

Home Going Service of



Winifred C. Tolbert

Sunrise
October 2, 1927

Sunset
January 23, 2011

Service

Tuesday, February 1, 2011 - 7:00 p.m.

MT. ARARAT BAPTIST CHURCH

27 Elm Street
Rutherford, New Jersey

Rev. Ray Frasier, Pastor

Reflections of Life

Winifred Marie Tolbert affectionately known as "Winnie" was born to the late Ray and Elsie Cathey on October 2, 1927 in East Rutherford, NJ.

She attended the local schools graduating from East Rutherford High School. Winnie was very active in sports during her school years. She furthered her education and graduated from William Paterson University with a Bachelor Degree in Education.

In 1949 Winnie was joined in matrimony to the late Robert Johnson. From this union they welcomed two children, David and Robin.

She was a member of the Silhouette Basketball Team, the ladies were coached by her husband, Robert "Bob" Johnson. Before moving to Bloomfield, NJ in 1968 they resided in Rutherford, NJ where Winnie was active in politics and President of The Board of Recreation for fifteen years. Starting in 1954 she would become employed as a teacher with the Paterson School system. In 1965 she began teaching at John F. Kennedy High School where she taught business education. Winnie rose to the position of Coordinator for the Corporative Business Educative Work Study Program, a position she held until her retirement in 1992. Jacqueline Jones, M. Ed., Chief of Staff Office of the State District, Superintendent Paterson Public School District writes; "Mrs. Winifred (Johnson) Tolbert was a teacher's teacher, a compassionate and loving spirit. She taught students how to face struggles while improving their self worth, along with classroom lessons she showed students how to develop and sharpen their employability skills and how to choose the proper paths wherever they may go in life. Mrs. Tolbert was one of a kind, loved and professionally respected by many throughout the district."

Winnie was always sharing her energy and talents. She enjoyed charity work and was very active in the community. She was a faithful member and Deaconess at Mt. Ararat Baptist Church, Rutherford, NJ. There she held many titles such as Assistant Chairman of the Deaconess Board, President of the choir, the Pastor's Aid, the Missionary Board and the Mt. Ararat Bowling Team, Coordinator of the church Beautification (flower lady) and the Woman's Club. Always a lover of great fashion Winnie hosted many fashion show luncheons fueled by her quick wit and humor those fashion shows were must attend events! Garnering her a large, loyal fan base.

Winnie was predeceased by her son, David Johnson and a sister, Rae Williams.

Winifred Marie "Winnie" Tolbert suddenly entered into eternal rest on Sunday, January 23, 2011.

She was the beloved wife to, Joseph Tolbert; devoted mother of Robin Yilmaz; cherished grandmother of Joshua Yilmaz; also surviving are two sisters, Waunona Hillgrove of Passaic, NJ and Kay Macon of Charlotte, NC; a goddaughter, Darcel (niece) Watson; loving nephews, Kevin Hillgrove and William (Hillgrove) Rozembersky; many spiritual children; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Order of Service

Prelude

The Master's Words *John 11:25,26*

Invocation

Her Testimony In Song *"Oh How I Love Jesus" (No. 362)*

Thy Word

Lamp (OT) *Isaiah 40:28-31*

Light (NT) *Rev. 21:1-7; 1 Thess 4:13-18*

A Song In My Heart *"He Knows Just How Much We Can Bear"*
(No. 537)

Prayer of Comfort *Rev. Sherrone Ingram*

Solo *"His Eye Is On The Sparrow"*
Sister Francois Baltzer

Church and Family Acknowledgments

Life's Reflections

Solo *"I Won't Complain"*
Cheryl Lynn McGriff

Message *"The Touch of Morning"*

Triumph Song *"It's a Highway to Heaven"*

Committal Rights

Benediction

Interment

*East Ridgelawn Cemetery
Clifton, New Jersey*

The Master Called

I'm sorry I had to leave you.
My loved ones, oh so dear.
But you see, the Master called me,
His voice was very clear!
I had made my reservation
A heaven bound ticket for one,
And I knew that He would call me
When He felt my work was done.
I know that your hearts are heavy
Because I have gone away,
But when the Master called me,
I knew that I could not stay.
Yes, I'm sorry I had to leave you
My loved ones, oh so dear,
But, you see, the Master called me
And, now I'm resting here.
Yes, I've crossed on over to glory
And to you all I say
Just stay in the hands of Jesus
And we'll meet again someday.

-Author unknown

Acknowledgement

*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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