

Sunrise October 17, 1920

Sunset November 2, 2010





Saturday, November 6, 2010 - 12:00 Noon

UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC. 2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY 10027

<u>Obituary</u>

Perhaps one of the most difficult tasks is the attempt to portray a life in a few words, especially when the person is **Mrs. Bessie Howard**, affectionately called Mrs. Bessie, a woman with so much love for children.

Mrs. Bessie entered into eternal rest on November 2, 2010 at Lincoln Hospital Medical Center. Born October 17, 1920 in Camden, South Carolina to the late Wade and Lissy Portee, Mrs. Bessie was one of six children. In her young years, she moved to New Jersey and then made her way to New York and made her home in the Bronx. She and her husband gave their life to Christ and joined Bethemy Baptist Church in Harlem.

Our mother was a beautiful and loving person. Everyone who knew her held a special place in their heart for her. Our mother had a special love for children and a passion for cooking. In our early years, she would open our home and her kitchen to provide for other children. She would always show her affection to the children by pinching their cheeks. When children would come by selling candy, she would say: "I buy candy to help the children". Her passion for cooking was very well known throughout the neighborhood. The holiday season would bring many close friends and family to her door. They would always say: "I know you're cooking, Mrs. Bessie. Can I come by for a plate?" She would reply: "I'm not cooking a thing." Then she would say: "Come by tomorrow and I'll see you then. Come early. Hey, you better not come empty handed neither."

Mrs. Bessie Portee married David Howard and together they raised five children. James, Robert and Dorothy whom preceded her demise.

She leaves to cherish her memories: two children, Ernestine (Tina) Howard and Michael Howard; two sisters, Carrie Carter and Rebecca Cook who reside in New York City; one son-in-law, James Tucker; two daughters-in-law, Valerie Eubanks and Veronica Howard; eight grandchildren, Shanda Eubanks, David Tucker, Tressa Tucker, Robin Brown, Sadiqua Brown, Michael David, Christopher Howard and Nikki Porter; several great grandchildren and a very close cousin, Daisy Nelson; as well as a host of in-laws, friends and extended family members.

Order of Service

Processional	"There's A Sweet, Sweet Spirit"
Greeting	Dr. Grissom
Selection	"Precious Lord"
Scripture Reading Old Testament New Testament	Ecclesiastes 3 <i>"There's A Right Time"</i> Luke 7 <i>"A Place of Holy Mystery"</i>
Obituary	read silently
Remarks	
Selection	"Rock of Ages"
Eulogy	Dr. Grissom
Viewing	
Committal	
Recessional	

Interment Mount Rest Cemetery Butler, New Jersey

## 23rd Psalm



The Lord is My Shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; He leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul. He leadeth me in the path of righteousness for His name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies. Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

## Acknowledgement

The family wishes to express their deep appreciation and sincere thanks for your kindness during their time of sorrow.

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