

A Celebration of Life
For



Etta Walker Gates

Sunrise
December 7, 1921

Sunset
March 31, 2014

Service
Monday, April 7, 2014 - 12:00 Noon

UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.
2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY 10027

Obituary

ETTA WALKER GATES, daughter of the late William and Addie Walker was born on December 7, 1921 in Alberta, VA. She quietly departed this life in the early morning on Monday, March 31, 2014 at The Dewitt Nursing Home, New York, NY where she resided the past five years.

ETTA (fondly called TOOTSIE by her brother Samuel) was baptized and joined The Oak Grove Baptist Church at an early age and was educated in the Brunswick County Public School System.

ETTA moved to Brooklyn, NY in her early twenties, where she became an active member of Abyssinian Baptist Church, New York, NY until her failing health. She served on the Nursing Unit, Usher Board and Adult Choir for fifty years. She volunteered to serve as The Special Event Coordinator at The Performing Arts in Manhattan, NY in 2003. She volunteered numerous hours at the Red Cross in Brooklyn and Manhattan, NY.

In 1949, **ETTA** was joined in holy matrimony to Fletcher N. Gates (who preceded her in death). To this union two daughters were born, Barbara (deceased) and Marilyn.

ETTA was a Nurse for in-home care for over thirty years in the Bronx and Brooklyn, NY area, until she retired in 1999.

ETTA was a loving and devoted family member to any of her relatives. She had a smile and personality that you could not help but love and get to know her, which was shown by many, many friends and acquaintance she acquired over the years.

ETTA enjoyed life to the fullest! She enjoyed traveling, “styling”, shopping, music, dining out and much more. Her memories will always be cherished and reminisced by her family and friends.

Those left to cherish **ETTA**'s precious memories and to mourn her loss are: a devoted and precious daughter, Marilyn Gates Abdullah of Manhattan, NY; two granddaughters, Saedah of New York, NY and Sequoia of Bronx, NY; four grandsons, Steven of Queens, NY, Hassan and Ali of New York, NY and Hajji of Atlanta, GA; one great granddaughter, Amirah of New York, NY; one sister, Gladys Walker Moss of Lawnside, NJ; one son-in-law, Mustafa Abdullah of New York, NY; two sisters-in-law, Idell Walker of Halifax, NC and Sally Wallace of Tallahassee, FL; ten nieces, two nephews, a long time loving and devoted friend, Eddie Graves of Petersburg, VA; and a very special life time friend, Caryl Picker of Waverly, PA; and many, many friends.

TRIBUTE TO MOMMIE

Near other loved ones I laid you,
Low in the cemetery to lie,
And though my heart is missing you,
Yet I will not question “Why”?
Beautiful rest for you the weary,
Well deserved rest for you the weary,
Well deserved rest for you the true,
Now that your life's journey has ended,
I shall again be with you in heaven.

MARILYN

Order of Service

Musical Prelude

Processional

Hymn of Comfort.....“This Little Light Of Mine”

Scriptures.....Psalm 91

Marilyn G. Abdullah

Psalm 34 - Golria Jean Walker

Prayer of Comfort.....Rev. Johnnie Mcann

Hymn of Comfort.....“His Eye Is On The Sparrow”

Acknowledgements.....Carolyn Blocker

Special Remarks.....Glenda Charles

Open Remarks.....Family and Friends

Hymn of Comfort

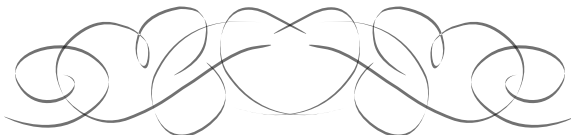
Reading of Obituary.....Cynthia W. Garnes

A Tribute to Grandmother ETTA.....Saeedah Abdullah

The Eulogy.....Rev. Johnnie Mcann

The Recessional

Interment
Ferncliff Cemetery
Hartsdale, New York



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, to love, to work or play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way,
I found that peace at the close of day.*

*If my parting has left a void,
Then fill it up 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 too 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

Acknowledgement

I and my family are most appreciative of the expressions of sympathy that have been shown since the passing of my Mother, ETTA. May God continue to richly bless each of you. Your prayers are helping my family and I to heal.

MARILYN G. ABDULLAH

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