

Celebrating the Life of
Washti May Stokes

November 26, 1921 - September 20, 2014



Viewing - 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Sunday, October 12, 2014 - 5:00 p.m.

GRAND CONCOURSE SDA CHURCH

1275 Grand Concourse • Bronx, NY 10452

Dr. Burnett Robinson, Pastor
Pastor Ivan Plummer, Officiating
John Daniels, Organist

Obituary

Vashti May Stokes was born to Sylviann Denton and James Kelly on November 26, 1921 in High Gate, Saint Mary, Jamaica WI. She was a sibling of one brother and one sister. After completing Secondary Form, she worked at the Gore Tobacco for 37 years.

In the early 60's Vashti made the decision to give her life to Christ and was baptized at the Trench Town Seventh-Day Adventist Church by Pastor White. She later married the handsome Leroy Stokes on December 27, 1962. Together they parented 4 children, Audrey, and Ricardo and the late Neville and Ralph.

Vashti migrated to the United States in 1967 where she worked as a nanny and did private homecare. She later went on to become a nurse's aide at Parkview Gardens and then Workmen's Circle until she retired.

Vashti was one of the founding members of the Grand Concourse SDA Church. She later transferred her membership to the Philadelphia SDA Church and then again to the Emmanuel Seventh Day Church Ministries.

Vashti served as a faithful deaconess, and choir member. She loved singing, traveling, storytelling, and making sure everyone was well fed. She was a wonderful mother, grandmother, and advisor. She lived a fruitful and blessed life until her breath returned to God on September 20, 2014.

She is survived by her children, Audrey and Ricardo, daughters-in-law, nieces, nephews, cousins and a countless amount of grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Affectionately called: Vashti, May, Ms. May, Ms. Kelly, Sis. Stokes, Stokie, Mamma, Grandma, Nanna,....

Order of Service

Musical Prelude John Daniels
Processional/Opening Remarks Pastor Dr. Burnett Robinson
Opening Hymn #529 “Under His Wings” Elder J. Clarke
Prayer..... Elder M. Belnavis
Scripture Lesson - Matthew 24:42-47..... Ricardo Stokes Jr.
Musical Selection.....Trevor Bonney Sr.
Tributes Grandchildren & Great-grandchildren
Musical Selection Jenny Buchannon
Scripture Lesson - Isaiah 43:3-7 Tavon Grant
Tributes Audrey Stokes & Selected Persons
Offertory Elder D. Harvey
Acknowledgements.....Zendrea Spence
Obituary Cherry Checky
Song of Meditation.....Emmanuel Church Choir
Sermon Pastor Ivan Plummer
Prayer of Comfort Pastor Desmond Haye
Instructions.....Eternity Funeral Services Director
Closing Hymn #590 “Trust and Obey”.....Elder M. Bedward
Benediction Pastor Dr. Burnett Robinson
Recessional/ Final Viewing

Interment

*Mount Hope Cemetery
Hastings-On-Hudson, New York*

Gathering at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, October 14, 2014
at Emmanuel Seventh Day Church Ministries
3301 Laconia Avenue • Bronx, New York 10469.

Under His Wings Hymn

Under His wings I am safely abiding,
Though the night deepens and tempests are wild,
Still I can trust Him; I know He will keep me,
He has redeemed me, and I am His child.

Refrain

Under His wings, under His wings,
Who from His love can sever?
Under His wings my soul shall abide,
Safely abide forever.

Under His wings, what a refuge in sorrow!
How the heart yearningly turns to His rest!
Often when earth has no balm for my healing,
There I find comfort, and there I am blessed.

Refrain

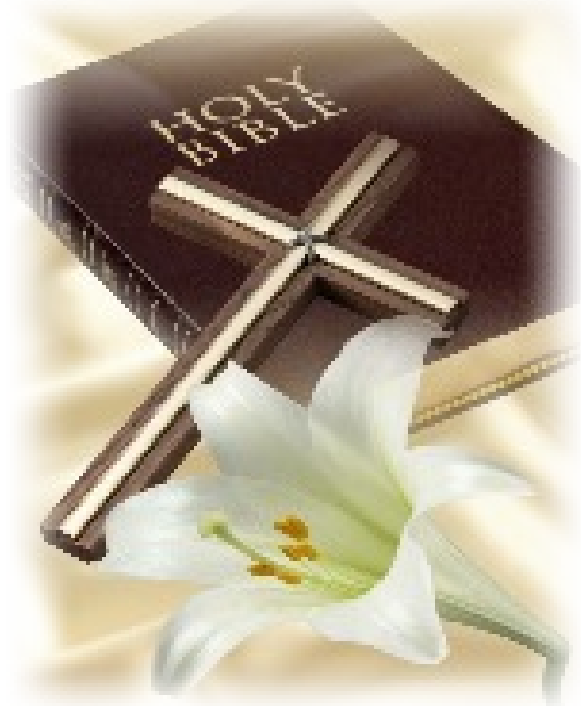
Under His wings, oh, what precious enjoyment!
There will I hide till life's trials are o'er;
Sheltered, protected, no evil can harm me,
Resting in Jesus, I'm safe evermore.

Refrain



Matthew 24:42-27

Watch therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come. But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up. Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh. Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season? Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing. Verily I say unto you, That he shall make him ruler over all his goods.



Isaiah 43:3-7

For I am the Lord thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Saviour: I gave Egypt for thy ransom, Ethiopia and Seba for thee. Since thou wast precious in my sight, thou hast been honourable, and I have loved thee: therefore will I give men for thee, and people for thy life. Fear not: for I am with thee: I will bring thy seed from the east, and gather thee from the west; I will say to the north, Give up; and to the south, Keep not back: bring my sons from far, and my daughters from the ends of the earth; Even every one that is called by my name: for I have created him for my glory, I have formed him; yea, I have made him.



Trust and Obey

When we walk with the Lord
In the light of His Word,
What a glory He sheds on our way;
While we do His good will,
He abides with us still,
And with all who will trust and obey.

Trust and obey,
For there's no other way
To be happy in Jesus,
But to trust and obey.

Not a shadow can rise,
Not a cloud in the skies,
But His smile quickly drives it away;
Not a doubt or a fear,
Not a sigh or a tear,
Can abide while we trust and obey.

Not a burden we bear,
Not a sorrow we share,
But our toil He doth richly repay;
Not a grief or a loss,
Not a frown or a cross,
But is blest if we trust and obey.

But we never can prove
The delights of His love,
Until all on the altar we lay;
For the favor He shows,
And the joy He bestows,
Are for them who will trust and obey.

Then in fellowship sweet
We will sit at His feet,
Or we'll walk by His side in the way;
What He says we will do;
Where He sends, we will go,
Never fear, only trust and obey.

A Mother's Love

A Mother's love is something
that no one can explain,
It is made of deep devotion
and of sacrifice and pain,
It is endless and unselfish
and enduring come what may
For nothing can destroy it
or take that love away . . .
It is patient and forgiving
when all others are forsaking,
And it never fails or falters
even though the heart is breaking . . .
It believes beyond believing
when the world around condemns,
And it glows with all the beauty
of the rarest, brightest gems . . .
It is far beyond defining,
it defies all explanation,
And it still remains a secret
like the mysteries of creation . . .
A many splendored miracle
man cannot understand
And another wondrous evidence
of God's tender guiding hand.



Pallbearers

Robert Grant	Richie Stokes
Christopher Grant	Craig Stokes
Jemal Aikman	Ricardo Stokes Jr.
Neville Aikman Jr.	Ralph Stokes Jr.

Acknowledgement

The family of Vashti May Stokes acknowledges with great appreciation all acts of kindness, sympathy and love extended to us during this time of bereavement.

Eternity 
Funeral Services

Eternity Funeral Services, LLC

Karrie O. Harvey-Edwards
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