

Celebration for the Life of



Mary Jean Gillispie

July 5, 1941 – September 1, 2014

Tuesday, September 9, 2014 - 12:00 Noon

CANAAN BAPTIST CHURCH

535 East 22nd Street

Paterson, New Jersey

Rev. Gadson L. Graham, Officiating

Reflections of Life

Mary (Davis) Gillispie; a long time resident of Paterson was the second eldest child born in Warrenton, North Carolina to Roxie (Alston) and the late Wortham, Davis, Sr.

She was educated in the Warren County School System and graduated in 1959 from Warren County Training School, Wise, North Carolina.

Mary relocated to Paterson, NJ in 1960 and became employed by Paterson Shade Company. It is there where she met and married her life partner (Earnest Gillispie) and to this union three sons were born. Mary went on to work for Berol Company Fairlawn, NJ for twenty years before the company relocated. She later became employed as an X-ray technician at Valley Hospital, Ridgewood, NJ from which she retired in 2006.

Mary was a devoted member of The Canaan Baptist Church, Paterson, NJ. She enjoyed attending Sunday School, singing in the Senior and Acapella Choir. She also enjoyed serving and fellowshiping with her church family. She served as the president of the Senior Choir. She was also a member of the Willing Workers and the Educational Fund Committee.

Mary had a heart of gold and truly adored helping and servicing others whenever and wherever she could. Her love for Christ modeled the infamous scripture: Luke 10: 27- "Love the Lord thy God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind. Love the Lord as you Love yourself." As she always displayed the love of Jesus in all that she did.

Mary was a great wife, mother, sister, aunt, mother-in-law and friend.

She was an incredibly kind- hearted and cheerful person. Her loving spirit afforded many to seek guidance and counsel from her because she was so easy to talk to. She always had a caring and encouraging word for those in need. To many she was like a second mother. She was a great teacher and mentor and her presence will truly be missed.

To know Mary was to love her. She possessed a strong personality and a smile that would light up a room. She loved to cook and treasured her family and friends. She always made it a priority to ensure that family spent time together, for the bond of family was the essential charge for which she valued and upheld greatly.

Mary was preceded in death by her father, Wortham Davis, Sr., and brother Lonnie Davis of Warrenton, North Carolina.

On Monday, September 1, 2014, Mary (Davis) Gillispie, of Paterson, NJ at the age of 73 was called from labor to reward.

She leaves to cherish wonderful memories: her husband Earnest Gillispie, Sr., three sons, Gregory of Clifton, NJ, Dwayne and Earnest, Jr. both of Paterson, NJ. Devoted daughter-in-law, Andrea (McKay) Gillispie; six grandchildren; Shalonda, Ericka Gregory, II, Tyron, Amber and Hillary; two great-grandchildren; Mai and Tamari. Mother, Roxie Davis, Warrenton, NC; five brothers, Wortham (Patricia) Davis, Jr., Bishopville, SC; John Henry (Annette) Davis, Lamar, SC; Rockafello (Betty) Davis, Gastonia, NC; Andrew (Ann) Davis, Warrenton, NC; and Eddie (Elizabeth) Davis, Clifton, NJ. Four sisters, Clara Marie (Clemon) Hawkins, Warrenton, NC; Mildred (Charles) Strange, Eden, NC; Patsy (Calvin) Green, Paterson, NJ and Barbara (Kenneth, Sr.) Green, Paterson, NJ. Sisters and brothers-in-law, Dorothy McEachin, Early McEachin, Ida Mae King, Maggie (Sam) Woods, Annie (Robert) Utley, Jimmie (Imogene) McEachin, Robert (Rhee) McEachin, James (Cookie) Gillispie, Doretha (Nate) Richardson, Geneva Stewart and Juanita Barnes. A host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives and friends.

Order of Service

Prelude

Invocation..... Rev. Thomas Hinson

SelectionCanaan Baptist Church Choir

Scripture Reading

Old Testament

New Testament

Prayer of Comfort Rev. Michael McDuffie

Solo..... Danny Johnson

Reflections of Life Linda Lewis

Acknowledgements

Remarks Family and Friends

Solo..... Virginia Batchelor

Special Poem

Solo Katrina Baldwin

Words of Comfort Rev. Gadson L. Graham

Recessional Canaan Baptist Church Choir

Interment

Fair Lawn Cemetery

Fair Lawn, New Jersey

Come To Me

*God saw she was getting tired
And a cure was not to be
So He gently closed those loving eyes
And whispered "Come to me"
The days of toil and nights of pain
The weary hours have passed
The patient gentle worn out frame
Has found sweet rest at last.
Day and night we stood by her
And saw her in pain,
Anxiously awaiting her cure
But our waiting was in vain.
God who knoweth all things best
Eased her suffering, gave her rest
She is gone but not forgotten,
Never will our memories fade
Sweetest thoughts of her will ever linger
Round the place where she rests.*

-Author unknown

Acknowledgement

The family would like to express their sincere thanks and appreciation for all acts kindness, love and comfort during this time of bereavement. A special thank you to the Valley Hospital Staff for all their support and services provided. May God bless you for all your thoughtfulness, concerns, prayers and time during our time of bereavement.

Professional Services Provided By

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