

Home Going Service For

Novella F. Melton

Sunrise
January 20, 1912

Sunset
March 7, 2013

Services

Saturday, March 16, 2013 - 9:00 a.m.

MT. CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

235 Seymour Avenue
Newark, New Jersey

Rev. Ralph M. Branch, Jr., Officiating

Obituary

Mrs. Novella F. Melton, Boots to some and Ms. Novella to others, was born in Grover, North Carolina, January 20, 1912 to Ruebin and Versi Ross.

In the year 1919, at the age of seven years old, her family, along with four other families moved to Union Level, Virginia by the Chesapeake and Ohio Train. After living in Union Level, VA for one year, her family moved to Baskerville, VA.

Novella attended grammar school in Baskerville, VA and after completing the seventh grade, she was unable to attend high school because there was no black high schools there.

Novella had two brothers that lived in New Jersey, so Novella decided to move to New Jersey and start her journey. Upon arriving in New Jersey, Novella became a member of Abyssinian Baptist Church, under the pastorate of the late Reverend Raphus P. Means.

Novella met the late Charles Morton who she married. Through that union she had two daughters, Catherine and Ruby and one son, Gerald. In 1958, Novella became a member of Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church under the pastorate of Rev. Jesse Wendell Mapson, Sr. She joined the Senior Choir serving as the Benevolent Chair Person and the Missionary Ministry serving as the fundraiser chairman.

In 1975, Novella married James O. Melton who was a Deacon and a Trustee at Mount Calvary. Her family was extended. At that time, Deacon Melton had seven children, Dottie, Carol, Linda, Richard, Edward, Thelma and twins, Dianne and Deborah.

Novella began attending the No. Jersey District Missionary Baptist Association in 1984. The Bible Committee of No. Jersey Missionary Baptist Association presented her with a beautiful Bible. She also served on the Deaconess Committee of No. Jersey and the Bereavement Committee.

Novella was also one of the honorees at the No. Jersey Legendary Luncheon, sponsored by the Women's Auxiliary, July, 2007.

Novella and her husband James enjoyed attending the National Baptist Convention Annually.

Novella's favorite song was "Precious Lord, Take My Hand", written by the late Thomas Dorsey.

Novella continued to visit the nursing homes and cooked good meals for her neighbors who was ill. She attended Sunday School and Sunday morning church services almost every Sunday. She served on the Deaconess Committee and was a great supporter of the Mentor Auxiliary.

Novella took care of her own home and her personal business at fifty-one Boston Street, Newark, NJ. She always said that God was so good to her and He has blessed her to become "101" years of age.

Her Pastor, Rev. Ralph M. Branch, Jr. use to tease her about why she stays so healthy, she always ate collard green sandwiches. She always said "love God and do all you can to help people and God will bless you" she enjoyed being in the number.

She was preceded in death by her late husband, James O. Melton; her sister, Grace Lewis; two brothers, Alfred Ross and Temon Ross; her daughter, Catherine Oliver and her son, Gerald Graham.

She leaves to cherish: her daughters, Ruby N. Cobbs, Carol Franklin (Woodrow), Linda Mann (George), Thelma Jacobs, Deborah Middleton, Diane Johnson (Sam); Novella has a total of eighteen grandchildren, thirty-four great grandchildren, sixteen great great grandchildren and two great great great grandchildren, and a host of nieces, nephews other relatives and friends.

Order of Service

Processional..... *Clergy and Family*

Opening Hymn *Choir*

Scripture Readings

Old Testament - Psalm 91

New Testament - John 14:1-7

Prayer

Selection *Choir*

Reflections (2 minutes)

Solo *Helen Sales*

Journey of Life

Solo *Walter Perry*

Eulogy *Rev. Ralph M. Branch, Jr.*

Recessional

Interment

Evergreen Cemetery

Hillside, New Jersey

Following the interment family and friends are invited to join us for a repast at the church.

The Master Called

*I'm sorry I had to leave you.
My loved ones, oh so dear.
But you see, the Master called me,
His voice was very clear!
I had made my reservation
A heaven bound ticket for one,
And I knew that He would call me
When He felt my work was done.
I know that your hearts are heavy
Because I have gone away,
But when the Master called me,
I knew that I could not stay.
Yes, I'm sorry I had to leave you
My loved ones, oh so dear,
But, you see, the Master called me
And, now I'm resting here.
Yes, I've crossed on over to glory
And to you all I say
Just stay in the hands of Jesus
And we'll meet again someday.*

-Author unknown

Pall Bearers

Kassim Thomas	Camile Thomas
Jerry Graham	Talib Cobbs
Talif Thomas	Dayon Cobbs

Acknowledgements

*The family of the late **Novella F. Melton** wishes to express their sincere appreciation for the acts of kindness and love shown to them during their time of sorrow.*

Professional Services Provided By:

Perry Funeral Home, Inc.

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