

Linda V. Mathis, 54, Baltimore attorney

Baltimore Sun

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February 12, 2003

Linda Victoria Mathis, a Baltimore attorney, died of a heart attack Thursday at University of Maryland Medical Center after collapsing at the Charles Center Metro station. The Reisterstown resident was 54.

Born in Baltimore and raised on Mosher Street, she was a 1966 graduate of Edmondson High School. Ms. Mathis earned a degree in education at Coppin State College, where she was president of her junior class.

Family members said that as child she enjoyed watching the Perry Mason television show and resolved to earn a law degree, a goal she reached in 1973 at Howard University. She passed the Maryland bar exam the same year.

She began her career at the Legal Aid Bureau of Baltimore City, working in its domestic law unit. In 1976, she was appointed a Maryland assistant attorney general and was assigned to the Consumer Protection Division.

In 1989, she established a private practice and had an office in the Court Square Building at Calvert and Lexington streets.

She was a member of the National Conference of Black Lawyers, the Maryland State Bar Association, the District of Columbia Bar Association and the Phi Alpha Delta law fraternity.

Her 24-year marriage to Calvin V. Lewis ended in divorce.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Friday at Union Memorial United Methodist Church, 2500 Harlem Ave., where she was a member.

Survivors include her father, Johnny Mathis Sr. of Lochearn; and a brother, Johnny Mathis Jr. of Long Beach, Calif.