

Celebrating the Life of



Matti Thomas

Sunrise

February 19, 1945

Sunset

April 29, 2013

Saturday, May 4, 2013 - 10:00 AM.

Union Baptist Church

160 Oakwood Avenue

Orange, New Jersey 07050

Reverend William M. Freeman, Pastor

Obituary

Matti Thomas was the youngest of four daughters born to Lucendia Aldridge. She was born on February 19, 1945 in Jackson, Mississippi. Her mother brought her to Orange, New Jersey at the age of one year. She grew up and was educated in the Orange public school system and graduated from Orange High School in 1963. She attended Rutgers University, Newark, New Jersey campus.

She retired from employment at AT&T, with positions in sales and marketing, after 35 years of service. After retiring from AT&T, she worked for some years for a pharmaceutical firm until her health started failing.

Matti was previously married to James B. Gordon. Of this union were born two daughters, Sheri Gordon and Tonja Gordon. She married Kenneth Thomas on November 21, 2004. To this relationship was added an adult son, Kenneth Thomas and teenage daughter, Tajmia Thomas.

Matti attended Union Baptist Church of Orange, NJ from the age of one to the time of her death. She accepted Christ at a young age under the Pastorate of Rev. Dr. James Vance McIver and as a youth was active in Junior Missions, Chancel Choir, Youth Ushers, Youth Council and Church School. As an adult in the church, under the Pastorate of Rev. William McKinley Freeman, she was active as a Church School Teacher of the teenage students, an usher on Board #2 (president of the Joint Usher Board) and Home Missions. Out of her love for youth, she organized a youth outreach program named Chosen Generation comprised of youth from Union Baptist Church and the community for ages 13 – 17. This attracted younger children in the area, so a group was formed named Chosen Generation Too for youth of ages 09 – 12. She was a Youth Choir Advisor, Junior Ushers advisor and an advisor to a now inactive group of youth praise dancers.

In addition to this busy church schedule, she loved and cherished time reserved for family and friends and especially her grandson Eric Hardison who after 10 years had to share that love with her granddaughter Jasmine Brielle Gordon. Matti's oldest sister, Hazel Skinner preceded her in death. Matti leaves to cherish her memory her loving and devoted husband, Kenneth Thomas, daughters, Sheri Gordon, Tonja Gordon and Tajmia Thomas, son, Kenneth E. Thomas, grandson, Eric Hardison and granddaughter, Jasmine Gordon. She also leaves sisters, Barbara Brodie, Carolyn Whitfield, Evelyn Taylor-Coleman and many nieces, nephews, cousins and brothers and sisters in Christ.

Order of Service

Processional *Clergy and Family*

Call to Worship & Invocation *Reverend William M. Freeman*

Hymn *“Blessed Assurance” Page 27*

Scripture Reading

Old Testament - Psalm 100

New Testament - 1 Corinthians 13

Prayer of Comfort

Selection *Youth Choir*

Acknowledgements/Remarks

Obituary *Miss Brandon Respress, Ph.D.*

Selection *Senior Choir*

Message *Reverend William M. Freeman*

Hymn *“When We All Get To Heaven” - Page 429*

Recessional..... *Clergy, Family, Congregation*

Interment

Rosedale Cemetery

Orange, New Jersey

Repast

Friends and family are invited to join the family for the repast at the church, immediately following the interment.

When God Saw You

*When God saw you getting tired
And a cure was not to be
He put His arms around you
And whispered come to me
He didn't like what you went through
And He gave you rest
His garden must be beautiful
He only takes the best
And when we saw you sleeping
So peaceful and free from pain
We wouldn't wish you back
To suffer that again
Today we say goodbye
As you take your final rest
His garden must be beautiful
He only takes the best
Amen.*

Words of Appreciation

*We the family of **Matti Thomas**, thank you for your many kindnesses and expressions of sympathy.
May God continue to bless your lives as He has blessed ours.*

Professional Services Provided By

Woody "Home For Services"

163 Oakwood Ave. • Orange, NJ 07050
ph (973) 674-0814 • fax (973) 674-2055



www.honoryou.com