

Celebration of Life
for



Bessie L. Brown

Sunrise

May 30, 1954

Sunset

January 4, 2011

Tuesday, January 11, 2011 - 11:00 a.m.

COTTON FUNERAL SERVICE

1025 Bergen Street • Newark, NJ 07112

Rev. Lula Baker, Officiating

Reflections Of Life

Bessie Laverne Brown a.k.a. Vonne, was born May 30, 1954 to Bessie Harmon-Jones and Elmore Brown in Oglethorpe, Georgia. She moved to New Jersey at the age of six to go to school and lived with her aunt, Delsie until her mother also moved to New Jersey from Georgia. Bessie attended and graduated from Maple Avenue Elementary School, Weequahic High School and Morris Brown College.

Bessie was a recent retiree from the United States Department of the Treasury (IRS) where she worked for thirty-one years. During the last years of her employment, she worked as a Taxpayer Advocate, helping taxpayers with different tax issues. She definitely worked at the right place because she asked so many questions and would keep asking them until she received the right answer.

She was a member of New Hope Baptist Church for many years. While in attendance at New Hope, she was a member of the Youth Ministry. She loved children and loved working with them, she would do all she could to help a young person in need. That included helping with college applications so they could go to school and get the education needed for a good paying job. She always tried to instill the necessity of a college education.

She loved to take pictures and always took numerous pictures at family and church functions. Vonne also loved her family; she always tried to keep in touch with family members here in New Jersey and also with the ones that were far away in other cities. She had a loving heart and would give you the shirt off her back if she knew you were in need. She also was the kind of person that would definitely let you know how she felt; she did not hold back and would tell you exactly what was on her mind.

Vonne was a very friendly person that had many lifelong friends from work, school and church that she loved very much, such as Sharon, Lorraine, Yvonne, Joan and many more that are too numerous to mention. They have been good friends over the years and even though they did not speak to each other for months or even for years they still remained friends and eventually got in touch with each other.

A special person in her heart is her beautiful niece, Tamika Brown. Vonne loved Tamika like she was her own child. When she was a little girl, Vonne and Tamika did everything together. They were bosom buddies and she made sure that her niece did not want for anything.

Vonne was preceded in death by her mother, Bessie Harmon-Jones. She leaves to cherish her precious memory: her sister, Mildred Brown; her nieces, Tamika Brown and Mary Wiley; best friends, Sharon Price-Cates, Esq., Lorraine Crawford, Yvonne Perry and Joan Foushee; three beautiful godchildren, Danielle Crawford-Burroughs, Tiffany Cates and Jeran Crawford; numerous aunts, uncles, cousins and friends. Special mention is also given to Aunt Delsie for all her help when Vonne needed to go to the doctor; also her extended families, the Bond family, the Eaddy family, the Jackson family and the Montford family.

Order of Service

Prelude

Processional

Scripture Reading

Old Testament - Isaiah 14:10

New Testament - John 14:1-3

Prayer Joan Foushee

Solo Emory Lee

Remarks Family & Friends

Poem Europe Harmon

Solo Emory Lee

Reflections of Life Tamika Brown

Eulogy Rev. Lula Baker

Recessional

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| <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Interment</u> Fairmount Cemetery Newark, New Jersey</p> |
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*Following the interment friends are invited to
join the family for the repast at
Longshoremen's Hall
731 South 10th Street • Newark, NJ*



She's Free

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

*Lovingly Submitted by
Mildred Brown*

Acknowledgement

*Perhaps you sent a lovely card or sat quietly in a chair.
Perhaps you sent a floral piece If so, we saw it there.
Perhaps you prayed a sincere prayer, or come to pay a call;
Perhaps you sang a cheerful song, if so, we heard it all.
Perhaps you spoke the kindest words, as any friend could say.
Perhaps you were not there at all just thought of us that day.
Perhaps you prepared a tasty dish, or furnished a car.
Perhaps you rendered a service unseen, near at hand or from afar.
Whatever you did to console our hearts, by word or deed or touch;
Whatever was the kindly part, we thank you, oh, so very much.*

*Love,
The Brown Family*

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

Personal Reflection

To Aunt Vonne

I'm very sad because God took you away from me, Naquan, Scooty, Auntie Mildred, Auntie Miqa and Mommy. You are my favorite aunt. Thank you for your love and for babysitting us at night so my Mommy can work.

I am so sorry for not listening to you when you helped me with my homework. I will not forget you. Now you will have no more pain Auntie Vonne and you will not be sick anymore. I will take care of Scooty for you. Thank you for everything you did for me and my family. I will always love you Aunt Vonne.



Love,
Iyania and Scooty

Dear Auntie Vonne,

I am very sad right now. I really love you. God took you to heaven. I know you will be ok. You took good care of us. Thank you Auntie. I can't believe that I will not see you in the morning or after school. I will miss getting your newspaper, taking out the trash and getting your mail. I will be thinking of you every day of my life.

I'm sorry for being bad at school. I promise to try hard to be good. Please come to visit me when I'm sleep so I won't be scared anymore.

I love you Auntie Vonne. Scooty asks for you every day. Thank you for everything Auntie Vonne. You are an angel now. See you later Auntie Vonne. Sleep good in Heaven. I love you. ~ Love, Naquan



