

*In Loving Memory Of*

*Grace E. Butler*

*Sunrise*

*February 6, 1940*

*Sunset*

*February 11, 2011*

*Services*

*Saturday, February 19, 2011 - 11:00 a.m.*

**FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH**

144 West 131st Street

New York, NY

*Pastor Sherrie Rock, Officiating*

# Obituary

*Who can find a virtuous woman, for her price is far above rubies (Proverbs 31:10)*

**Grace Elizabeth Butler** was born on February 6, 1940 to York and Leola Sellers in Bennettsville, SC. She was the fifth of eight children, five boys and three girls. She was born and raised in Bennettsville, SC and always dreamed of moving to the Big City. After turning eighteen her dream became a reality. Soon after, she began working as a waitress at Butler's Restaurant where she met the love of her life, a top chef, Morrell Butler, who took Grace to be his lawfully wedded wife, to have and behold until death do they part.

Our beloved mother, Grace Butler, affectionately called Mother Butler was a God-fearing, virtuous woman. The love she had for her children was unconditional. She always encouraged her children to put God first and Mother Butler lived by example. She was abundantly blessed with the attributes of patience, kindness and obedience. In fact, her most recognized attribute was that of being a great listener, because she always lended a listening ear to those who needed her.

Mother Butler was a devoted member of Vision of Faith Ministries for the past seven years. She served faithfully under the leadership of her daughter, Pastor Sherrie Rock. She also served as a trustee and the church's drummer. Beating to the rhythms led by the Holy Spirit, Mother Butler would have the Vision of Faith congregation hand clapping and foot stomping to songs like "So Glad" and "Lord I Just Want to Thank You".

Mother Butler worked as a Family Worker with the Board of Education. After working in this profession for over thirty years, she retired in order to spend time with her family to travel and to devote her many talents and gifts to ministry.

Mother Butler was blessed with exceptional culinary skills. Mama's kitchen was always emanating with aromas from hot breakfasts, Sunday's dinners, and sweet desserts. Everyone loved Mother Butler's cooking and will always remember Mama's kitchen.

Mother Butler was the matriarch of the family and the stitch that kept the seams of the family sewn together through prayer, for she truly believed that prayer changes things and with prayer she knew one had much power. She instilled in her children and grandchildren character traits such as; integrity, humility, gratitude, and servitude. All of these were traits that Mother Butler exhibited.

Even as Mother Butler advanced in years she remained in good spirits and her mind was as sharp as a tack. In spite of the stumbling blocks she encountered on life's journey, Mother Butler always put God first and kept joy in her heart and praise on her lips, for she knew that the Lord was her Shepard and he would lead her in the path of righteousness and she was "So Glad" about it.

When God made Grace Elizabeth Butler he truly molded and crafted a unique and remarkable woman.

Mother Grace Butler leaves to cherish her memories: four children, Raymond (Molly) Sellers of NC, Sherrie (Eddie) Rock, of NY, Carolyn Butler of Maryland and Latasha Butler of Maryland; one sister, Shirley Coachman of SC; her eldest sister, Bernice Thomas preceded her in death; five brothers, Willie Sellers of Maryland, John Sellers of SC, Woodrow Sellers of Maryland, Jerome Sellers of Maryland and York Sellers of SC; eight grandchildren, LaTonya, Ramons, Eddie, Tamika, Tiara, Reginald, Raven and Ryan; two great grandchildren, Z'aire and Zakai; two step grandchildren, one aunt, Odessa; one uncle, Howard; and a host of beloved nieces, nephews, cousins, dedicated friends, church family and neighbors.

# *Order of Service*

Processional ..... Pastor Rock, Apostle Jones, The Family

The March ..... Praise & Worship Team

Prayer of Comfort ..... Pastor Deidre Copps

Scripture Reading  
    Old Testament ..... Pastor Joseph Smart  
    New Testament ..... Pastor Audrey Smart

Words of Comfort ..... Evangelist Dee Dee Cunningham

Solo ..... Missionary Virginia Simmons

Poem ..... Latasha Butler

Selection ..... Vision of Faith Choir

Acknowledgements ..... Rhonda Wilson

Reflections ..... One minute or less please

Selection ..... Visionaires

Obituary ..... Denise Lyles

Selection ..... Gospel Inspirational Choir

Eulogy ..... Pastor Sherrie Rock

Solo ..... Tamika Lesare

Special Selection ..... Mommy's Favorite

Benediction ..... Pastor Sherrie Rock

Recessional

## **Interment**

*Mount Rest Cemetery  
Butler, New Jersey*

# *The Best Mom Ever*

*By Carolyn Butler*

There is no mistake in why I thought I had the best mom ever. I grew up in a household engulfed with love and respect. One in which I knew my boundaries and knew the hand that governed did so with loving care. Care enough not to break or wound my spirit. I often testify; this little girl from Harlem was rich. There were no hungry days, nor was there any discourse in my home. My mom (dad) provided a home where there was sanctity of peace. There were no fights – except maybe those of me and Sherrie, in which my mom would get the afro comb and “pop” our hands - that was enough for me. I came home to hot meals and a clean room (even into my college days). I would get advice from a humble spirit. She extended her love and care to my children and I can truly say she has had an impact on their lives as well.

Today I am guided by my mother's principles. She walked with her swag and with her head held high. She had integrity beyond compare. She had the strength of a mule and she served as she would have wanted to be served. Although there are many attributes she instilled in me, I believe the greatest is respect, respect for self and others.

I thank God for giving me the best mom ever.

## *Acknowledgement*

The family would like to thank all of you for your heart-felt wishes and prayers of comfort. We would like to thank you for the cards, words of kindness and all expressions of condolences. May God continue to bless you as well.



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*Clifford V. James, V.P. & Gen. Mgr.*

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