

*Celebrating a Life
Well Lived*



Joannette Hall Keyes

“May the Work I’ve Done Speak for me”

Sunrise:

January 1, 1938

Elizabeth, New Jersey

Sunset:

May 23, 2014

Scotch Plains, New Jersey

Service

Friday, May 30, 2014 ~ 11:00 AM

Heard A. M. E. Church

310 Rev. T. R. Goyins Plaza

Roselle, New Jersey 07203

Rev. Archie Cummings, Jr., Pastor



“Letter from Heaven”



*To my dearest family, some things I'd like to say...
But first of all, to let you know that I arrived okay.
I'm writing this from Heaven, here I dwell with God above;
Here, there's no more tears of sadness.
Here is just eternal love.*

*Please do not be unhappy just because I'm out of sight.
Remember that I'm with you every morning, noon and night.
The day I had to leave you, when my life on earth was through,
God picked me up and hugged me and said, “I welcome you.”*

***It's good to have you back again;
you were missed while you were gone;
As for your dearest family, they'll be here later on.
I need you here badly; you're part of my plan,
There's so much we have to do to help our mortal man.”***

*God gave me a list of things that He wished for me to do;
And foremost on the list, was to watch and care for you.
When you lie in bed at night, the day's chores put to flight.
God and I are closest to you... in the middle of the night.*

*When you think of my life on earth and all those loving years,
Because you're only human, they might bring you tears.
Any if you have to cry, do it, because it does relieve the pain.
Remember there'd be no flowers unless there was some rain.*

*I wish that I could tell you all that God has planned;
If I were to tell you, though, you wouldn't understand.
But one thing is for certain, though my life on earth is o'er,
I'm closer to you now that I ever was before.*

*It was always my philosophy and I'd like it for you, too,
That as you give unto the world, the world will give to you.
If you can help somebody who's in sorrow and in pain –
Then you can say to God at night... “My day was not in vain.”*

*So if you meet somebody who is sad and feeling low;
Just lend a hand to pick him up, as on your way you go.
When you're walking down the street
and you've got me on your mind,
I'm walking in your footsteps, only half a step behind.
And when it's time for you to go... from that body to be free
Remember, you not going.... You're coming here to me.*

Life Reflections

Joanette Hall Keyes, 76, of Linden, N.J. she left her earthly home on Friday, May 23, 2014 in Scotch Plains, N.J.

Joanette was born in Elizabeth, New Jersey to the late James and Thelma Sumner Hall. She attended school in Roselle and graduated from Abraham Clark High School in the class of 1955. Throughout the years following her high school graduation she participated in numerous additional training courses for her personal enhancement. She was a notary public.

Joanette enjoyed a successful thirty-year career with the former New Jersey Bell Telephone Company (Verizon) in the area of cost accounting. At the time of her retirement in 1988, she held the position of Staff Accounting Manager.

Immediately following her retirement, she began a twelve-year career as Manager of Pinewood Hall, a senior citizen housing complex in Roselle. She earned Assisted Housing Manager certification through the New Housing and Mortgage Agency who gave her the highest rating attainable for her management of the building. During her tenure as Manager of Pinewood Hall she was presented with a certificate from the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders for outstanding achievement. She was recognized by the Pinewood Hall Tenants' Association, the Roselle Section of the National Council of Negro Women, Inc., the Roselle Branch of the NAACP as Role Model of the Year and Women of the Year of Heard AME Church in 1995 and 2014. She received certificates of appreciation by two Roselle's Mayors and their council for her work with senior citizens.

She served as a member of the Catholic Community Services Advisory Board for out-patient mental health. She was a former member of the Union County Club of Negro Business and Professional Women who presented her with an appreciation award in 1990. She was a member of the NAACP, the H.G. McCully- Downstate Chapter #81, and Life Member Club of the Telephone Pioneers of America, Roselle AARP Chapter #5293 and a Board Member of For Someone Special Enterprises, Inc. and Rahway Glad Red Hatters.

A life-long member of the Heard A.M.E. Church in Roselle, she served as secretary of the church's Steward Board and the founder and editor of the church's first newsletter, "The Heard Herald." She was founding member and chief executive officer of the church's federally chartered credit union and received a certificate of appreciation for outstanding service to the credit union in 1998. She served as president of the Senior Usher Board. Joanette managed the church's rental properties and was manager of the Heard A.M.E. Caterers. She was a volunteer worker in the church's food pantry. In 1984 she was presented with an award for dedicated service in the church and community. She was honored by the church in 1999 for outstanding service to the church by the church membership. She was also honored in 2006 by the New Jersey Conference lay Organization of the First Episcopal District of the A.M.E. Church.

She leaves to cherish very fond and loving memories, her sister, Mary McLeod of Rahway; uncle: Cleveland Sumner (Velma) of Raleigh, NC; nephews: Walter Steven McLeod, Michael McLeod (Lora), William Todd Hall, and Gregory McLeod; nieces: Denise Robinson (James), Helene Shearer (Steadman), and Adrienne Simmons; grand-nephews: Will (TJ), Jermaine, Tracy, Tomar, Gary, Omar, Walter (Jr), Enel and Okein (Kush); grand-nieces: Jamel, LaToya, Diamond, Youlanda (Annsheia) and Nicole (Syion); godsons: Walter S. McLeod and Belton (Biff) Pryor; special cousins: Barbara Ann Miner and Winifred Eure; Heard A.M.E. Church Family; and a host of other relatives and friends.

She was predeceased by her brother: William (Sonny) Hall; sister: Louise Murphy, nieces: Tammy and Tracy and nephew, James.

We are grateful to God to have had you in our lives.

Love you ,
The Family

“If We Could Make A Miracle”

*If I could make a miracle
I'd make one just for you
If I could make a rainbow
That's just what I'd do.*

*If I could change a second
Of any day gone by,
For you I'd do it anytime
Or at least, for you, I'd try.*

*If I could change your life anew,
I'd change it for the best
But since I haven't angel wings,
My powers aren't blessed.*

*So if you don't mind – for I'm not sure,
I'll call upon another:
The one who can do anything
My own sweet Heavenly Father.*

*To Him I'll send a prayer for you,
One that will make you blessed
As you carry on this earthly life,
On this your heavenly quest.*

*This is the very greatest gift
That I have to provide,
To send my precious Heavenly Father
To sit at your sweet side.*

Order of Service

Processional.....Clergy

Hymn of Comfort..... “Blessed Assurance”.....Hymn 450

Prayer of Comfort.....Rev. Vernon Peters

Selection.....Choir

Scriptures

Old Testament: Psalms 27.....Rev. Dr. Erika D. Crawford

New Testament: II Corinthians 5: 1-6.....Rev. Michael A. McLeod

Solo.....Bro. Theodore Goyins, Jr.

Reflections

Family:Bro. Roger Simms

Friends:Sisters Cora Paden & Loretta Pryor

Reflections Clergy

New Brunswick District.....Presiding Elder Vernard R. Leak

First Episcopal District.....Rev. Dr. Kenneth L. Saunders

Roselle Community.....Bishop Wayne L. Johnson

Selection..... “I Surrender All”Hymn 351

Acknowledgement of Condolences

& Resolution.....Sis. Regina A. Edwards

Selection.....Choir

Reading of the Obituary.....Sis. Jamel L. Simmons

Solo.....Sis. Leslie Dixon

Eulogy.....Rev. Archie Cummings, Jr., Pastor

Recessional

Interment

Graceland Memorial Park
Kenilworth, New Jersey

*Immediately after the interment family and friends are invited to a
repast at Heard A.M.E. Church Dining Hall 310 T.R. Goyins Plaza,
Roselle*

Services Entrusted To:

G.G. Woody Funeral Home, LLC

206 East Eighth Avenue • Roselle, NJ 07203

www.ggwoodyfuneralhome.com

“Where Our Sympathy Expresses Itself Through Sincere Service”

Pallbearers

Omar Simmons
Enel Webley
Jermaine Boykin

Walter McLeod, Jr.
Gary Little
Belton J. Pryor, Jr.



When I stand before God at the
end of my life I would hope
that I would have not a single
bit of talent left and could say,

"I used everything
you gave me."

Erma Bombeck

Acknowledgements

The family of **Joanette Hall Keyes** acknowledges with sincere appreciation every thought and act of kindness expressed to us during this our hour of bereavement.

We will always keep you in our prayers.

May God continue to richly bless you.

