

In Loving Memory of
Maria Hooks

Sunrise
September 2, 1926

Sunset
October 20, 2011

Service

Thursday, October 27, 2011 - 7:00 p.m.

UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.

2352 8th Avenue
New York, New York 10027

Rev. Edward R. Culvert, Officiating
Rev. David Jenkins, Organist

Obituary

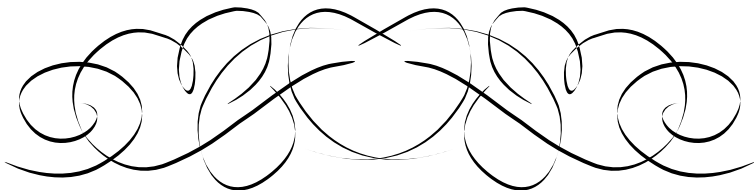
One day in September, a bright, sunny, little baby girl was born in Leslie, Georgia to Milton and Artist Hooks. She did the things that all little babies do, she stole the hearts and love of her parents and her sisters and brothers. Her sisters, Mable Thomas, Gladys Hodge, Rosa and Mildred Hoston, and her brothers, Dewitt, Milton Jr., Ford, Eston and Charlie, preceded her in death, as did her mother and father. But she lived a little girls life on the farm.

Although times during her growing up years were hard, **Maria** finished the Nunn School in Americus, Georgia. Her grandfather was a school teacher and ardently impressed upon all of the children the importance of a good schooling. In fact he insisted upon it. Maria, as one of the Hooks kids, was no exception to the rule. The Hooks children were well mannered, but they had their fun. In the country, you could go fishing, or play with grass dolls. You could make clothes for your doll, cook food and have a good time being one of the girls.

After finishing Nunn School, she came to live with her sister in Savannah, Georgia. There she enrolled in Savannah State College. Her major was business administration. Maria was always aware of the hardships that her parents suffered through. Money was tight in those days and she was determined to give her parents all that she could. After a few semesters at Savannah State she decided over very strenuous objections, to come to New York.

In New York she worked as a typist and secretary. She was the first black woman to work as a professional at Penn Station. She sent money home to her parents and gave much to her nieces and nephews. We have not forgotten her beauty. It was breathtaking and so she modeled for many magazines.

Finally she met her David and they shared the ups and downs of true love and were together for many years, he also preceded her in death. From that union were born Fawn and David Lebanon. Later she had Valerie, Billie and Danielle. Maria leaves to mourn her passing: her children, loving Fawn Christian-Thurman, David Lebanon Christian, Valerie Bond, William Forestier and Daniella Baez; her loving grandchildren, Kyonna Thurman, Ebony Thurman, T'keyah Thurman, Xavier Bond, April Bond, Steven Baez, Christopher Baez and Maya Baez; her loving great grandchildren, Kyna Almeda, Xavier Bond Jr., Giovanna Donaldson and Londynn Dickerson; sons-in-law, Rudolph Thurman, Arthur Bond and Herminio Baez; her devoted nieces and nephews, Alonzo Thomas, Yvonne Matthews, Elise Post, Yvette Banks, Guy Hodge Jr., Imogene Wright and William Hoston; a devoted family friend, Karriem Almeyda; and a host of great nieces and great nephews.





I'm Free

*Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free
I'm following the path God laid for me
I took his hand when I heard Him call
I turned my back and left it all.*

I could not stay another day.

*To laugh, to love, to work or play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way,
I found that peace at the close of day.*

*If my parting has left a void,
Then fill it up with remembered joy.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,
Oh, yes these things I too will miss.
Be not burdened with times of sorrow,
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.
My life's been full, I savored much.*

*Good friends, good times,
a loved one's touch.*

*Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your heart and share with me,
God wanted me now, He set me free!*

-author unknown

Acknowledgement

The family wishes to express their deep appreciation and sincere thanks for your kindness during a time of sorrow.

2352 8th Avenue • Manhattan, NY • (212) 666-8300
1406 Pitkin Avenue • Brooklyn, NY • (718) 774-1023
1018 Prospect Avenue • Bronx, NY • (718) 542-3833

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

www.unityfuneralchapels.com

email: unityfc@aol.com

"Your Loved Ones Deserve The Best - Unity"

Order of Service

Prayer

Old Testament Lesson Pamela Crawford

New Testament Lesson

Special Music Patrice Clark

23rd Psalm (in unison)

The Lord is My Shepherd; I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures;
He leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul.
He leadeth me in the path of righteousness for His name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil; for Thou art with me;
Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies.
Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life;
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Special Music Pam Hamilton Hymn

Obituary

Special Music Imogene Mildred Wright

Eulogy

Prayer: The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is
in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive
us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not
into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is
the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever.
Amen.

Hymn: *“Saved By Grace”*

Someday the silver cord will break,
And I no more shall sing;
But O, the joy when I shall wake;
within the palaces of the King!

[Chorus]

*And I shall see Him face to face,
and tell the story saved by grace;
And I shall see Him face to face,
And tell the story saved by grace.*

Someday my earthly house shall fall,
I cannot tell how soon twill be;
But this I know my All in All
Has now a place in heaven for me.

[Chorus]

Someday, when fades the golden sun,
Beneath the rosy, tinted west,
My blessed Lord will say,
“Well done!” And I shall enter into rest.

[Chorus]

Someday, til then I'll watch AND wait,
My lamp all trimmed and burning bright,
That when my Savior opens the gate, My
soul to Him may take its flight.

[Chorus]

Commendation and Benediction

Postlude and Procession

Interment

Forest Green Memorial Park Cemetery
Morganville, New Jersey