

Homegoing Celebration
Mary Ellen (Moore) Johnson

June 18, 1928 - March 11, 2015



Thursday, March 19, 2015 - 7:00 p.m.

CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CENTER

359 Van Houton Street

Paterson, New Jersey

Apostle Joel D. Rudolph, Sr., Officiating

Reflections of Life

Life began, on June 18, 1928 in the city of Warrenton, NC to parents, Mary Frances Algood and Frank Moore, Sr. It was through them that **Mary Ellen** was born. She was one of eight children of the Moore clan.

Mary grew up in Warrenton, where she attended grade and high school. She later became a part of the Great Migration north where her life's journey took root. Her first stop, landed her in the state of New Jersey. After a brief spell in the city of Englewood, Mary moved to Hackensack around 1946. It was where she met and married her predeceased husband, Samuel P. Johnson.

Mary and Samuel took their final move to Paterson, New Jersey in the mid 50's. It was there, that the couple settled and began their new lives as one. Mary gave birth to her only daughter, Theresa LaVerne Johnson. The couple joined the Community Baptist Church under the pastorship of the Rev. Frederick LaGarde, Sr. where she and her husband became active members on the Board of Trustees.

During 1960's, Mary and her husband was motivated and concerned about the quality of life issues that many Black Americans faced. She took that famous ride as a freedom rider, to the March on Washington in 1963 with a determination in mind to end the injustices, and to dismantle the Jim Crow laws addressing the inequalities concerning Black American people, as well as all people. "We weren't taking it anymore!"

In 1966, Mary became a widow faced with the daunting task of raising her daughter alone. Mary joined the Freedom Fighters and became active in the city of Paterson. It was during that time, as one of few trustees aided and assisted the pastor in bringing Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. into the city.

She was one of the charter members of the Paterson chapter of the NAACP, an Eastern Star, A Life Time Member of the National Negro Women Council, one of the original organizers of the National Negro Women Council, one of the original organizer of the African American Parade, 100 Black Women Plus, a member of PCAAW at church a member of place of reconciliation support group and a County Committee Leader for the first ward. Mary's passion as an organizer, innovator, worked tirelessly to improve the quality of life for all people. She sought donations to help mothers that were incarcerated to assist in providing toys and clothing for their children.

Her final chapter, she leaves to mourn a daughter, Theresa Johnson; a step daughter, Hilda McGuire; granddaughter, Chasmine Johnson Petersen; step granddaughter, Lynette McGuire Butler; step grandson, Darryl Thompson; great granddaughter, Audrina Rose Vaccaro; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. Mary leaves a legacy amongst those who she holds dearly! "I'll be alright, don't you worry about me" "You must keep moving forward, with the intent to uplift and help others" she would say. The victory of living a life well lived is not by the things one acquired, but by the stewardship of kindness that actually do transforms lives.

Order of Service

Organ Prelude

Processional

Invocation.....Pastor Michael Walton

Selection.....CFC Sanctuary Choir

Scripture Readings

Old Testament - Psalm 46:1-7..... Min. Melanie Huggins

New Testament - I Corinthians 13:1-13.....Elder Barbara Wood

Prayer of Comfort.....Elder Luwanda Parker

Special Remarks..... City of Paterson

Paterson City Council
Director - Paterson Police Dept.
The Sheriff's Department
Assemblywoman Shivonda Sumter
National Council of Negro Women
Passaic County African American
Women – 100 Plus

Solo.....Pastor Shelby Mack

Family Tribute.....The Moore Family
Theresa Johnson (Daughter)

Acknowledgments/obituary.....Waheeda Mohammad

Selection.....CFC Sanctuary Choir

The Spoken Word.....Rev. Dr. Joel Rudolph, Sr.
Senior Pastor - CFC

Final Viewing

Benediction

Recessional

Interment

Arlington Cemetery
Kearny, New Jersey



We Will Miss You Momma

Theresa L. Johnson

Momma, I just can't say Goodbye.

I know I will see

You again with that glowing light in your eyes.

We will miss you dearly I promise

I'll try not to cry.

I will never forget our many journeys and our
conversations on the road

The thoughts of how great God is and that we're
never quite alone.

How happy you were to see me when I finally came home.
You worried so much about me and Chaz and I worried about you too
This is one of the hardest things Chazi and I will ever have to do.

I know you'll always be with me where I will go
No one needs to show me I will always know.

I'm stump Ma and I don't have a clue.

I know you'll watch over us three

And you'll be our guiding light too. Giving us the strength that's needed
To win this endless Life's fight.

What giant steps you created what strong shoulders you bare
Your efforts of love and devotion I can never compare.

I won't say goodbye Mom because our love is so dear
I blow a kiss toward the heavens and say, "Love is Forever Ma"

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Acknowledgement

The family of the late **Mary Ellen (Moore) Johnson** 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!

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CARNE P. BRAGG FUNERAL HOMES, INC.

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