

*In Loving Memory of*

*Cynthia "Blossom" McLean*

Sunrise  
April 12, 1936

Sunset  
May 18, 2017

*Friday, May 26, 2017*  
*Viewing: 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.*  
*Service: 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.*

**Whigham Funeral Home**  
580 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
Newark, New Jersey

## Obituary

**Cynthia McLean** was born on April 12, 1936 to the late Cecil McLean and Indiana Deir in Kingston, Jamaica. A quiet perfectionist, she excelled in school and graduated from St. Joseph Girls School.

Cynthia prided herself in looking after her siblings and caring for her family. In 1954 and 1957 respectively, she birthed two children of her own: son Michael Anthony and daughter Carol Angela. When Cynthia's sisters Daphne and Hermine left Jamaica in the late 60s, she stepped in to help raise her nieces and nephews Sonia, Marcia, Chris, Peter, Jacqui, Ingrid, Clive, Andrew, and Samantha until migrating to the United States in 1978.

Cynthia's commitment to family is evident in all that she did. While maintaining a 20+ year position as a housekeeping supervisor at New York's Park Lane Hotel, her loved ones always came first. Cynthia cared for her mother 'Mama' for several decades and took her role as the family's matriarch with joy and humility.

Cynthia - affectionately known as Blossom - adored her children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews, making sure that everyone felt her unconditional love and comfort from her flavorful Jamaican meals. During her free time, loved ones could find her cheering on her favorite wrestlers. She was an Avid fan of wrestling and made sure everyone knew it.

Cynthia nurtured her family until her last breath. Cynthia made her transition on May 18, 2017 at the Center of Hope in Scotch Plains, New Jersey.

Cynthia is preceded in death by her daughter, Carol Angela Roper-Shareef; son, Michael Anthony Roper; four brothers: Sydney, Allan, Carlton and Herbert; and five sisters: Daisy, Daphne, Hermine, Evelyn, and Muriel. She is survived by her brothers: Frank, Eli, Rupert, and George, son-in-law Saleem Shareef, daughter-in-law Valerie Roper, granddaughters Sabreen Shareef and Mikelle Roper, grandsons Tariq Shareef, Taj Shareef, Michael Roper, great-granddaughter Anisah James, several cousins, nieces, nephews, and loving friends.

Order of Service

Musical Selection ..... “The Lord is My Shepherd”  
Joshua Nelson

Opening Prayer ..... Reverend Rodney Brooks

Scripture Readings  
Old Testament: Psalm 23  
New Testament: John 14 1-6

Musical Selection ..... “How Great Thou Art”  
Joshua Nelson

Remarks by Family

Acknowledgements/Obituary Reading

Musical Selection ..... “Abide With Me”

Eulogy ..... Reverend Rodney Brooks

Closing Hymn ..... “Amazing Grace”  
Joshua Nelson

**Interment**  
Glendale Cemetery  
Bloomfield, New Jersey

*God on His throne in heaven  
Looked round His flowers so fair  
And then sought a blossom on earth  
To add to those He had there.  
To be part of such heavenly company  
The bloom must be pure and sweet  
And the little bud that was chosen  
Was the mother who's love we keep.  
Sorrow is great at the loss of our mother  
At the parting with one we love  
But the parting was made that our mother might go  
To brighten the heavens above.*

*Acknowledgement*

*The family wishes to express their sincere thanks and appreciation  
for all acts of kindness and expressions of sympathy that was  
shown to them during this time of bereavement.*

Professional Services by:  
**Whigham Funeral Home**

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Newark, New Jersey 07102  
973-622-6872

**Carolyn Whigham, Director**

