



*In Loving Memory of*

*Grace E. Lawrence*

*Sunrise*  
January 12, 1939

*Sunset*  
October 5, 2010

*Wednesday, October 13, 2010 - 7:00 p.m.*

**ST. LUKE A.M.E. CHURCH**

1854 Amsterdam Avenue  
New York, New York

*Rev. Jacobas Mitchell, Officiating*  
*Rev. Linda Hill, Eulogist*  
**Pastor of Mt. Pisgah-Turner AME**

## Obituary

**Grace E. Lawrence** was born on January 12, 1939 and departed this life on Tuesday October 5, 2010. She was the third child of the late Leroy and Elizabeth Butler born in Charleston, South Carolina. She received her early religious training at Bethel Reformed Episcopal Church on Groveland Ave in Charleston. In the summer of 1953, she moved to New York City.

In September 1953, Grace was enrolled in Morris high school, where she met a young man named Alonzo E. Lawrence. They continued to date even after she graduated Morris in 1956. On March 30, 1958, Alonzo and Grace were married at St. Luke A.M.E Church. From this union, they had four children, Terri, who superseded her in death, Alonzo Jr., Tracey and Sean Lawrence.

She joined St. Luke A.M.E Church also in 1956 under the leadership of Rev. Albert A. Davis and was assigned to class 12. She was a faithful church member. On Jan 19, 1991 Alonzo and Grace joined Turner Memorial A.M.E Church under the leadership of Rev. Jacobas Mitchell. At Turner, Grace was a faithful and committed member to her local church. She faithfully served as a member on the steward board and missionary society and also served as the only church treasurer. In 2009, Turner A.M.E. Church and Mt. Pisgah A.M.E Church was merged where Grace continued to serve as a faithful member until her departure.

Grace attended Fordham University where she obtained her B.A. for Early Education on June 1, 1974. She continued to work as a Para-professional at P.S. 154 in the Bronx. She received her Masters of Science in education from City College of NYC during Feb 1984. After graduation, she became a certified school teacher where she taught at P.S. 188 and worked until she retired in 1997.

Grace Lawrence was a people person. She was honest, conscientious and determined in her work for the lord, her church and her life. She did not desire recognition, fame or glory, but believed in getting things done. She had a strong love for her family especially her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She also had a strong love for shopping. Grace's love for shopping was seen through her own sense of style. She was very meticulous with her hair and clothing. Everything had to match from her head to her shoes. Back in the days, she was famous for going to Third Avenue and Fordham Road to shop and would stop and talk to everyone along the way. Eventually, she discovered QVC and took her shopping experience to a whole new level.

Welcoming Grace into the eternal kingdom of heaven is her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, her parents Elizabeth and Leroy, her only brother Leroy Jr., her daughter Terri, her mother -in- law Pearl Lawrence and other relatives and friends.

She was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother, sister and friend. She leaves to cherish her memory: her husband, Alonzo E. Lawrence, Bronx NY; her three remaining children, eldest son, Alonzo Jr. (AL), Virginia; youngest daughter, Tracey Lawrence Jordan, New York City and youngest son, Sean J. Lawrence, California; her only sister, Parmalee Butler, New York City; her grandchildren, Patrice Lee, Yonkers; Davon Lawrence (Estefany) and Duane Lawrence (TaShawna), Virginia; Eboni Jordan, New York City and Destinee Green, New York City; her great grandchildren, Kayla Leftenant, Yonkers, Kennedy Grace Norales, Yonkers and A'Niya Michelle Lawrence, Virginia; three sisters-in-law, one brother- in- law, three nieces and two nephews, five great nephews and one great niece; and host of relatives and close friends.

# Order of Service

Musical Prelude

Processional ..... Clergy & Family

Hymn ..... "It Is Well With My Soul"

Prayer of Comfort ..... Rev. Dr. J. Albert Bush, Sr.  
Pastor, Walker Memorial Baptist Church

Scripture Reading

Old Testament Psalm 91:1-16 ..... Rev. Elmer Hardy

New Testament John 14:1-7 ..... Rev. Grace Aytes

Selection ..... The Choir

Poem ..... Shawan Fox, niece

Special Tribute-Nylay ..... Bro. Alonzo Graves, Pres. NY Conf. Lay Org.  
Sis. Mary L. Mootoo, First Episcopal District Lay Pres.  
Board of Education - Fran Salter, Former Principal of P188

Acknowledgements  
& Condolences

Resolutions ..... Rev. Linda Hill

Remarks (2 minutes) ..... Open

Family Tribute ..... Open

Selection ..... The Choir

Obituary ..... Read Aloud

Solo..... Sis. Queenie Lofton

Eulogy ..... Rev. Linda Hill, Pastor  
Mt. Pisgah Turner Memorial A.M.E. Church

Benediction ..... Rev. Linda Hill

Committal ..... "Hold The Fort"

## Interment

Mt. Holiness Cemetery  
Butler, New Jersey

## The Love Story That Will Never End

By: Alonzo E. Lawrence

It was the beginning of our freshman year at Morris High School in the Bronx. During lunchtime, I noticed this Jewish girl named Annette Saber from my homeroom. She was sitting along side this beautiful girl and some other young ladies. The beautiful girl was wearing a white blouse, a brown skirt, black shoes, white socks and no lipstick. I asked Annette "what is that girl's name"? She told me she didn't know what her name was and to find out for myself, since it was the first day anyone ever met. So I turned to that girl at the table and asked her for her name. She looked at me like I was crazy but she told me her name was Grace Butler. I told her my name was Ronnie (a nickname). Right after that introduction, I asked her to be my girlfriend. Again, she looked at me like I was crazy. She told me that she would tell me her answer the next day. So the next day, (10:45am, 3rd period in the lunch room) I went up to her and she said she would be happy to be my girlfriend. We went out for the whole school year. Unfortunately, we never saw each other for the whole summer. The first day of our sophomore year, the first person I saw was Grace. I asked her if she still wanted to continue to see each other and she said: "yes." Later that year, I asked her to marry me and she said: "yes but we would have to get permission from my mother". Grace invited me to dinner (our first dinner before we were married) so I can meet her mother. Over a stew chicken dinner (which I still can't stand to this day), I asked Mrs. Butler, if I can marry her daughter. Mrs. Butler asked me: "So when are you getting married?" I said: "after graduation". Mrs. Butler stated: "anything that far away, the answer is yes". So after 5 years of dating on March 30th, 1958 I married Grace and we lived happily ever after. I love you Grace: then, now and forever.



### *Acknowledgement*

*The family acknowledges with deep appreciation all acts of kindness extended to them during this bereavement hour.*

*God bless you for all your thoughtfulness and concern.*

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*Clifford V. James, V.P. & Gen. Mgr.*

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