

*In Loving
Memory of*

*Dianne
V.
Ward*

*Sunrise
August 6, 1954*

*Sunset
November 2, 2010*

*Monday, November 8, 2010
12:00 Noon*

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

*Rev. J.G. McCann, Sr. - Officiating
Rev. David Jenkins, Organist*



Obituary

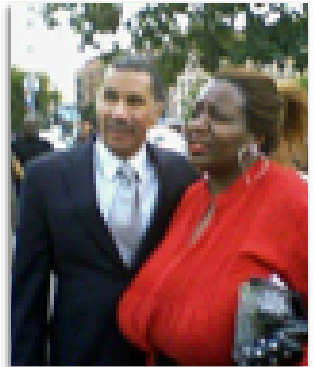
Dianne Victoria Ward was born on August 6, 1954 in New York's Harlem Hospital to the late Mildred Ward and June Willheimer. She was the only child born between this union.

She was educated throughout the New York City School System. She graduated from Seward Park High School and went on to attend Hostos Community College.

Dianne was a proud employee of every job she worked. Over the years, she maintained several jobs in various fields, but her most recent occupational accomplishment was as a bus operator for the New York Transit Authority. Here she fit right in. Her personality was infectious. In addition, she was employed by the New York Blood Center as their only female bus operator. This job was challenging, but Dianne didn't waiver. One of her biggest and longest occupational accomplishments was when she was employed as the Coordinator of Harlem's original Community Kitchen on 116th Street. It was here that she received formal acknowledgement from Community Food Resource Center for feeding more than one million people.

Dianne was more than a pretty face, she was also a staunch Community Activist. Her early battles included advocating for the educational rights of children. She fought strongly for Civil Rights, Voting Rights, and Women's Rights. She organized and coordinated several community blood drives with neighboring churches and community organizations. She worked tirelessly to bring people together and to fight for the rights of the less fortunate.

Dianne was also well known and respected by Harlem's political community. Her political affiliations included working with the Community Action Network, Assemblyman Keith Wright, New York City Council Member Inez Dickens, Reverend Calvin Butts, Senator Bill Perkins, former Borough President of Manhattan C. Virginia Fields and the Governor David Patterson and a host of others.



She will be remembered for her love of family and friends, her outgoing personality, her love of dance and music, especially rap. But please, let's not forget how opinionated she could be, she would tell it like it is. If you remember nothing else about Dianne, then that is something that makes her unforgettable.

Dianne leaves to cherish her memory and mourn her absence: a beloved daughter, Dionne Ward; dearly loved friend, Victoria Francis; an Aunt Viola (Snooky) Glasby; cousins, Delores Robinson, Beverly Graham, Eddie Glasby, Richard Glasby, Lynn Mallory and Yvette Glasby; nephew, Nelson Wilkins, Jr.; a niece, Nicole Willheimer; and a host of nieces, nephews and cousins. She also leaves to mourn, her extended family, friends and colleagues from the Transit Authority and the New York Blood Center.

Order of Service

Processional

Selection

Scripture

Prayer

Selection

Acknowledgements

Remarks

Obituary

Eulogy

Selection

Committal

Viewing

Recessional



Interment

St. Michael's Cemetery
East Elmhurst, New York

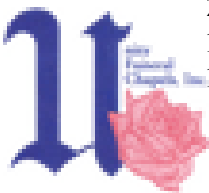
I'm Free

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free
I'm following the path God laid for me
I took his hand when I heard Him call
I turned my back and left it all.
I could not stay another day.
To laugh, to love, to work or play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way,
I found that peace at the close of day.
If my parting has left a void,
Then fill it up with remembered joy.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,
Oh, yes these things I too will miss.
Be not burdened with times of sorrow,
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.
My life's been full, I savored much.
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.
Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your heart and share with me,
God wanted me now, He set me free!

- author unknown

Acknowledgement

The family wishes to acknowledge with deep appreciation the many expressions of love, concern, and kindness shown to them during this time of bereavement.



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