

CELEBRATING
the
Life
of



Selda
M. BROOKS

FUNERAL SERVICE
Friday, September 25, 2026 - 11:00 a.m.

CHRIST TEMPLE BAPTIST CHURCH
38 Hopper Street, Paterson, New Jersey
Rev. Dr. Weldon McWilliams IV, Senior Pastor

SUNRISE
June 26, 1931
SUNSET
September 2, 2026

CELEBRATION OF LIFE FOR

ZELDA

M. Brooks

June 26, 1931 ~ September 2, 2026

Zelda Brooks, leaves behind a legacy as a devoted mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, beloved family matriarch, and cherished friend whose love and guidance touched countless lives. On September 2, 2026, Zelda peacefully departed this life to be united with her Heavenly Father, leaving behind countless memories and an enduring example of faith, love, generosity, and strength.

Born June 26, 1931, in Chester, Pennsylvania, Zelda, affectionately known as "Zel," was the sixth of twelve children born to the late Edward and Susie Brooks. She was educated in the Chester Pennsylvania Public School District, graduating from Chester High School in 1947 where she developed the values of hard work, perseverance, and compassion that would guide her throughout her life.

Later, Zel relocated to Paterson, New Jersey, where she built a life centered around family, faith, and service to others. Known for her remarkable work ethic and unwavering determination, Zel worked for Revlon in New Jersey for many years before joining Nabisco in Fair Lawn, New Jersey, where she earned the respect and admiration of her coworkers through her dedication and hard work until her retirement. Yet, of all her accomplishments, nothing mattered more to her than her family. Zel's greatest joy was caring for and supporting the people she loved.

More than anything in this world, Zel loved her children, Waverly and Tammy. They were her heart, her joy, and the greatest blessings God entrusted to her. From the moment they entered her life, she devoted herself wholeheartedly to being the best mother she could be. Every decision she made, every sacrifice she offered, and every prayer she prayed carried her children at its center. She worked tirelessly to provide for them, guide them, and ensure they always knew they were deeply loved.

Zel shared a unique and special bond with both Waverly and Tammy. She took great pride in the people they became and celebrated every accomplishment, no matter how big or small. As a mother, she was their greatest supporter, strongest protector, trusted confidante, and unwavering source of encouragement. Through life's joys and challenges, she stood firmly by their side, offering wisdom, comfort, and strength whenever they needed it. Her children knew they could always count on their mother because her love was steadfast, dependable, and unconditional.

As her family grew, so did her love. The same unconditional devotion she so freely gave to Waverly and Tammy extended to her precious grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Being a grandmother brought her immense pride and happiness. She cherished every opportunity to

spend time with them, create memories, and shower them with affection.

Her grandchildren always felt deeply loved, and her nurturing spirit left a lasting imprint on their hearts.

She also held a special place in her heart for her daughter-in-law, Karen Brooks, and her son-in-law, Kevin Peterkin. They were not simply family by marriage, but family in every sense of the word. She welcomed them with open arms, kindness, and love, making them feel cherished and valued from the very beginning. Karen and Kevin were grateful for her warmth, wisdom, and unwavering support throughout the years. The bond they shared was built on mutual respect, laughter, and love, and they will forever treasure the memories and moments they were fortunate to share with her.

Zel's kitchen was the heart of her home, where she lovingly prepared meals that brought family and friends together. An exceptional cook, she was known for her holiday dinners and homemade desserts, especially her Coconut Pineapple cake. She treasured the holidays because they gathered loved ones around her table. Her greatest joy was seeing others enjoy the food she made with love and ensuring everyone was left with a full stomach and a happy heart. For Zel, generosity was not simply an act, it was part of who she was.

Zel also enjoyed shopping for beautiful clothes, traveling to new places, and searching for the perfect gifts during the holiday season. Her thoughtfulness, generosity, and loving spirit touched the lives of everyone who was fortunate enough to know her. She found joy in making others feel special and loved.

Above all, Zel loved the Lord. She faithfully gave her heart to God and was a devoted member of Christ Temple Baptist Church Paterson, New Jersey, where she faithfully served as an Usher, the Vice President of the Usher Board, Pastor's Aide, and a dedicated member of the Golden Hearts. Her faith was the foundation of her life, and she carried herself with grace, kindness, humility, and a servant's heart.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Edward and Susie Brooks; her beloved grandchildren, Tanya Brooks, Troy Alexander and LaShonda Harrison; and her brothers and sisters, Elmo Brooks, Clarence Brooks, Morris Brooks, Frank Brooks, Marc "Jake" Brooks, Lucille "Sissy" Henry, Judy Maureen Hicks, Novella Smith, LeRoy Brooks, Clifton "Puke" Brooks, Larry "Peter" Brooks, and Florence Harding.

Zel leaves to cherish precious memories her loving son, Deacon Waverly Brooks and his wife Karen; **her devoted daughter**, Tammy Peterkin and her husband Kevin; **her beloved grandchildren**, Mia Rivers and her husband Keyon, Rashad Peterkin, Ahmad Peterkin, Fontella Harrison and **her great-grandchildren**, Asaiah (Zay Zay) Brooks, Keyvon Rivers, Kyrone Dubose, Kavali Dubose and Kambri Dubose; *along with a host of nieces, nephews, extended family members, and dear friends who were blessed by her love and friendship.*

Though Zel's presence will be deeply missed, we celebrate a life that was rich in purpose and overflowing with love. Her warmth, hospitality, gentle spirit, unwavering devotion to her family, and faithful service to God will forever be treasured. The lessons she taught, the love she shared, and the memories she created will continue to live on through her children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and all who were blessed to know her.

♥ *she leaves behind a legacy of strength,
compassion, and unwavering dedication to others.* ♥

Order of Service

Prelude

Final Viewing

(Medley Of Songs By Kevin Johnson, Organist)

Opening Hymn *"At The Cross"*

Prayer Of Comfort..... *Rev. Roderick Brooks, Nephew*

Scriptures

Old Testament-Psalm 23 *Deacon Julia Richardson*

New Testament- 1 Corinthians 15: 50-57 *Sis. Laurie Galling*

Selection *"Total Praise"- Felisha Williams*

Special Reflections..... *Rev. Dr. William Henry, Nephew*
Kevin Peterkin, Son-In-Law

Selection *"Eyes On The Sparrow"- Felisha Williams*

Acknowledgements..... *Sis. Georgia Able, Church Clerk*

Obituary *Mia Rivers, Granddaughter*

Selection *"I Won't Complain"- Felisha Williams*

Eulogy *Rev. Dr. Weldon McWilliams, IV*
Senior Pastor, Christ Temple Baptist Church, Paterson, NJ

The Recessional..... *"Going Up Yonder"*

Interment

Fair Lawn Memorial Park
22-21 Maple Ave
Fair Lawn, NJ 07410

Prayer Of Remembrance

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the life of our mother Zelda Brooks, a God-fearing woman, devoted mother, and loving grandmother. We are grateful for the faith, kindness, wisdom, and love she shared with family and all who knew her. May her legacy of faith continue to guide and inspire us. Grant Zelda eternal rest in Your presence, and surround her loved ones with Your comfort, peace, and strength during this time of loss. We trust that she now rests safely in Your arms...Amen

Lovingly submitted Waverly and Tammy



PALL BEARERS
Family And Friends

FLOWER BEARERS
Family And Friends

Acknowledgement

Words cannot express how grateful our family is for your generous support, encouraging words, thoughts and prayers. We thank you sincerely for thinking of us in our time of need.

May God continue to bless you in a very special way.

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