

## CHICAGO'S LAST GOODBYE TO ROBERT S. ABBOTT



## FLIERS DROP FLOWERS ON EDITOR'S GRAVE

### National Airmen Pay Striking Tribute To Robert S. Abbott

Impressive tribute was paid the late Robert S. Abbott by the National Airmen's association during the interment of the body of the noted publisher at Lincoln cemetery on Monday afternoon.

As Rev. Augustus E. Bennett, pastor of Grace Presbyterian church, pronounced a final benediction over the body as it was lowered into the ground, a plane bearing two members of the aviation association swooped low over the bare-headed assemblage and dropped a bouquet of American beauty roses on the canopy covering the grave.



Dale White

Retrieved by one of the funeral director's assistants, the flowers were handed to Mrs. Edna Abbott, widow of the publisher. Taking the card and a few flowers from the bouquet, she tossed it into the grave.

The plane, piloted by Dale White, vice president of the association, was the same which made a 3,000 mile tour of the east and south last year under the joint sponsorship of the Chicago Defender and the association.

Accompanying Mr. White was Marie St. Clair, youthful aviatrix and assistant secretary of the NAA.

Almost 1,000 persons travelled to the cemetery in a cortege of 250 automobiles to witness the burial of the noted journalist and publisher.

Services were conducted at the grave by Reverends Bennett and Archibald J. Carey, Jr. Music was provided by a quartette supplied by the Frank L. Edwards funeral home which had charge of the funeral.

The striking aerial tribute paid the late publisher by the National Airmen's Association was significant in that it was the Chicago Defender which served as sponsor of

Robert Sengstacke Abbott, editor and publisher of the Chicago Defender and dean of Negro journalism, went to his final resting place Tuesday amid all of the pomp and pageantry befitting his life. The story of the funeral is told in these pictures. No. 1, Chicago police form honor guard as cortege passes along South Parkway at Forty-fifth street. No. 2, Outstanding among the notables at the services were, seated, left to right, front row, Arthur W. Mitchell, congressman from the First Congressional district of Illinois and Former State Senator William E. King. Back row, left to right, Mayor Edward J. Kelly and Postmaster Ernest J. Krutgen. No. 3, Mayor Kelley speaks on "Robert S. Abbott As A Citizen of Chicago." No. 4, The esteem in which Robert S. Abbott was held by thousands of friends was

attested by the huge floral offerings which surrounded the casket as it lay open in Metropolitan Community church. In the top foreground are Rev. Joseph M. Evans, pastor, and Rev. Archibald J. Carey, pastor of Woodlawn A.M.E. church, who officiated. No. 5, Sorrow is written all over the faces of this trio of relatives, left to right, Walter B. Abbott, New York city Miss Rebecca Sengstacke and John Sengstacke, vice president of the Chicago Defender. No. 6, Thousands unable to enter the edifice, listened to the services through public address system installed on the outside. No. 7, The bereaved widow, Mrs. Robert S. Abbott, on the arm of her son, Franklin Denison, as they leave church. Another son, George Denison, is in the rear.—Photo No. 3 by Charles Stewart, all others by James L. Gushiniere.

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the organization during its formation almost two years ago.

During the epochal tour made by Mr. White and Chauncey Spencer last year, Mr. Abbott received daily reports on the progress of the trip. The fliers carried to New York City and to Washington a scroll signed by Mr. Abbott and Mayor Edward J. Kelly of Chicago.

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