



**Sunrise** Fanuary 24, 1918 Sunset Fanuary 24, 2015

#### Service

Saturday, January 31, 2015 - 10:00 a.m.

#### UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.

2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY 10027 Rev. Lee Arrington, Officiating John Stanley, Organist

# <u>Obituary</u>

Born on January 24<sup>th</sup> 1918, **Bertha Lee Hammond** was the last surviving of thirteen siblings born in Marianna, PA to Wade Hampton Hammond and Cora Drake Hammond. Needless to say they were a close-knit group. Being in a family of that size, in that era, Bertha was no stranger to hard work and struggle. She often told of her time as a child, when a Christmas gift could be a piece of fresh fruit.

As young women, she and several siblings moved to and settled in New York where she wed Mr. Webster Foy on her 24th birthday. Brooklyn is where she and Webster would settle, start, and raise their family. They had three children; Cora Ann, Webster "Joe" Jr. (deceased), and the youngest, Emerson.

Becoming a widow at 51 proved to strengthen her bond with family as they pulled even closer together. Always a hard worker, Bertha worked several jobs to take the best care of herself, her children, and her eldest grandchild, Carl Foy, whom she had taken legal guardianship of.

An avid and enthusiastic traveler, Bertha, her sisters, Portia and Pauline Hammond, and her family would take many Caribbean cruises and other exotic vacations throughout her life. They moved to Coney Island in the mid 70's and then to Suffolk County, Long Island in the early 80's. During this time she would retire after many years of dedicated and decorated service with the U.S Postal Service.

Always a fighter, Bertha was a survivor of colon cancer and chronic heart problems. Bertha enjoyed decades of very comfortable retirement in Long Island surrounded by and catered to by her daughter, Cora Jones, loving son-in-law, Leon Jones, and five of her twenty-two great grandchildren. She succumbed to heart failure, and died of natural causes, surrounded by loved ones at Southside Hospital in Bay Shore on her 97th birthday. A clear sign of how special she was to all of us.

Bertha is survived by: her daughter, Cora Ann Jones and son-in-law, Leon Jones; son, Emerson Foy and daughter-in-law, Cynthia Foy; seven grandchildren, Carl, Silicia, Kelly, Laurence, Katina, Curtis and Taryn; and twenty-two great grandchildren the eldest being, Patricia Josephine Foy and Moriah Foy. Bertha also leaves behind a host of nieces, nephews and loved ones.

No words can describe the degree to which you are loved and missed. You were truly a gift from God.

## Order of Service

**Processional** 

**Selection** 

**Scripture Readings** 

**Prayer** 

Selection

Acknowledgements

Remarks

**Obituary** 

Selection

**Eulogy** 

Committal

Viewing

Recessional

Interment

Pinelawn Memorial Park Cemetery Farmingdale, New York

# A Mother's Love

A mother's love is something that no one can explain, it is made of deep devotion and 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 splendor miracle man cannot understand and another wondrous evidence of God's tender guiding hand.

### 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.

2352 8th Avenue • Manhattan, NY • (212) 666-8300 1406 Pitkin Avenue • Brooklyn, NY • (718) 774-1023 1018 Prospect Avenue • Bronx, NY • (718) 542-3833

Clifford V. James, President & CEO www.unityfuneralchapels.com email: unityfc@aol.com

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