

A portrait of Elma Lee Brown, a woman with short brown hair, smiling. She is wearing a red blazer over a patterned scarf. A large red rose is positioned to her left.

*Celebrating the Life of*

*Elma Lee Brown*

**Sunrise**  
*February 1, 1937*

**Sunset**  
*May 4, 2012*

*Friday, May 11, 2012 -11:00 a.m.*

**CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH**

66 South Grove Street

East Orange, New Jersey

*Rev. Joseph Oniyama, Officiating*

## Obituary

**Elma Lee** was born February 1, 1937 to the late Lila Mae and John Jasper Brown in Southampton County, Branchville, VA. Elma departed this life on Friday, May 4, 2012.

Elma was the third of six children. She received her education in Southampton County Schools, graduating from Southampton County High School, Courtland, VA.

She accepted Christ at an early age, joining the Rising Star Baptist Church in Southampton County, VA. She remained a faithful member until she relocated to Montclair, New Jersey in the late 50's. While living and working in Montclair she met the love of her life, Allen Morris Brown, they were united in holy matrimony and to their union became proud parents of two sons, Derrick and Kenneth.

Elma was a quiet, and very dignified person that took her marriage and the rearing of her family very seriously. She was a loving wife and mother, extending her warmth and love to other members of the family, especially her grandchildren. She even found the time and love to help other parents with their children. Some of them even called her grandma too. Nothing was more important to her than the welfare of her family. Elma also loved entertaining family and friends.

Later she united with Calvary Baptist Church of East Orange, NJ. She worked with various ministries including the food pantry, but her love of singing was with the choir. She worked faithfully until her health began to fail.

God sent his angels on Friday to escort Elma, his servant from her earthly home to receive her reward in his Heavenly Mansion.

She was predeceased by her mom, Lila Mae, her dad, John Jasper, a sister, Christine and a brother, Ronald McCoy.

Elma leaves to cherish her memories: her husband, Allen Morris; two sons, Derrick and Kenneth Brown; two step daughters, Shante Robinson and Valerie Harris; six grandchildren, Tanira, Lydia, Kenya, Tiffany, Derrick, Jr. and Dominique; three great grands; two sisters, Catherine Marie (Jesse) of Roanoke Rapids, NC and Dorothy Branch, Montclair, NJ; brother, John Jasper, Jr. of Wilkes Barre, PA; four sisters-in-law, Vivian Garris (Vernon) of Philadelphia, PA, Saluda Brown of Washington, DC, Elois Maske (Donald) of Maryland and Edith Fearington of Philadelphia, PA; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

II Timothy 4:1-7

*"I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith."*

## *Order of Service*

Processional ..... Clergy

Hymn of Comfort ..... “Blessed Assurance”

Prayer of Comfort

Scripture Readings

Old Testament - Psalm 123

New Testament - John 14:1-7

Solo ..... “Precious Lord”  
Tyrone Dunlap

Remarks ..... Family and Friends (2 Minutes Please)

Acknowledgements

and Obituary ..... Sue Parker

Solo ..... Tyrone Dunlap

Eulogy ..... Rev. Joseph Oniyama

Recessional..... “I’ll Fly Away”  
Clergy and Family

### **Entombment**

Hollywood Cemetery  
Union, New Jersey

### *Repast*

*Immediately following the entombment family and friends are  
invited for a repast back at the church fellowship hall.*

# *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, love, work or play.  
Tasks left undone must stay that way,  
I found that peace at the close of the day.  
If my parting has left a void,  
Then fill it 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 to 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*

## *Acknowledgements*

*Our hearts are always broken when loved ones leave us, but family and friends like you help to make the burden lighter. We are very grateful and highly appreciative of your thoughtfulness through prayers and other sympathetic gestures during our bereavement. May God bless each and every one of you.*

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