

A woman with dark hair and red nail polish is singing into a black microphone. The background is a light blue sky with faint, large musical notes and a treble clef. The text is overlaid on the image.

*In Loving Memory
of*

Mary Canty

July 16, 1952 - November 23, 2010

Saturday, November 27, 2010 - 11:00 a.m.

NEW SALEM BAPTIST CHURCH

130 W. Kinney Street • Newark, New Jersey

Rev. John White, Officiating

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

The Obituary

*And I heard a voice from Heaven saying unto me.,
Write this: Blessed are the dead who from now on die in
the Lord. Yes, says the Spirit, they will rest from their
labors, for their works do follow them.*

Mary Canty was born Mary Catherine Davis on July 16, 1952 to Logan and Charlotte Davis in Savannah, Georgia.

On November 23, 2010, after a well fought battle with a lengthy illness, Mary answered the call to rest from her labors.

Mary lived her early childhood in Detroit, Michigan where her family relocated to when first leaving Georgia, before moving to Newark in the early 1960's. Once here, she was educated in the Newark School system, attending Burnett Street School and Arts High School of Fine and Performing Arts where she majored in music.

At an early age, Mary met and married Samuel Canty to which one child was born (Doretha Michelle) both have preceded her in death.

Mary has always had a desire to sing and she was inspired further by her late aunt, Callie Mae Glenn, who was also a great gospel singer. As the seed of her desires became cultivated and began to grow, Mary stepped out and ventured into the realm of music. Her first opportunity of singing with a gospel group was with Biolkly T. Scott and the Eruptors. Later on, she became a part of the "Voices of Tomorrow" under the leadership of Donnie Harper. She then took the skills she had developed and began performing with Na'Budda Function. As time went on, she became part of a rock group called "Hollie and the Italians." Wanting to take her skills higher, Mary joined "Storm" where she began doing background vocals and some recordings with Cissy Houston, Whitney Houston and Joe

Cocker. She has appeared on various radio and television shows. Mary has also performed “Sister Act” on more than one occasion while touring Europe, accompanied by her dear friend and adopted sister, Theresa Thomason. Mary also became known as one of the Shirells (a renowned female group of the 1960’s), as she filled the position, making it her own, while traveling locally and overseas. She was surely known for her soulful, sultry, yet silky control voice that would warm your heart.

Mary was a caring person, filled with compassion for everyone, especially children, and her two dogs, Danger and Jade. She had a zeal for life and expressed it through a giving heart and unconditional love. If you needed anything, and Mary had it, she would give it to you. She had a child-like manner; she loved people, and people loved her. She had a very special relationship with her spiritual son, Geraldo (Theo), her special friends, Greg Chavez and Theresa Thomason-Thomas, as well as her long time friend, Min. Beverly McKinley.

Mary was preceded in death by her husband, Samuel Canty; her infant daughter, Doretha Michelle; her father, Logan T. Davis, Sr.; three brothers, Vincent Davis, Nathaniel Davis, and Walter Davis. She leaves to cherish her memory: her mother, Charlotte; one daughter, Donella Robinson; three grandchildren, Porchia Brianna, and Preston, Jr., a step-granddaughter, LaAshia Nelson; two brothers, Logan T. Davis (Camille) of Atlanta, GA and Leavie Davis of W. VA; two sisters, Marie Davis of Miami, FL; Carolyn Brooks of Newark, NJ; a devoted longtime companion, David Nelson; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Mary Canty was loved by all she came in contact with and will be missed dearly. May she rest in peace in the house of the Lord.

Revelations 21:4

And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.

Order of Service

Prelude

Processional

Selection

Scripture Reading
Old Testament
New Testament

Prayer

Remarks

Obituary

Solo

Eulogy Rev. John White

Final Viewing

Recessional

Final Disposition

Fairmount Crematory

Newark, New Jersey



After Glow

*I'd like the memory of me
to be a happy one,
I'd like to leave an afterglow
of smiles when day is done.
I'd like to leave an echo
whispering softly down the ways,
Of happy times and laughing times
and bright and sunny days.
I'd like the tears of those who grieve
to dry before the sun
Of happy memories that I leave behind,
when day is done.*

Acknowledgement

*The family of **Mary Canty** would like to express their gratitude for your prayers and every act of love extended during their time of bereavement. May God bless each of you.*

Professional Services Provided By:

Perry Funeral Home, Inc.

**34 Mercer Street
Newark, New Jersey
(973) 824-9201**

www.perryfuneralhome.com