



Celebration for the Life of

Serena M. Holmes

April 23, 1932 – August 7, 2014

Tuesday, August 12, 2014 - 7:00 p.m.

ROGER WILLIAMS BAPTIST CHURCH

362 Oak Street

Passaic, New Jersey

Rev. William B. Davidson, Sr., Pastor

Reflections of Life

Serena Mae was born on April 23, 1932. She was the youngest of three children born to the late, Serena Watson Donnell and the Reverend Dr. Aressie Donnell, who was the founder of the Roger Williams Institutional Baptist Church, Passaic, NJ. Serena Mae carried her father's legacy for eighty-two years. Serena married Joseph Holmes. From this union four daughters were born, Brenda, Patrisha, Renee and Marilyn.

During her eighty-two years of membership at the Roger Williams Baptist Church, she served in many capacities. She was an original member of the Scholarship Ministry and Gospel Chorus. She also worked diligently with the Busy Bees, Nurses Unit, Missionaries, and Pastor's Aide. Serena was also a faithful and dedicated member of the Sunday School. She was known for her sense of humor and by many as the "Candy Lady". Those closest to her remember her "real school" wisdom and stabilizing presence.

Serena was an avid reader and she enjoyed sewing, creating doll houses and coloring beautiful abstract design. Her crocheted blankets will always be remembered!

Blessed with a strong work ethic, Serena was employed by the St. Joseph's Hospital Meals On Wheels, Family Counseling Services, Paterson Ecumenical Pre-School, Task Force and New Careers.

A student of more than life, she continued her education attending Tombrock College for Women, West Paterson, NJ and the William Paterson University, Wayne, NJ. Serena retired as a Associate Teacher from the Paterson Public School System after thirty years of service.

She was predeceased by her only son, Joseph; her grandchildren, Tanya and Keisha; sister, Muriel; brothers, Vernon and Hassel; best friend, Delilah Veal.

She leaves behind her four children, Brenda, Patrisha, Renee and Marilyn; one daughter-in-law, Kay Holmes; ten grandchildren, Selena, Ira Dion, Ronald, Joseph, Serene, Akua, Cecily and Zuri; thirteen great grandchildren; her dearest friends, Sandra Turner, Ramona Henriques, Sheila Benjamin and Mary Felisbret; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

She will be missed by all.

Order of Service

Processional

Congregational Hymn “Blessed Quietness”

Written Word Min. P. Goodman
 Old Testament
 New Testament

Prayer of Comfort

Remarks

Solo Aisha Morgan “Tomorrow”

Acknowledgements/Reflections of Life Yolanda Rozier

Poem..... “I Teach” Tiana McCargo

Solo..... David Walls “Walk Around Heaven”

Eulogy Rev. William B. Davidson, Sr.

Recessional “Going Up Yonder”

Final Disposition

Laurel Grove Crematory
Totowa, New Jersey

To Those I Love

To those I love and those that love me,
When I am gone, release me, let me go
I have so many things to see and do
You mustn't tie yourself to me with tears
Be happy that we had so many years.
I gave you my love, you can only guess
How much you gave me in happiness
I thank you for the love you each have shown
But now it's time I travel alone
So grieve for a while for me if you must
Then let your grief be comforted by trust.
It's only for a while that we must part
So bless the memories within your heart
I won't be far away, for life goes on
So if you need me, call and I will come
Though you can't see me or touch me, I'll be near
And if you listen with your heart you'll hear
All my love around you so soft and clear
And then, when you must come this way alone
I'll greet you with a smile and say,
"Welcome Home."

-Author unknown

Acknowledgement

The family of the late **Serena M. Holmes** wishes to acknowledge with deep appreciation the many expressions of love, concern and kindness shown to their family during this hour of bereavement. May God Bless and Keep You!

Professional Services Provided By

CARNIE P. BRAGG FUNERAL HOMES, INC.

Caring for the Community Since 1937

256 Rosa Parks Blvd. • Paterson, NJ 07501 • (973) 278-6330

143 Myrtle Avenue • Passaic, NJ 07055 • (973) 779-1892

To send online condolences, visit www.braggfuneralhome.com

www.honoryou.com

