody. She asks that anyone who witnessed the incident that killed her mother, email her at garlingtonmonica@yahoo.com. ■

— TOM CARTER

Support the appeal to stop the proposed pharmacy at 281 Turk Street.

Even if it were the best
possible pharmacy this is still
the worst possible location.

If approved, the pharmacy would be located in the heart of "Pill Hill," where dealers and buyers come from all over the Bay Area to traffic in prescription narcotics. According to Captain Joe Garrity of the Tenderloin Police Station, the problem has reached epidemic proportions on the 200 block of Turk Street. Adding what would be the sixth source of prescription narcotics on the block poses an intolerable risk to our children and elderly residents; this is a prescription for disaster.

We need all of you to show up at the Planning Department Board of Appeals hearing on Wednesday, October 6 at 5 p.m. in Room 416 at City Hall.

For more information, contact
nopharmacy@gmail.com

415-929-6803

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All participants will be financially compensated for their participation. Please contact UCSF's Over 60 Program: (415) 476-7046.

November 2nd ENDORSEMENTS



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James Keys District 6 Candidate seeks your vote on November 2nd

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