

Celebrating The Life of



Ambassador

Gayleatha Beatrice Brown

Sunrise

June 20, 1947

Sunset

April 19, 2013

Tuesday, April 23, 2013 ~ 12:00 Noon

COMMUNITY CHURCH OF ISELIN

15 Montague Avenue • Iselin, New Jersey

Bishop Arthur L. Jenkins, Sr. - Officiating

Order of Worship

Musical Prelude *“You Are Great”*
Nowell Scott

Flute Selection *“Amazing Grace”*
Gabrielle Brown

Musical Selection *“One Day At A Time”*
William Craig Woods

Prayer of Comfort

Scripture Reading
Old Testament
New Testament

Musical Selection *“Peace In The Valley”*
Troy & Lydia Alexander

Tribute Nia M. Brown

Acknowledgements Carol Brown

Obituary Nyka Brown

Presentation of Ambassador Flag Vivian Lowery Derryck

Remarks Clergy, Family & Friends

Eulogy Bishop Arthur L. Jenkins, Sr.

Recessional

Interment
Clover Leaf Memorial Park
Iselin, New Jersey

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

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Life Reflections

Ambassador Gayleatha Beatrice Brown was born in Matewan, West Virginia on June 20, 1947. She was educated in the Red Jacket Elementary School, Matewan Elementary and High Schools in Mingo County, West Virginia. She was a graduate of Edison High School in Edison, New Jersey. Ambassador Brown received her Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts with honors from Howard University. She also conducted post-graduate work in International Relations at the School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) at Johns Hopkins University.

Ambassador Brown devoted much of her life to her career in service to her country as a United States Foreign Service Officer and Ambassador. Ambassador Brown has served in several diplomatic posts during her career with the U.S. Department of State. Ambassador Brown was nominated by President George W. Bush to the Ambassadorial post to Benin in 2006. In 2009, President Barack Obama nominated her for the Ambassadorial post to Burkina Faso. In each case, she was sworn into such posts amidst numerous relatives, friends and colleagues.

Ambassador Brown's postings with the Department of State have included: Counselor for Political Affairs, Embassy Pretoria; Consul General and Deputy Permanent Observer to the Council of Europe, U.S. Consulate General, Strasbourg, France; and Chief of the Economic/Commercial sections at Embassy Harare, Zimbabwe and Embassy Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. She also has served as Economic Officer in Paris, France; Finance and Development Officer in Abidjan, Ivory Coast; and Desk Officer for Senegal, Guinea, Mauritania, and Canada. As Desk Officer for the Export-Import Bank of the United States, she represented the State Department at OECD Export Credit Arrangement negotiations.

Before joining the Department of State, Ambassador Brown was a Special Assistant to the Agency for International Development (USAID), Assistant Administrator for Africa and a legislative assistant in the House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress.

Ambassador Brown was a Lady of the Golden Horseshoe, a West Virginia state academic honor. She was among the first women Rotarians in Tanzania, a charter member of the New Jersey Edison Township High School Alumni Hall of Fame,

and recipient of two Department of State Superior Honor Awards, a Meritorious Honor Award and a Presidential Meritorious Service Award. Ambassador Brown was an honorary member of Alpha Kappa Alpha (AKA) Sorority, Incorporated and Sandown Rotary Club in Johannesburg, South Africa.

From the beautiful hills of West Virginia to her passing, Ambassador Brown attributed her success to hard work, excellence and many “helping hands” along the way including her parents: Mr. David L. and Mrs. Nellie Brown; brothers: David L. II, Curtis, Jerome and Dennis Brown; mentor, Minnie Belle Veal and Aunt, Arneitha and Uncle, William Scott. She also cited other relatives, teachers, mentors, and many friends and colleagues, including Foreign Service Nationals.

Ambassador Brown was fluent in English, French and Swahili. She wrote poetry, enjoyed reading (particularly mystery novels), and loved dancing, tennis, T'ai Chi, and music (especially gospel, soul, jazz, and classical). She was a member of the Shiloh Baptist Church (Pilgrim Circle) in Washington, D.C. and was associated with the Community Church of Iselin in Iselin, New Jersey.

Ambassador Brown peacefully departed this life on Friday, April 19, 2013 at JFK Johnson Hospital in Edison, New Jersey surrounded by a host of family members.

She was predeceased by her father, David L. Brown, and brothers, David II, Darrell and Dennis Brown. She is survived by: her mother, Nellie; and brother, Curtis Brown, both of Metuchen, NJ; one sister-in-law and a host of nieces and nephews she referred to as her “Brown Country” and “Brown Babies”; along with many others cousins, aunts, uncles and friends.

She became a shining example of what determination, perseverance and faith in God can accomplish by rising from a small coal mining community in the mountains of West Virginia, an even smaller community known as Potter’s Crossing in Edison, NJ all the way to the White House in Washington, D.C. and beyond. Ambassador Gayleatha B. Brown represented excellence.

~ Lovingly submitted by the Family ~

Pall Bearers

- William Craig Woods
- Dion Brown
- Troy Alexander
- Nowell Scott
- Jason Virgil
- Andrew Brown

Acknowledgement

The Family of

Ambassador Gayleatha B. Brown

*acknowledges with our deepest
appreciation and gratitude the many
expressions of love, concern, kindness and
sympathy in her passing.*

We will always keep you in our prayers.

May God continue to richly bless you.

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