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September 14, 2021

### In Remembrance of Allison Payne

As we celebrate the wonderful life of Allison Payne and the gifts she shared with so many, the members of the National Association of Black Journalists salute a fine person and stellar veteran journalist.

We have lost a brave soldier on the battlefield. We have lost a person who was definitely a voice for the voiceless.

Journalistic excellence was synonymous with Allison's name because she cared deeply about the profession and took seriously the awesome task she had as not only a journalist but a mentor and friend.

Since news of her passing, stories have poured in from around the nation about her presence and influence on the next generation of journalists. She started at WGN-TV as a 25-year-old and modeled the ascent to becoming a community staple from the anchor desk as she covered global stories. Outside of the newsroom, Allison committed to grooming the next set of journalists who would follow in her footsteps through mentoring and investing in a foundation for students looking to enter the industry.

We are saddened by her passing, but we are joyful for having known, worked with and learned from Allison. She was a mentor to many and while she provided an example for others to follow, that task will not be so easy because Allison was one of a kind and her walk was not one for the fainthearted.

Our prayers are with the Payne Family, loved ones and the many who have benefited from her life's work.

We will miss our sister. But we have some wonderful memories.

We salute our friend and comrade, Ms. Allison Payne.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy Tucker, President  
National Association of Black Journalists