

In Loving Memory of



Rosa Matthews

Sunrise

March 18, 1927

Sunset

August 17, 2014

Service

Tuesday, September 2, 2014 - 12:00 Noon

UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.

2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY 10027

Pastor Donnell Harper, Officiating

Rev. David Jenkins, Organist

Obituary

Rosa Bell Matthews, youngest daughter of the late Willis and Jessie Bell Matthews, was born on March 18, 1927 in St. Matthews, South Carolina. She entered into eternal peace at Heaven's Gates on August 17, 2014 at her home in New York City (Harlem).

Rosa was educated at John Ford School in South Carolina which was the only school in the St. Matthews area during that time and the grades were from K-10. After many requests for an installation of a library from the community, the school became accredited and grades 11 and 12 was added. Thereafter, John Ford School became three divisions: an elementary school, a junior high school and an high school.

Rosa lived in Harlem for 72 years after coming to NYC to visit her sister at the age of 15 for the summer. She never returned to her childhood home only for visits.

Rosa worked as a domesticated worker privately in homes and eventually, took a job as a domesticated office worker at the Theresa Towers which was originally called the Theresa Hotel in Harlem from 1969 until her retirement in 1981. She was a longtime member of the Fountain Spring Baptist Church until their relocation to the Bronx, NY.

A consummate mother, grandmother and great- grandmother, Rosa loved to cook. She was famous for her homemade rolls and biscuits and especially, her salmon croquettes and smothered gravy beef liver dishes. Also, if you wanted to know the weather forecast and/or transportation situation for those who attended school and work, she was the one to call and/or she would call you.

Rosa was an avid reader of The NY Daily News and The Post especially the Sunday News which had the funnies (cartoons) that she loved since her youth. She enjoyed watching several local news channels like NY 1, CNN, CBS, NBC, ABC and two soap operas: The Young and The Restless & The Bold and The Beautiful. Rosa immediate family would definitely fit into these two (2) categories.

Rosa was preceded in death by her brother Joseph Matthews, sister Constance Howell, brothers Eugene Matthews & John Matthews, sister Wilhelmenia Starks and brother Henry Mack.

She is survived by her daughters: Rosalind Stewart-Hargrave & son-in-law Harold; Pandora Zaki Sadik & son-in-law Omar; former son-in-law, Barry Stewart, Sr.; sister Mamie Gill; 4 grandchildren: Barry Stewart, Jr. & his wife (Kyra), Baraka Stewart, Satwant Stewart and Mercedes Wells; 6 great-grandsons: Marcel Stewart, Jalen Stewart, Braylon Stewart, Dane Stewart, Tyger Wells, Blake Talley and a host of nieces, nephews, other family members and dearest friends.

The family would like to express their deepest gratitude to those whom showed their love, devotion, commitment and respect to Rosa - our mother, mother-in-law, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister and aunt.

Be still and know that I am God. Psalm 46:10

Order of Service

Processional.....Pastor Donnell Harper

Selection.....Eugene Matthews

Inspiration From The Scriptures

Old Testament.....Pastor Harper

New Testament.....Pastor Harper

Prayer of Comfort.....Pastor Harper

Selection.....James Matthews

Reflections (5).....PT. 1 Marcel Stewart
(4) Open - 2 Mins. Each

Obituary.....Read By Sariah Harper

Eulogy.....Pastor Donnell Harper

Final Viewing

Benediction.....Pastor Donnell Harper

Interment

Mt. Rest Cemetery
Butler, New Jersey

Repast

New Covenant Temple, UHC

*1805 Amsterdam Avenue @ Corner of 149th St.
New York, NY 10031*

When Tomorrow Starts Without Me

When tomorrow starts without me, and I'm not there to see if the sun should rise and find your eyes, all filled with tears for me. I wish so much you wouldn't cry, the way you did today, while thinking of the many things, we didn't get to say. I know how much you love me, as much as I love you, and each time that you think of me, I know you'll miss me too. But when tomorrow starts without me, please try to understand that an angel came and called my name, and took me by the hand and said, "my place was ready, in heaven far above and that I'd have to leave behind, all those I dearly love." But when I walked through heaven's gates, I felt so much at home. When God looked down and smiled at me, from His great golden throne. He said "This is eternity, and all I've promised you." Today for life on earth is past, but here it starts anew. I promise no tomorrow, for today will always last. And since each day's the same way, there's no longing for the past. So when tomorrow starts without me, don't think we're far apart. For every time you think of me, I'm right here in your heart.

-Author unknown

Acknowledgement

*The family acknowledges with deep appreciation all acts of kindness extended to them during this bereavement hour.
May God bless you for all your thoughtfulness and concern.*

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