## The New York Times

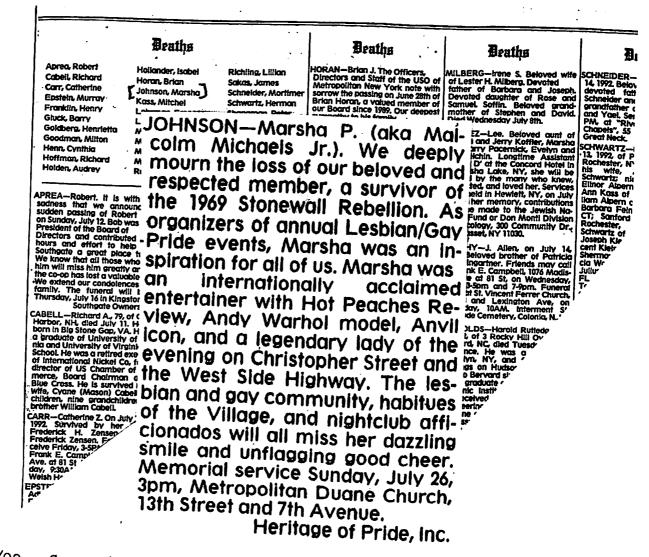
THE NEW YORK TIMES OBITUARIES THURSDAY, JULY 16, 1992

JOHNSON-Marsha P. (aka Malcolm Michaels Jr.). We deeply mourn the loss of our beloved and respected member, a survivor of the 1969 Stonewall Rebellion, As organizers of annual Lesbian/Gav -Pride events, Marsha was an inspiration for all of us. Marsha was internationally acclaimed an entertainer with Hot Peaches Review, Andy Warhol model, Anvil icon, and a legendary lady of the evening on Christopher Street and the West Side Highway. The lesbian and gay community, habitues of the Village, and nightclub afficionados will all miss her dazzling smile and unflagging good cheer. Memorial service Sunday, July 26, 3pm, Metropolitan Duane Church, 13th Street and 7th Avenue.

Heritage of Pride, Inc.

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7/16/92 Commentary: As I read the <u>NYT</u> a few thoughts crossed my mind....

Times are a changin'--even at <u>The New York Times!</u> When Heritage Of Pride (HOP) submitted the above \$400 obituary to the NYT obit editors with the word "prostitute" in it, it just all seemed so seamy, in such bad taste, they did everything they could to follow Nancy Reagan's example and "JUST SAY NO!"

But an extraordinary personality like Marsha P Johnson didn't just happen. She was part of a wonderful, warm, loving & supportative family. When the NYT called asking them to object, they just laughed & told them "it was the truth and, of course, you can print it."

Back & forth it went from there . And finally, the gay group got their ad accepted--using "Marsha P. Johnson" (the name everyone knew her by) and the pronoun "she" (which is what Marsha truly was in personality & spirit) andto seal the deal & not offend the others

eulogized in the same columns, the coarse & unpleasant evening."

Randy Wicker