

*A Tribute to Our Mother  
Bernice A. Hudson Laurel*

*Although she is gone to be with the Lord, our love for her remains as we cherish her memory forever.*

*She lovingly nurtured us with values, hopes and dreams which became our beacon that guided us through the years. She empowered us with her God given strength to press on despite obstacles great and small. She loved life and lived it humbly knowing that her help came from the Lord. At an early age, there was no doubt in our minds that Sunday School and Church were the first priority. We thank God she put God first in our lives as we imitated her love for the Lord. When ever we came to her with a problem or concern, she always said, "pray about it". She loved sending special occasion cards to family and friends. Even through her illness, she wanted others to know she was thinking of them and praying for them.*

*She has sown the seeds of faith and love of God that will eternally live within us. These seeds are firmly planted and are now blossoming within our children and grand-children. She prayed for them, one by one. Her Legacy of Love will forever be the source of our strength and comfort.*

*Our hearts are heavy, but at peace, for we know she is with HIM. "There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy dwelling places of the Most High" (Psalm 47:4). As she stood on the shore, and watched the tide of time fade away, she heard our cries, "We Love You Mom". As she crossed over and entered His Holy dwelling place, she heard Georgia Mae (her mother), our Dad, Florie, Mildred, and Bill shout: "Here she comes! Hallelujah!"*

***Thank You God for Our Mother and the Life She Lived Through You  
Done In Forever Love  
Gwen, Jimmy, and Carol***

***Acknowledgments***

*The family of Bernice A. Hudson Laurel wishes to extend our most gracious and deepest appreciation to you for every act of kindness and concern bestowed to us during her illness and home-going. Your prayers, encouraging phone calls, and beautiful cards and flowers are a great source of strength and comfort. Your expressions of sympathy will be etched in our hearts always.*

*We Thank God for You  
The Family*

[www.honoryou.com](http://www.honoryou.com)

*Memorial Service  
for*



*Bernice Alathia Hudson Laurel*

*Sunrise  
April 7, 1919*

*Sunset  
April 19, 2010*

*Saturday, May 1, 2010 - 10:00 a.m.*

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
100 High Street • Cranford, New Jersey

***Rev. Alfred E. Brown, Jr., Pastor***

*Order of Service*

- Organ Prelude ..... Mr. J. Donald Walker
- Processional
- Invocation
- Solo .....“I Walk Today Where Jesus Walked”  
Mr. Howard Hudson
- Scriptural Passages ..... Rev. Ralph Thomas
- Lord’s Prayer ..... Howard Hudson
- Tributes .....Mrs. Susan Casper-Smith  
Mrs. Melanie Laurel-Hansford
- Reading of Resolutions
- Musical Tribute.....Mr. Mark (Logan) Belle  
Mrs. Terri Belle-Witty
- Eulogy ..... Rev. Alfred E. Brown, Jr.
- Closing Prayer
- Recessional

**Cremation**  
 Baldwin-Fairchild Funeral Home and Crematory  
 Winter Park, Florida

**Inurnment**  
 Rosedale Cemetery  
 Linden, New Jersey

*Immediately following the inurnment, family and friends are invited to return to First Baptist Church 100 High Street, Cranford where a repast will be served.*

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*Services Entrusted To:*  
**G.G. Woody Funeral Home, LLC**  
 206 East Eighth Avenue • Roselle, NJ 07203  
 www.ggwoodyfuneralhome.com

*“Where Our Sympathy Expresses Itself Through Sincere Service”*

*Obituary*

**“Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints.” Prov. 14:32**

**Bernice Alathia Hudson Laurel**

God graced her with life in Millen, Georgia on April 7, 1919. She was the second daughter of five siblings born to the late Remer Hudson and Georgia Mae Kelsey Hudson. She entered into His presence on April 19, 2010 at her home in Winter Park, Florida. Her devoted sisters, Florie and Mildred and brother, Edmond (Bill) preceded her in their home going.

At an early age her family moved to Cranford, New Jersey where she received her education and graduated from Cranford High School in 1938.

In 1939, Bernice married her devoted husband of fifty-two years, the late James Laurel, Sr. To this union they were blessed with three children, Gwendolyn, James, Jr. and Carol.

Bernice was raised in a Christian home and gave her life to Christ at any early age. She spoke to us of her different baptisms while living in Georgia. She said, “I’ve been sprinkled, dunked in pools and in a lake”. She went to different churches, but served the one true God. She joined First Baptist Church in Cranford and was again baptized by the late Rev. Hutchinson.

Bernice went to Essie Mae’s Beauty Culture School and learned the art of “doing hair”. She worked at Domestic Engineering for several years followed by employment at Bamberger’s Department Store in Newark, NJ and Cranford High School Cafeteria. After working at various companies in Cranford, she retired from Boyle Midway. She also worked alongside her husband and other family members in the catering business for many years.

She adored her Kelsey family clan. She looked forward to family reunions and gatherings great and small. Her devotion to family and friends was evident as she sought ways to encourage many with words of advice and gracious deeds of kindness.

She leaves to cherish fond memories: one brother, Remer Hudson; two daughters, Gwendolyn (Herbert) Moody and Carol (Richard) Casper; one son, James (Patricia) Laurel, Jr.; eight grandchildren, Rodney, Mark, Troy, Roxanne, Sandra, Terri, Melanie and Susan; twelve great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren; a sister-in-law, Euzelia Nesbitt; an aunt, Adele Kelsey; her devoted faithful friends, Donald Walker, Mildred White and Harold James; and a host of devoted nieces, nephews and cousins.

*“Those we love must someday pass beyond our present sight...and the world we know will be dimmer without her present light, but we know that like a candle her lovely light will shine to brighten up another place more perfect...more divine. And in the realm of Heaven where she takes her place amongst the saints, our Mom shines brightest and lives forevermore in God’s eternal light.”*

Done in Love,  
 The Family

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