

In Loving Memory

Brenda Keaton

Sunrise
1949

Sunset
2010



Saturday, September 18, 2010 - 11:00 a.m.

GREATER FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH

84 Custer Avenue • Newark, NJ

Rev. John Teabout, Pastor

Rev. J. Michael Sanders, Officiating

The Obituary

"Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains a single grain of wheat; but if it dies, it brings a good harvest." John 12:24

Brenda Keaton was born May 13, 1949 to Jack McBride and Julian Giles in Chase City, Virginia. Her family migrated to New Jersey when she was a young girl.

At the age of 13, Brenda was admitted to the Overbrook Hospital, presently the Essex County Hospital Center, due to a mental condition. She remained a patient in the hospital for over 47 years until her death on September 3, 2010 at the Mountainside Hospital in Montclair.

Despite her condition Brenda was a strong, independent and a loving Christian woman who enjoyed going to church every Sunday.

She enjoyed jazz music and dancing. Her favorite songs were "Under the Boardwalk" and "Blueberry Hill." She danced until the last phase of her illness, about a couple of weeks before she left us.

Brenda was a friendly person. She knew her peers and called all staff members by their first name. She was also very intelligent. She respectfully knew who was best at each assignment. For example, she would call Jessica when she needed food. If she desired a chair, she would call John or Alvin.

Brenda's most important trait was her spirit. She never gave up. She knew the extent of her illness, but she never succumbed to it. We called her our "Hero." When we asked her how she was doing, she always replied "I am fine; I am ok."

The last week with Brenda was a blessing for all who knew her. We were aware that she was in pain, but she would never tell anyone. That is how strong she was.

From Brenda, we learned the lesson of strength and courage.

Survivors are the staff of the Essex County Hospital Center including Lucia Giarini, George Fillie-Faboe and the 3 North caretakers.

Order of Service

The Musical Prelude

The Call to Worship

O Come, let us sing unto the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation. Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto Him with psalms. For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

The Doxology

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow; Praise Him, All Creatures Here Below; Praise Him Above, Ye Heavenly Host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Prayer of Invocation

The Opening Hymn "Blessed Assurance"

The Reading of the Scripture

The Old Testament

The New Testament

The Musical Selection

The Moment of Prayer

The Musical Selection

The Words of Comfort Pastor J. Michael Sanders
Fountain Baptist Church • Summit, NJ

The Closing Hymn "When We All Get to Heaven"

The Recessional

The Committal and Benediction at Gravesite

Saturday, September 18, 2010

Glendale Cemetery, Bloomfield, New Jersey

The "Brenda Keaton" Homegoing service was the result of the generous contributions of the individuals and companies listed below.

Officiant: Rev. J. Michael Sanders, Pastor, Fountain Baptist Church, Summit, NJ

Church: Greater Friendship Baptist Church, Newark, NJ, Rev. John Teabout, Pastor

Musician: Brandon Flanders, minister of music, Fountain Baptist Church, Summit, NJ

Florist: Rupp's Florist, East Orange, NJ, Sharon Beamon, proprietor

Printer: Honor You Memorial Products, Montclair, NJ

Cemetery: Glendale Cemetery, Bloomfield, NJ

Professional Pall Bearers:

John B. Houston Professional Pall Bearers

- Mike Atkins
- George Cole
- Mike Baldwin
- Paul Alston
- Leonard O'Brien
- Leon Williams
- Wesley Johnson
- William Worley
- Vincent Ayiku
- John B. Houston

Professional Services Entrusted To



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