

*Celebrating the Life and Home Going
of*

*Evangelist
Tonda Marie Hughes*

1961 - 2011

Services

Monday, June 20, 2011 - 7:00 p.m.

Faith Temple Original Free Will Baptist Church

Main and Halsted Streets • East Orange, New Jersey

***Bishop L.N. Forbes, Pastor
Elder Vincent Johnson, Presider***

“Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.”

Revelation 2:10

Obituary

On Thursday, June 9, 2011, **Evangelist Tonda Marie Hughes** was promoted to glory. She was born in Newark, NJ on September 9, 1961 to the late Reverend Frederick Hughes and Evangelist Beatrice Hughes.

Tonda received her formal education in the East Orange and Newark School systems. She graduated from Barringer High School with honors in 1980. Tonda received her Bachelor's degree in Finance and Business Administration from Rutgers University in 1986, Newark, NJ. She also received a certificate in Counseling in the field of Mental Health, Rutgers University. In March 2011, she received a degree in Information Management from Essex County College, Newark, NJ. Sister Tonda Hughes was employed by the Veterans Administration in East Orange, NJ and was also a successful licensed Real Estate agent at Jordan Baris Real Estate.

At an early age, Tonda Marie made her commitment to Christ under the leadership of the late Apostle Arturo Skinner, Founder and Pastor of the Deliverance Evangelistic Centers Worldwide.

Evangelist Hughes' commitment to Christ led to her conversion, sanctification and baptism with the precious gift of the Holy Ghost. Tonda later moved her membership to New Jerusalem Holiness Church, Montclair, NJ, under the leadership of the late Bishop Frederick Shaw. She continued to serve faithfully in the ministry and was elevated to Deaconess and licensed as an Evangelist. She was blessed to serve in the following capacities: church clerk, Sunday School teacher, business administrator, associate minister, missionary and various other duties under the leadership of Pastor Ann Dieujuste.

Evangelist Tonda Hughes was very talented and was a spiritual icon in the Ministry. She is known for her ability to encourage, motivate, inspire and bring hope to many young people throughout the metropolitan area.

Tonda was a great inspiration to the older saints as well as the youth. She had a great sense of humor and went out of her way to help people from all walks of life. She also had an outstanding love for her family and was a great support. In addition, she was blessed to participate in the following ministries: she organized services at Van Dyke Nursing Home in Montclair, NJ for over fifteen years; Melting Pot, Newark, NJ a ministry for women with substance abuse issues; participation in Outreach services every third Sunday at the Veterans Hospital, East Orange, NJ; hospital visitation; supported various charities for breast cancer, the heart association and Multiple Sclerosis. *To God be the Glory!*

Evangelist Tonda Hughes had a unique calling as exhorter and encourager in the body of Christ. The rich legacy she leaves will be remembered and cherished by her family.

Tonda was Sister, Aunt, Niece, Cousin and Friend.... She leaves to cherish a host of fond memories: one sister, Elder Tammie Robinson of Rye, NY; one brother-in-law, Evangelist Junius Robinson of Rye, NY; nephew/brother, Majadi Hughes (Sharon) of Columbia, SC; nieces and nephews, Lisa Hughes-Russell (Kirk) of Seattle, WA, Joel Hughes of Newark, NJ, Terrell Hughes (Tyola) of Newark, NJ, Hasan Hughes of Atlanta, GA, Emmanuel Hughes of Brooklyn, NY, Christopher Hughes of Orange, NJ, Frederick J. Hughes of Seattle, WA, Delores and Ashley Hughes of Hillside, NJ; two aunts, Bessie Garretson of Newark, NJ and Sally Hughes of Roselle, NJ; one uncle, Theodore Garretson of Newark, NJ; two sisters-in-law, Malinda Hughes of Seattle, WA and Dallos Hughes of Hillside, NJ; a special goddaughter, Vernesha Hutchinson of North Plainfield, NJ; godmother, Elder Mother Bernice Shaw; special sister friends, Ms. Karen Hunt, Ms. Betty Wade, Mrs. Latifa Thompson, Mrs. Della Howard and Ms. Zandra Everett; a special friend, "Nana" Hazel Davis; cousin/brothers, Norris Shields of Milford, DE and Edward Hughes, Jr. of Roselle, NJ; godbrother, Dr. Albert Lewis; and a host of cousins, nieces, nephews, spiritual children, friends and the New Jerusalem Holiness Church family.

I'll Be There

*If ever there's a moment
When you need a friend to listen
If ever someone can reach out
To dry the tears that glisten
I'll be there*

*If ever you have special needs
And hope someone will see them
If ever you have secrets
And would like a friend to free them
I'll be there*

*If you just need encouragement
To help you on the way
If you just need a cheerful voice
To pull you through the day
I'll be there.*

*If you need one who cares a lot
And thinks about you often
If you need one who shares your hopes
Your worries strives to soften
I'll be there*

*If you would like to be yourself
With someone who respects you
If you need one who understands
How all of life affects you
I'll be there.*

Acknowledgements

*The family acknowledges with deep appreciation all acts of kindness
extended to them during this bereavement hour.*

Professional Services Provided By:

Perry Funeral Home, Inc.

**34 Mercer Street
Newark, New Jersey
(973) 824-9201
www.perryfuneralhome.com**