Celebrating the Life of



Sunrise September 8, 1955 Sunset April 25, 2012

<u>Service</u> Saturday, April 28, 2012 - 8:30 a.m.

UNITY MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

98 Putnam Street Paterson, New Jersey *Rev. Ethel Bland, Officiating*

<u>Reflections of Life</u>

Being absent from the body is to be present with the LORD.

Mattie Richardson, a gracious soul, departed this earthly home to go to her eternal home with our father, where every day is Sunday.

Mattie was born September 8, 1955 in Paterson, NJ to the late Jessie Mae Buxton and Alister Alston. She was preceded in death by her brother, Alister Alston, Jr., and a brother-in-law, Ronnie Ates. Mattie is the eldest of six children. She was also a mother and a father to them as well.

She spent her entire life in the city of Paterson, where she attended Public School #3, #8, and Eastside Annex. She graduated from John F. Kennedy High School. She was employed as a Laundry Aide at Christian Health Care Center in Wyckoff, NJ for fifteen years.

Mattie was a friend and a helper to all regardless of whether she knew them or not. She was always there for others.

At an early age, Mattie joined and was baptized at the Solid Rock Baptist Church in Paterson under Rev. Timothy Fennell.

Later in life she joined Unity Missionary Baptist Church, where she served as president of the Pastor's Aides, was a member of the Emergency Choir, and supported other organizations in the church. She was a faithful member who put GOD first. She was always encouraging others to seek GOD, get an education, and do the right thing in life. She was a mother to all. Mattie was a family person who loved family gatherings. She had a love for TRAVELING, SHOPPING, EATING OUT and BINGO.

Mattie leaves to cherish her wonderful memories: a loving and devoted husband, Sam "Robert" Richardson; four sons, Tion Richardson and Woody Lawrence of Paterson, Robert and Ronald Richardson of Newport News, Virginia; three daughter, Brenda, Marie and Sonya Richardson of Paterson, NJ; special godchild, Bre'Niyah Molina; one sister, Joanne Ates; three brothers, John Buxton (Rena), Louis Alston, Samuel Alston (Brenda) all of Paterson; sisters-in-law, Bernice Alston of Paterson, Yvonne Mackey (Samuel), Janice Macon (Robert), Marie Auther (Robert), Leola Shiloh (Moses), Lottie Chandler (T.C.) of Eastover, SC; one brother-in-law, Rufus Richardson, Eastover, SC.

A loving grandmother, Mattie Buxton; five special great aunts, Johnnie Mae, Katie, Mary, Molise and Louise; two special nieces, Shawanda Ates, Shanee Alston; three special nephews, Ronnie Ates, Jermaine Ates and Sincere Lugo, who she helped raise; a dear cousin, Julie Prescott; special and devoted friends, Elizabeth Watley, Elese Johnson, Bonita Davis, Annie McCrimmon and Alice Belton and Theodore Collier; and an abundance of nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives, friends, and neighbors. Mattie our lives have changed for ever. We will miss that warm sweet smile.

To my darling wife I will always cherish our wonderful years we spent together.

<u>Order of Service</u>

Prelude

Processional	soft music
Selection	."Sweet, Sweet Spirit" Mass Choir
Prayer of Comfort	Robert Ates
Scripture Old Testament New Testament	
Selection"He Done	e Enough" Geneva and Mass Choir
Reflections	Julie Prescott
Selection	
Words of Comfort	Rev. Dr. Ethel Bland Unity Missionary Baptist Church

Recessional

Interment Fair Lawn Memorial Cemetery Fair Lawn, New Jersey

Pallbearers

John Molina Jermaine Ates Ronnie Ates Joquann Montgomery Eric White Mark Bennett

When Tomorrow Starts Without Me

When tomorrow starts without me, and I'm not there to see if the sun should rise and find your eyes, all filled with tears for me. I wish so much you wouldn't cry, the way you did today, while thinking of the



many things, we didn't get to say. I know how much you love me, as much as I love you, and each time that you think of me, I know you'll miss me too. But when tomorrow starts without me, please try to understand that an angel came and called my name, and took me by the hand and said, "my place was ready, in heaven far above and that I'd have to leave behind, all those I dearly love." But when I walked through heaven's gates, I felt so much at home.

When God looked down and smiled at me, from His great golden throne. He said "This is eternity, and all I've promised you." Today for life on earth is past, but here it starts anew. I promise no tomorrow, for today will always last. And since each day's the same way, there's no longing for the past. So when tomorrow starts without me, don't think we're far apart. For every time you think of me, I'm right here in your heart.

-Author unknown

Acknowledgement

The family wishes to acknowledge with deep appreciation the many expressions of love, concern and kindness shown to their family during this hour of bereavement. May God Bless and Keep You!

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