

*Celebrating the Life and Legacy of*



*Pearl T. Minatee*

*Sunrise*  
*April 11, 1931*

*Sunset*  
*March 28, 2011*

2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 4:7-8 "I have fought a good fight, I have finished [my] course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing."

**Saturday, April 2, 2011 - 9:00 a.m.**

***First Baptist Church***

***13-15 Harrison Street***

***Nutley, New Jersey***

***Rev. Kevin Jones, Officiating***



## "Until Then"

*Words and music by Stuart Hamblen 1958*

My heart can sing when I pause to remember  
A heartache here, is but a stepping stone  
Along a trail that's winding always upward,  
This troubled world is not my final home.

**But until, then my heart will go on singing,  
Until then, with joy I'll carry on,  
Until the day my eyes behold the city,  
Until the day God calls me home.**

The things of earth will dim and lose their value  
If we recall, they're borrowed for awhile;  
And things of earth that cause the heart to tremble,  
Remembered there, will only bring a smile.

**But until then, my heart will go on singing,  
Until then, with joy I'll carry on,  
Until the day my eyes behold the city,  
Until the day God calls me home.**

This weary world with all its toil and struggle  
May take its toll of misery and strife;  
The soul of man is like a waiting falcon;  
When it's released, it's destined for the skies.

**But until then, my heart will go on singing,  
Until then, with joy I'll carry on,  
Until the day my eyes behold the city,  
Until the day God calls me home.**

Love you Momma,  
Stefanie Renee' and Squeeza

### **Hymn of Praise**

*When peace, like a river, attendeth my way, When sorrows like  
sea billows roll; Whatever my lot, Thou has taught me to say, It  
is well, it is well, with my soul.*

*Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come, Let this  
blest assurance control, That Christ has regarded my helpless  
estate, And hath shed His own blood for my soul.*

*And Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight, The clouds  
be rolled back as a scroll; The trump shall resound, and the Lord  
shall descend, Even so, it is well with my soul.*

*Refrain:*

*It is well, with my soul, It is well, it is well, with my soul.*

## *Reflections of Life*

**Pauline “Pearl” Tucker Minatee** was born in Newark, NJ on April 11, 1931, the oldest of seven children, to the late Henry Fogie Tucker and Hattie Mollie Dixon Tucker.

In the 1940’s the family moved from 13 Vine Street to Thomas Street, located in the ironbound section of Newark; a section affectionately known as “down neck”. A community of people became one family on Thomas Street, bringing true meaning to the African proverb “It takes a village to raise a family.” This community became a beacon of hope for those who lived there, establishing long time friendships, which remain in tact to this day.

Directly next door to the community was First Mt. Zion Baptist Church; the Tucker Family became active members. Pearl accepted Christ at an early age, and served as a member of the Black History Club, Jr. Chorus, and the Baptist Youth Training Program. She also attended Vacation Bible School. At Mt. Zion, she met her lifelong friend Jeanne White, and they began singing duets together.

Pearl attended Oliver Street School. She was a good student, and participated in several school activities, which included featured soloist for her 8th grade promotional ceremony; the requirement at that time was for females to tailor their own graduation dresses. Pearl’s dress was phenomenal, and she wore it proudly. She attended East Side High School, where Pearl was a good student, and continued to excel in Music. She was a member of the All State Chorus, and several singing groups. Pearl was also a member of many school clubs, and took a secretarial course. She graduated from East Side High School winning a music scholarship to Shaw University. Pearl elected to stay home and assist her family with making ends meet. Her alternative was to attend the Essex County Vocational School, where she pursued nursing.

In 1953, she married Steven E. Minatee, a childhood friend from the neighborhood. Steven had charm, and the gift of gab. Three children were born to this union, Stefanie Renee’, Steven Kyle, and Stacey Pearl.

After obtaining her nursing license, Pearl began working for the Visiting Nurses Association of Orange, NJ caring for the sick and elderly. This life learning experience was rich and rewarding. Pearl later became an Eye and Ear Technician for the Newark Board of Education. She proudly retired in 1999. In addition, Pearl served as a representative for Avon Products since November 14, 1961, with a tremendous sales record.

Her most notable achievement was receiving her college degree at the age of 60. After raising her family, and working full time, Pearl returned to school and obtained a degree in Gerontology. She graduated from KEAN University with honors. While there, Pearl was a proud member of the Black Studies Alliance.

Her love for singing continued to drive her. She was a member of the Unique Gospel Singers. They enjoyed singing locally and appearing on

the Anna Tuell radio broadcast. In the early 1950's she became a member of the "Voices of Faith" a community choir based in Newark, under the direction of Lawrence C. Roberts. Pearl was enamored by the gifts and talents of Roberts and traveled with him locally, nationally and internationally. In later years Roberts would be called to Pastor the First Baptist Church of Nutley. The Voices of Faith would become the world famous "Angelic Choir." Pearl was a charter member, ministering each Sunday at First Baptist. This choir would go on to record numerous albums with the late Rev. James Cleveland, winning several Gold records and a GRAMMY award. The choir traveled extensively. She later joined First Baptist and became an active member until her health began to decline. In addition to being a member of the Angelic choir, Pearl was a member of the Missionaries, and the Gray Panthers. She could always be found in the corridors of hospitals and nursing homes visiting the sick and shut in. She was a true missionary! Pearl had a knack for putting together souvenir journals for special events, and was often selected to coordinate the effort. She loved and supported her church for over 50 years.

Pearl loved Newark, New Jersey! She cherished her brother Donald Tucker dearly. She was actively involved in his political career and initiatives, which included support of his Community Center. She coordinated the Experienced Seniors Program, which provides services to the City's elderly each week. These services include, trips meals, activities, and health awareness.

Pearl T. Minatee will be remembered as a proud woman with class, flair, and style. She was a woman of substance, loving, generous and kind. Pearl dressed immaculately, loved looking good, and enjoyed wearing high heels. She understood the value of education, and pursued it "by example." After her mother's death in 1990, Pearl assumed the role as matriarch of the "Tucker Family" providing wisdom, love, and admonition. She set high standards for family members, expecting the best, with no excuses. She loved her children, and was extremely proud of them! Her family will remember her honesty, support, and AWESOME macaroni and cheese. Others will remember receiving cards, condolences, and visits during times of celebration or illness. Many others will remember her as a premier AVON Representative. She was second to none.

Predeceased by her daughter Stacey Pearl, and siblings Henry Fogie, Jr, Dorothy, Lillian, and Donald, she leaves to mourn her passing and cherish her memory, her daughter, Stefanie R. Minatee, her son, Steven K. Minatee (Valerie), her brother, Robert Tucker, (Elizabeth), her sister, Mildred Hawkins (Lawrence), her grandsons Joseph Keion and Steven Newkirk, great granddaughter, Inisti Newkirk; sisters-in-law Cleopatra Tucker and Rosetta Tucker, godson, Lawrence Eric Hawkins, one aunt, Ella Dixon Jones of Plainfield, NJ, special friends Raymond "Gene" Murphy, Cheryl Hawk, and Ann Dickey-Kemp, and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, friends, and loved ones.

## Order of Service

Prelude

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

Scripture Reading ..... Bishop Buster Simmons (nephew)

Old Testament ..... Psalm 90:1-12

New Testament ..... 1st Thessalonians 4:13-18

Selection ..... "In My Father's House"

Prayer of Comfort..... Deacon Clarence Jones

Selection ..... Jubilation

Expressions ..... Ann Dickey-Kemp (friend)

Deborah L. Simmons (niece)

L. Eric Hawkins (godson)

Cheryl Hawk (friend)

Raymond "Gene" Murphy (friend)

Selection ..... Jubilation

Condolences, Resolutions, Obituary

Solo ..... Rev. Stefanie R. Minatee

The Eulogy ..... Rev. Eric Beckham

Pastor, Clearview Baptist Church Newark, NJ

Benediction

Recessional

### Interment

Evergreen Cemetery

Hillside, New Jersey

Repast immediately following interment:

Donald K. Tucker Center  
25 Elizabeth Avenue  
Newark, New Jersey

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### *Acknowledgements*

The family of the late **Pearl Tucker Minatee** appreciates all acts of kindness shown during this difficult time, and will formally acknowledge your kindness at a later date. We worship GOD for her life and legacy! Thank GOD for friends like you! May God continue to bestow His richest blessings upon each of and every one of you.

**Professional Services Provided By:**

*Perry Funeral Home, Inc.*

34 Mercer Street

Newark, New Jersey

(973) 824-9201

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