

In Loving Memory of



Mary Evelyn Singleton

Sunrise
February 23, 1938

Sunset
March 27, 2010

Saturday, April 3, 2010 - 10:00 a.m.

Christian Pentecostal Church

971 Clinton Avenue • Irvington, New Jersey

Bishop Hilton Rawls, Sr., Eulogy
Rev. Ron Christian, Officiating

Obituary

On February 23, 1938 in South Hill, Virginia a jewel named, Mary Evelyn Harvey was born to Farris and Mary Alice Harvey. She was the second born of their union.

Mary attended Lambert Chapel Elementary School and East End High School in South Hill, Virginia. She graduated early with honors. Mary was very intelligent, always eager to learn. She was an over achiever who had always had an interest in business.

While residing in Virginia, Mary had two beautiful daughters, Maxine Moore and Helena Thomas. In 1957, she came to New Jersey with big dreams and aspirations. Here she met and married her loving husband of fifty-one years, Mr. Jacob Singleton and to this children three children were born, Kevin Singleton, Keith Singleton and the late, Karin Singleton. Mary and her family attended St. John Unified Baptist Church. Her and Jake developed a very close relationship with the late Bishop Curtis Gilmore. Mary was a God fearing woman that walked by faith and focused on living a Christ-like life.

Mary worked for Local 262 Union in East Orange, NJ for many years. However, she and her husband, Jacob worked diligently to save money in hopes to become entrepreneurs. That diligence eventually paid off when Mary and Jacob bought their first business, "The Joker's Wild". After successfully running that establishment they wanted to broaden their horizons. However, they didn't know exactly what they wanted to do. One Sunday after attending church service, Mary's husband, Jacob noticed an empty brick building directly across the street from the church. He had an idea to open a cookie store. He shared his idea with Mary and since she already had a passion for baking she thought that was a brilliant idea. So what was meant to be a cookie store became "Level One Bakery".

Then Mary became well-known for her homemade baked goods. Especially her infamous sweet potato pie. Around holiday time the line would be around the corner and Mary would say, "I really started something with these good old pies of mine". Aside from all of the baking, Level One Bakery became a headquarters for many things.

Mary was active in the community while running the bakery with her husband. She had the drive to make a difference and she stood up for what she believed in.

Always eager to be involved, Mary remained active as President of the Pomona Avenue Block Association. She took pride in her block. Mary wanted it to be safe and beautiful. She would plant flowers in front of her home as well as the homes of her neighbors. It was just one of the many kind acts she performed. She was a kind woman with a heart made of gold.

Mary was always active at her children's schools. She was on the PTA and she took part in the Weequahic High School Football Breakfast Club. Those were just two of the things she did to stay involved and keep active.

Mary adored her family and there wasn't a thing she wouldn't do for them. She invested her time into her family because she knew that's what mattered the most. The love she gave was incomparable to any other. She had a natural gift of giving.

Shortly after the death of Bishop Curtis Gilmore. Mary and her husband, Jacob joined St. Paul Life Center with Bishop Hilton Rawls, Sr. and she remained a member there until her death.

Mary was a strong and determined woman up until her illness prevented her from working in her bakery. She realized that it was time for her to pass the torch and sit home and spend quality time with her loved ones.

Mary leaves to mourn her passing and to cherish her fond memories: her beloved husband, Jacob; her loving daughters, Maxine and Helena; her dear sons, Kevin and Keith; her loving sisters, Ann and Brenda; her dearest brothers, George, Larry and the late Sonny; her grandchildren, Ryan, Ebony, Zakia, Khalif, Ahmad, Nehemiah, Charity, Kelleeya, Kevin and Faraji; thirteen great grandchildren; and a host of brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and many many friends.



Revelation 21:4-6

And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.

And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.

He that overcometh shall inherit all things and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.



Acknowledgments

*The family of **Mary Singleton** acknowledges with sincere appreciation the many kind deeds and comforting expressions of sympathy extended to them in their time of sorrow. May God continue to bless each of you.*

Professional Services Provided By

COTTON FUNERAL SERVICE
130 Main Street
Orange, NJ
973-675-6400

1025 Bergen Street
Newark, NJ
973-926-6400

COTTON-PARKER FUNERAL HOME
37 Clinton Avenue
Jersey City, NJ
201-433-1000

Order of Service

Musical Prelude Ahmed Wallace, Organist

Processional Clergy and Family

Opening Hymn

The Scriptures
Old Testament Elder Jerry Smith
New Testament Pastor Philip Gilmore

Prayer of Consolation Deacon Donald Bradley

Solo Ahmed Wallace
"A Song For You"

Reflections
and Remarks (2 minutes please) Gayle Chaneyfield
Former Councilwoman
Clifford Minor
Former Essex County Prosecutor
Former Presiding Judge

Selection Ahmed Wallace, Organist

Acknowledgements/Resolutions Deacon Donald Bradley

A Tribute to the Life and Legacy of "NaNa" Photo Montage

Obituary Eboni Singleton

Poem Eboni Singleton

Solo Toby Carson
"Forever In My Heart"
"Amazing Grace"

Eulogy Bishop Hilton Rawls, Sr.
St. Paul Life Center

Recessional

<p style="text-align: center;">Entombment Woodbridge Memorial Gardens Woodbridge, New Jersey</p>

*The Family requests that you join them for the
repast at
Christian Pentecostal Church*



*In
Loving
Memory*



Forever In My Heart

From the day I was born you cherished me like a precious gift. I will always remember your soft voice, your pretty smile and your warm heart you were the epitome of greatness. I'm going to miss you so much, I remember when you would say, "Kia, I don't know what I would do without you" and I would tell you the same. At this moment, I feel lost. But whenever I find myself having rough days, feeling like I don't know what to do or what tomorrow would bring, I have to remember that only God can see my tomorrow's and I have to just hold on to my faith. There is one verse that always gets me by; faith is the substance of the things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. It was because of you that I learned to love others when I was young and entangled in my own individuality. Because of you I also learned to be bold and to fight the battles that are worth winning. And when I refused to do what was expected of me, you demanded that I give my all because you knew I had potential. You believed in me, you taught me how to handle whatever came my way. I didn't always think rationally because when you're young you seem to think your parents and grandparents just want to be on your case. However, over time, I matured and began to understand that you were polishing me so that I would soon reflect beauty and wisdom. So because of you, Nana, I beat the odds. I am now on the road to greatness and in my hands I not only hold the keys to the doors of success, but to self-esteem and determination. I have removed all labels and now I am stamped with promise and marked with a chance. You taught me that I am packaged in a beautiful box of hopes and dreams and when opened I will brighten this dull world.

Because of you I am who I am today. I hold this guide forever in my heart. I am going to miss you more than words can express I'm going to hold on to the memories we shared and the talks we had. They will always be close to my heart forever. I believe that you made peace because a few days before your passing you began to get your natural glow back and you would smile in your sleep as if you were talking to your Lord. You held on and fought a good fight a good fight and I was right by your side until you took your last breath holding your hand and telling you that there will be no more suffering. I will remember you forever in my heart. I am grateful to have had such a loving, kind, compassionate Nana. You were one of the most precious gifts that God has given me.



*Love always,
Kia*