In Loving Memory of

Christine Alston

Sunrise December 16, 1935 Sunset January 12, 2011

<u>Service</u> Wednesday, January 19, 2011 - 10:00 a.m. **GRACE CHAPEL BAPTIST CHURCH** 22 Haledon Ave. Paterson, New Jersey

Rev. Gregory Wilson, Pastor

<u>Reflections of Life</u>

Christine Alston was born in Selma, Alabama on December 16, 1935 to the late Willie Morrison and Leola Murray (Frank Murray). In 1953, Christine relocated to Paterson, New Jersey where she would reside until she quietly departed on Wednesday, January 12, 2011 at the age of 75. She was the wife of the late James Robert Alston who preceded her in death on January 4, 1992. Also preceding her in death are two daughters, Julia Faye Morrison and Susie Ann Wise and brother, Robert Reynolds.

Christine's working career in New Jersey began as a caregiver in the home of the late Dr. Ackerman, of Ridgewood, NJ. She was later employed at Van Guard Plastics located on Mill Street; Paterson, NJ for nearly twenty dedicated years, where she was also a member of the Teamsters Union. During this same time, she pursued certification in the field of home health aide. For a number of years after receiving her certification, she administered in-home care for those she never saw as 'patients', but as people and ultimately as friends. One of her greatest accomplishments was receiving her GED after attending night school at the Passaic County Community College in Paterson. She was a proud graduate in the class of 1985.

Some people knew her as "Mrs. Alston", some knew her as "Miss Teen"...we knew her as "Mommy" and "Grandma". Despite how anyone came into relationship with her, everyone knew her as a person who would sacrifice her own comfort, to give to others. On any given Sunday, you could walk into her house-her home was literally an open door-and before you made it across the threshold the smell of Sunday dinner would fill your nostrils. No matter what, you could always count on dinner at Mommy's house. Long after her children had grown up and moved on, she still cooked enough food to feed an army.

She was well respected in her neighborhood on Chestnut Street, where she purchased her home back in 1970. Most of us grew up in that big house at 24 Chestnut Street and it was during a time when people, like herself, believed that it still took a village to raise a child. She looked out for the best interest of everyone and nothing meant more to her than her family. She was a firm believer that a family that prays together stays together. So she taught us to pray and she was determined to keep her family together; to the extent that after raising her own children, she took on the challenge and burden of raising a number of grandchildren and great-grandchildren. God used her to help a lot of people. She was a hero to so many. No amount of years she had on this earth could diminish the feeling that she was gone too soon.

Left to honor her memory are: five sons, Jerry Morrison (Malette) of North Carolina, James Alston, Jr. (Juanita) of Paterson, NJ, Harold Alston and Elder William Alston (Cassie) of Richmond, VA and Darren Alston (Judith) of Orange, MA; six daughters, Billy Joyce Morrison of Fredricksburg, Virginia, Patricia McNeil, Leola Hargrove (Marvin), Linda Jenkins (Samdeceased), Christine Workhoven (Charles) and Susie Morrison of Paterson, NJ; four brothers, King Murray (Edna) of Paterson, NJ, George Murray, Johnny Murray (Margie) and James Murray (Cachita) of Bowling Green, Virginia; one sister, Jean Hill (Robert) of Paterson, NJ; thirty grandchildren; thirty-three great-grandchildren; four great-great-grandchildren; devoted friends, Margarite Harper, Betsy Wallace, Frankie Alois and Naomi Ferguson; along with a host of nieces, nephews, and other friends.

Neither time nor space can accommodate all of the wonderful thoughts, memories and remarks that can certainly be shared about this great woman. We are grateful that as long as we live, we have the ability to revisit those memories at any time and smile over and over again. Our loss is heaven's gain, for truly she was an angel among us.



Prelude

Opening Sentences

Recessional

Interment

Laurel Grove Cemetery Totowa, New Jersey

The family will receive friends following the service at Grace Chapel Baptist Church.

H Beautiful Story

One smile from you was worth a million tears. One touch from you erased all of our fears. Your giving heart has blessed so many. With little to share, your love made it plenty. You reminded us, with God, we are never alone. And no matter our journeys, we could always come home. You taught us to pray and you taught us to stand, And to always hold on to God's unchanging hand. You filled our ears with spiritual hymns, Which came from a place of faith within. But alas, this is our farewell for now. It's time for you to claim your crown. Enjoy your well-earned rest in His glory. The Great Author has finished a magnificent story.

> Written by: Mia Daughety Dedicated to you - our mother, grandmother, sister and friend. We love you and will miss you dearly...

<u>Acknowledgement</u>

The family acknowledges with deep appreciation all acts of kindness extended to them during this bereavement hour. God bless you for all your thoughtfulness and concern.

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