

A Service of Victory
Celebrating the Life of

Trustee Mary J. Baldwin

Sunrise
April 18, 1961

Sunset
April 16, 2013



Service

Tuesday, April 23, 2013 - 7:00 p.m.

SOLID ROCK BAPTIST CHURCH

195 Spring Street • Paterson, New Jersey
Pastor Bennett Johnson, III, Officiating



Psalm 23

The Lord is My Shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; He leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul. He leadeth me in the path of righteousness for His name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies. Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Reflections of Life

Trustee Mary Joan Baldwin, daughter of Billy O. and Annette (Kelley) Baldwin was born on April 18, 1961 in Paterson, New Jersey. She departed this life on Tuesday, April 16, 2013 after a brief illness. Mary was raised in Paterson, having attended PS 28 and graduated from John F. Kennedy High School in 1979. She continued her education and graduated from Montclair State College (University) receiving a B.A. degree in Sociology in 1983.

“Joan” as she was affectionately known by family and friends, accepted Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior as a teenager when she joined The Church of The Messiah; now United Presbyterian Church, Paterson, NJ. She later moved her membership to The Solid Rock Baptist Church, Paterson, NJ under the leadership of the late Pastor J. Lotts where she remained a faithful and dedicated servant of the Lord. She served on many ministries while at Solid Rock. She served on the Trustee, Ushers, Nurses, Floral and Scholarship Ministries; was advisor to The Generation of Praise Choir; first Church Administrator and the second Female Trustee appointed by current Pastor Bennett Johnson III. She assisted Pastor Johnson in establishing The Mothers Board as well as the organizing of the church’s 65th Anniversary Celebration.

Mary was a very loving and giving person. She loved children and the children of Solid Rock loved her. They all knew she would always have a treat for them when she came to church. She loved her church and even when she wasn’t feeling well, she would press her way. Mary loved and supported her pastor, but she had a special fondness for her First Lady, Rev. Gale Johnson.

Mary was employed for a short time by Catholic Family and Community Services, Paterson, NJ. She was employed for thirty years by The Passaic County Board of Social Services currently holding the position of Human Service Specialist III in the Passaic, NJ office.

Mary was a woman who loved life. She enjoyed vacationing with her sister, godparents and “little sisters” cruising to many islands and ports of call. An avid football fan, Mary was CRAZY about Dallas. On any given Sunday you would find her wearing her Dallas Cowboys Jersey and Cap watching and cheering for Her Team.

Mary was predeceased by her paternal grandmother, Elizabeth B. McKnight and maternal grandparents, James A. and Ella Bell Kelley, Sr. and godfather, Alphonso Williams.

She leaves cherished memories to: her mother, Annette Baldwin of Paterson, NJ; father, Billy O. Baldwin of Newark, NJ; loving and devoted sister, Cynthia Baldwin of Lake Hiawatha, NJ; godson, Arthur Quinton Towles of Raleigh, NC; two goddaughters, Anaya B. Staats of Middletown, DE and Ariell Q. Towles of W. Chester, PA; godmother, Diana Williams, Paterson, NJ; god-sisters, Deirdra Williams of Paterson, NJ and Altramece Williams-Staats of Middletown, DE; devoted girlfriend of thirty-four years, Cynthia Towles of W. Chester, PA; dear friend, Rachel Hill of Paterson, NJ and her special “Little Sisters”, Deborah Chase, Donna Thompson and Clara Perez. She will also be remembered by a host of aunts, uncles, cousins, other relatives, friends and her Solid Rock Church and PCBSS families.

*The Bible says, "It is better to give than it is to receive",
Mary Joan Baldwin believed in this biblical principal.*

*In 2013 Mary gathered a group of Christians
from various churches
and backgrounds and presented them to Rev. Gail forming
"Angels Waiting In The Wings".*

*Whether a holiday or a normal day of the week, members of this
group anonymously donated food, gift cards, and purchased
clothing for anyone in need.*

*One member of this group, Mary Joan Baldwin, is no longer an
Angel Waiting in The Wings, but an Angel who has received her
heavenly wings.*

*The members of this group would like to publicly acknowledge
Mary Joan Baldwin for giving instead of receiving.*



Order of Service

Prelude

Processional

Scripture Readings

Old Testament

New Testament

Prayer of Comfort

Selection

Acknowledgements
and Reflections

Remarks (2 minutes)

Chairman of the Deacon Board

Trustee Board

Usher Board

Nurses Unit

Presentation Sandra Okoronkwo

(Angels Waiting In The Wings)

Reflections of Life

Selection

Eulogy Pastor Bennett Johnson

Recessional



Interment

George Washington Memorial Park
Paramus, New Jersey

Pall Bearers

Wayne Washington Corey Staats, Jr.
Tashon Cobb Thomas Lawrence
Avery Edwards Andrew Fair
Kiai Jones

Honorary Pall Bearers

Arthur Quinton Towles Marquise Harris Nyaire Staats

My Special Sister

*My special sister, we want you to know how much you meant to us.
My special sister, had strength and courage, her whole family could see.
My special sister, showed us all, how to handle life's blows.
My special sister took it all in stride, smiled and said...
 "That's how it goes".
My special sister, through all her pain never
 once gave up or complained
 My special sister had dignity, warmth and
 inner beauty that can't be explained.
My special sister, always took time to give of herself
 to friends, sisters and brothers
My special sister was always there, with her
 kind thoughts, deeds and caring
My special sister was well known and lived for her capacity for sharing.
 My special sister needs to know how much
 she meant to those who love her especially US
 My special sister's strength, courage and
 beauty was a shining example for all to see
My special sister has carried a heavy burden for quite a while
 My special sister would not allow us to share
 any of her pain always her smile.
My special sister was surely a guardian angel, sent from above
My special sister these heartfelt words are for you from all of us who
 care with all our love.*

Written by Deridra Williams

Acknowledgement

*The family of the late **Trustee Mary Joan Baldwin** acknowledges with deep and heartfelt appreciation all acts of kindness extended to them during their hour of bereavement. May God continue to bless you for your thoughtfulness, love and support.*

The family

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