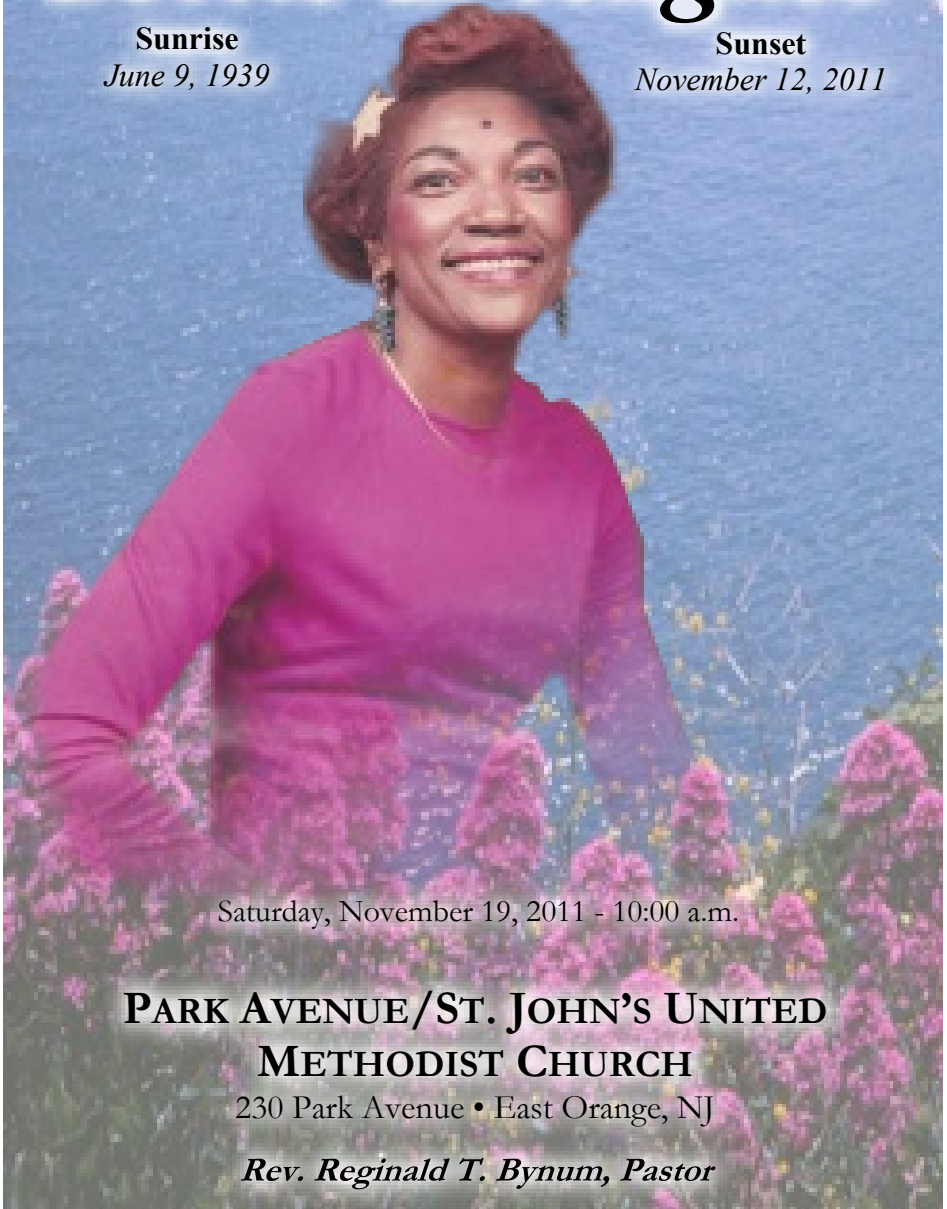


In Loving Memory
of
Bettie L. Hughes

Sunrise
June 9, 1939

Sunset
November 12, 2011



Saturday, November 19, 2011 - 10:00 a.m.

**PARK AVENUE/ST. JOHN'S UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**

230 Park Avenue • East Orange, NJ

Rev. Reginald T. Bynum, Pastor

Obituary

BETTIE L. HUGHES was born on June 9, 1939 in Cumberland County, NC, to Robert and Alma Hughes. She departed this life on November 12, 2011 at Mountainside Hospital at the age of 72.

As a child, the family relocated from North Carolina and settled in Jersey City, NJ. Bettie excelled in school and enjoyed attending church at Bethesda Baptist Church. While at Snyder High School, she met and fell in love with Timothy Rivers, and Tim and Bettie married in 1957. They had two children together, Timothy and Lynette Rivers.

After her marriage to Tim Rivers, Bettie was a single mother raising two young children and working as a teller for Marine Midland Bank. In 1963, Bettie met relocated Alabama native Samuel D. Watson. In December 1963, Samuel and Bettie married and from this union, two children were born, Rhonda Lynn and Rodney Watson.

While raising her children, Bettie loved sewing and often made original, one-of-a-kind outfits for herself and her children. Bettie continued to pursue her goal of teaching and attained one of her proudest accomplishments when she earned her Bachelor's Degree in Teaching from Jersey City State College in 1973. She taught elementary reading in the Jersey City & the Paterson Public School system. After teaching in the public schools, Bettie worked as part-time reading tutor.

Bettie was a loving mother, wife, sister and daughter. She always had a beautiful voice and she often sang with the church choir and gave a hearty shout out of "Hallelujah" and "Praise the Lord". She was a faithful member of Trinity Episcopal Church in Montclair, NJ and Park Avenue/St. John's United Methodist Church in East Orange, NJ. She enjoyed a full life surrounded by her grandchildren and she was lovingly cared for by her daughter, Rhonda. She was known by many friends as "Bettie La Starr". She also embraced her Cherokee Indian heritage, collecting and sporting many natural feathers.

Bettie leaves to mourn her two sons, Timothy Rivers (Pamela) of Scotch Plains, NJ; Rodney Watson (Marcella), of Somerville, NJ; one daughter, Rhonda Watson, of Belleville, NJ; seven grandchildren, Robert, Thomas, Terrell, Tanaya, Imani, Gretchen and Lincoln; seven great-grandchildren, Kyree, Kyala, Kyzia, Anya, Malajah, Aliyah and Jaylen; one sister, Corine Foster of Jersey City, NJ; a special aunt, Lorene Greene of East Orange, NJ; and a host of aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

She is predeceased by her parents and a daughter, Lynette Rivers Owerido.

Order of Service

Processional.....Clergy and Family

Opening Hymn

Prayer of Comfort

Scripture Reading

Old Testament - Psalm 23

New Testament - Revelation 21:1-7

Words of Comfort.....Friends and Family

Selection.....Imania Women's Chorus

Obituary

Selection....."God Has Smiled On Me"

Eulogy.....Rev. Reginald T. Bynum

Recessional



Interment

Machpelah Cemetery
North Bergen, New Jersey



After Glow

I'd like the memory of me
To be a happy one,
I'd like to leave an afterglow
Of smiles when day is done.
I'd like to leave an echo
Whispering softly down the ways,
Of happy times and laughing times
And bright and sunny days.
I'd like the tears of those who grieve
To dry before the sun
Of happy memories that I leave behind,
When my day is done.



With Grateful Appreciation

The family would like to express heartfelt gratitude to everyone for the kindness, encouragement, and support that they have shown during this difficult time. The passing of our loved one makes us realize what it is to have great friends. Every prayer, visit, flower, card, thought, as well as the many other ways in which kindness was shown, has been deeply appreciated. We shall never forget.

*Respectfully,
The Family*

Obituary written by Rhonda Watson

After the interment family and friends are invited to return to the church for the repast.

Professional Services Provided By

COTTON FUNERAL SERVICE
130 Main Street
Orange, NJ
973-675-6400

1025 Bergen Street
Newark, NJ
973-926-6400

COTTON-PARKER FUNERAL HOME
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