The Unexpected

The news hit like an earthquake and shook us to the core; that our beautiful mother; the matriarch of our family would breathe on earth no more. Something that was not anticipated, has wreaked havoc in our lives and we are devastated. Warm, salty tears like a raging river flow down our faces and saturate our chests, knowing the woman that gave to us her best, we now have the difficult task of laying her to rest. Like loud claps of thunder, we cry out , WHY? Longing for more time to hold and kiss you for we weren't prepared to say goodbye. Left with precious memories in this we had no say. Not knowing that you would not wake to see another day. We must try with all our might, to stand together and to unite. Left behind, we must not give up hope. Though our hearts are heavy we must help each other to cope. It's okay not to be okay. But we must help each other to face another day. This is a heavy load to bare. Words of encouragement, prayers and love we must share. Our mommy was beautiful inside and out. She was humble, soft spoken, kind and loving, no doubt. So as we step stride by stride let us keep her in mind and let her be our guide. Remember her smile and her warm embrace. Never will we forget her beautiful face, for the love and memories that each of us have can never be erased. Etched in our hearts forever We love you mommy and send you our love from this place called earth to your new home up above. Rest in Peace Mommy ❤️

~ By Paula C. Johnson

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.

Professional Services Provided By:

Roy L. Gilmore's Funeral Home, Inc.

Angela Gilmore-Manning, *President*
Ph (718) 529-3030 • (718) 528-7765
Fax (718) 712-2108 • (718) 528-2575
Email: royl.gilmorefuneralhome@verizon.net
191-02 Linden Blvd. • St. Albans, NY 11412

www.honoryou.com

Celebration of Life for



Minnie Veola Champion

June 14, 1935 - October 25, 2026

Service:
Thursday, November 5, 2026 ~11:00 AM

ROY L. GILMORE'S FUNERAL HOME, INC.
191-02 Linden Blvd. • St. Albans, New York 11412

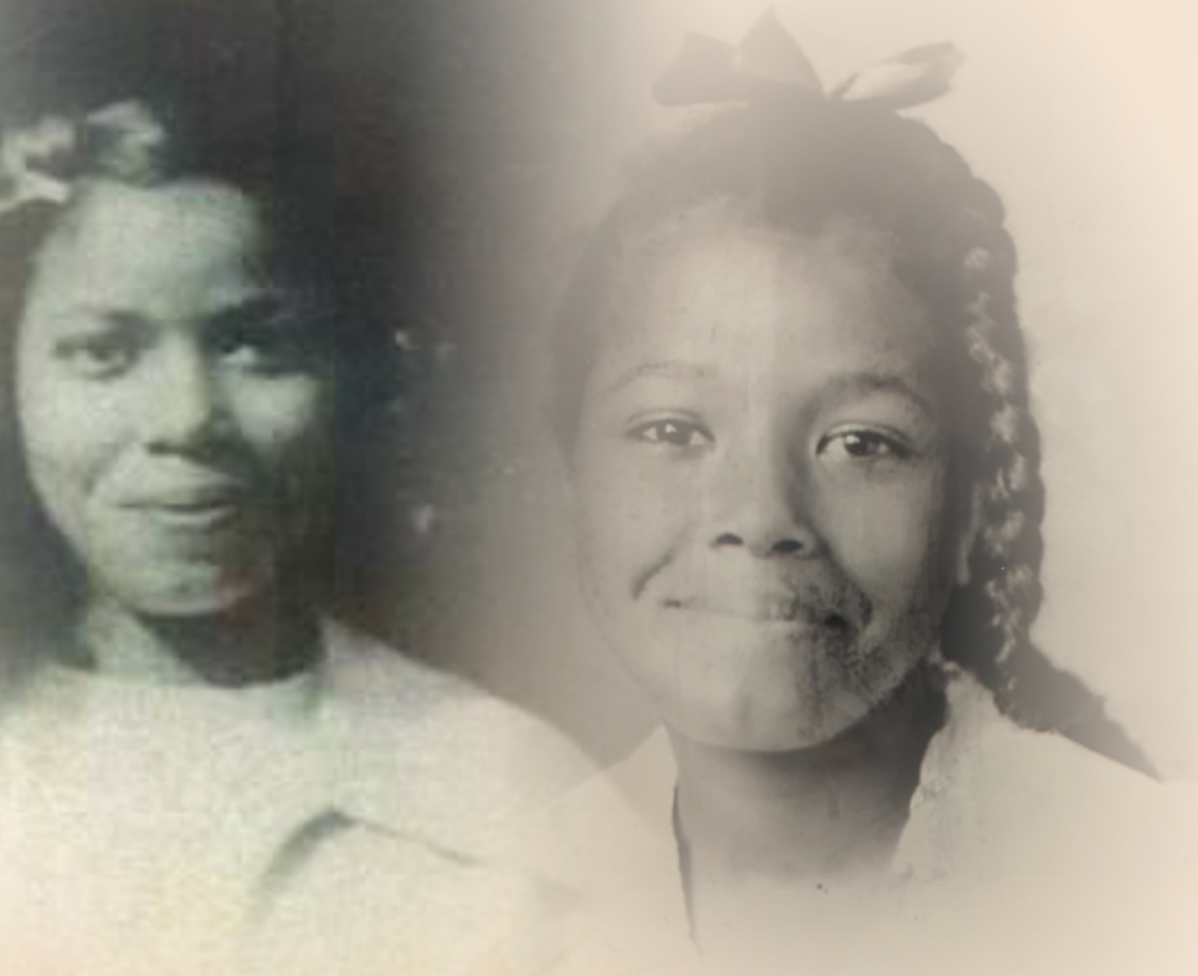


Remember Me

To the living, I am gone.
To the sorrowful, I will never return.
To the angry, I was cheated but to the happy,
I am at peace and to the faithful,
I have never left.
I cannot speak, but I can listen.
I cannot be seen, but I can be heard.
So as you stand upon the shore
gazing at a beautiful sea,
Remember me.
As you look in awe at a mighty forest
and its grand majesty,
Remember me.
Remember me in your hearts, in your thoughts,
and the memories of the time we loved.
The times we cried, the battle I fought,
and the times we laughed.
For if you always think of me,
I will have never gone.



PRECIOUS MEMORIES



Order of Service

Prelude
Welcome Alysena Brierre

Opening Prayer
Officiant

Musical Selection /Hymn of Comfort
"I'll Fly Away"

Scripture Reading
Jazmyne Brierre

Obituary
Neysa Coleman

Poem
Paula Johnson

Reflections and Remarks
Family and Friends

Eulogy
Linda Champion

Song
"Gone But Not Forgotten" - Percy Bady

Words of Comfort
Officiant

Benediction
Officiant

Remittal
Officiant

Interment
Flushing Cemetery

ORDER OF CELEBRATION



Minnie Veola Champion, affectionately known as ‘Teddy’, transitioned on October 25th at the age of 91 in Queens Village, NY. She was born June 14, 1935 in Birmingham, Alabama to the late James Smith and Velma Thornton. She was preceded in death by her sisters Odell and Blanche and brother Archibald.

She graduated from Northern High School in Detroit Michigan in 1953. On June 19, 1954 she married the love of her life Dana Champion. Through this union 5 children were conceived. She was a stay-at-home mom abroad until the sudden passing of her husband in 1971. Minnie relocated to Queens, New York where she resided with her mother and sister Blanche. She briefly attended Queensboro Community College and subsequently was employed as a Social Worker at the Department of Human Resources in New York City.

Later Minnie met her partner in life Amos Gibbs which led to the birth of her youngest child, Alysena. Minnie loved to play cards and board games with her family, especially with her sister Blanche. Her favorite pastime was watching Family Feud and Judge Judy. She also loved cooking, her specialties were fried chicken, fried fish and collard greens.

She was preceded in death by her siblings Odell, Blanche, Archibald and daughter’s in-law Fredrika Champion and Judith Champion.She is survived by her children Dana Champion Jr, Neysa Coleman, Terryl Champion, Linda Champion, Paula Johnson (Richard), Alysena Brierre (Patrick) and 16 Grand Children, 13 Great Grand Children and a host of nieces and nephews.

She will be cherished, loved and etched in our hearts forever.



REFLECTIONS OF LIFE