



*Celebrating the Life
of
Mattie M. Blanford*

Sunrise:
October 1, 1939

Sunset:
August 14, 2017

Homegoing Service
Monday, August 21, 2017 - 12:00 Noon
First Love Baptist Church
16 South 12th St • Newark, NJ 07107
The Reverend Pastor Brown, Officiating

Obituary



Mattie “Ms. Hollywood” Blanford

Mattie Mae Blanford transitioned from labor to reward on Monday, August 14, 2017. She was born on October 1, 1939.

Mattie was raised in Port Saint Joe, Florida and grew up with her mother, the late Annie Dawson and her eight brothers and sisters. She grew up as a wanderer living in the south and loved exploring the oceans, animals and farms. She moved to New Jersey to live with her grandmother Mattie and loved living in New Jersey, where she learned about many different cultures and religion.

Mattie was a revolutionist and activist. She joined marches and gave public speeches across various states. She wasn't afraid to speak on issues of racism and discrimination. She served as a Nurse at Ephesian Baptist Church for many years, and also served as an Assistant Director of the Homeless Services. She served her community food and gave out clothing to the less fortunate in various shelters. Mattie received her Bachelors of Arts degree in Biblical Studies.

Her favorite passion in life was family, cooking and traveling. Her dream was to travel to Switzerland to see the Swiss Alps mountains. She traveled twice to Switzerland, just in case she missed the beauty from different angles of the mountains. Mattie loved to travel across country with her children and grandchildren. She owned and ran a successful catering service, and loved making her infamous Italian and soul food dishes for weddings and events. She loved cooking her favorite dishes every week for her family to enjoy, and everyone knew where the meals would be for all holidays. Mattie “adopted” many neighborhood kids and often opened her home to others. She was a pillar and rock in her family and community.

She was known as a fashionista and loved to dress up in the latest dresses and hats. She won “Best Hat” at the Women’s Tea Party events in Newark, NJ. Mattie was given the name “Ms. Hollywood” at First Love Baptist Church for her extravagant style of clothing.

After retiring, she volunteered for hospice centers and received an award from East Orange City Hall for her gifts and services.

Mattie was adopted to the First Love Baptist Church in her later years. She loved being there every Sunday to be with her pastor and friends. She was always on a mission, a warrior of the Lord, and a precious gem!

She will always be our Matriarch, beloved provider, advisor and protector of our family.

Mattie Blanford leaves to cherish many family members: her eight siblings. Her two sons: Stephen and Donald Blanford. Her daughters: Maidah, Surah, Gina, Hasana and the late Stephanie Blanford. Her loving grandchildren: Muta, Samiyyah, Qawiyyah, Jamiyah, Samaad, Qatashia, Shakur, and the late Malik Blanford. Her daughter-in-law: Hjordis. Her confidant and loving friends: Mrs. and Mr. Mary and Robert Hill. Her loving best friend: Mildred Barnes. Her devoted godchildren Pamela and Azeelah Lee. A host of grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, godchildren, friends and church family.



Order of Service

Musical Prelude-Organist

Prayer of Comfort

Scripture Reading
Old Testament
New Testament

Resolutions and Acknowledgements

Remarks

Obituary - Donald Blanford

Solo

Eulogy

Thank You- Maidah Blanford

Recessional

INTERMENT

Fairmount Cemetery
Newark, New Jersey

REPAST

Harmony Banquet Hall • 620 Orange Street
Newark, NJ 07107



If..

*If our love could have saved you
You would not have died;
If tears could bring you back
You would be here at our side.
But looking back with tenderness
Along the path you trod,
We treasure the time we had with you
And leave the rest with God.*

Pall Bearers

*Shakur Harris
Donald Blanford
Shinard Woody*

*Muta Blanford
Stephen Blanford
John Thurmond*

Acknowledgement

The Family of Mattie M. Blanford, extends a special thank you to the First Love Baptist Church and to the many of friends who have been faithful during the passing of our loved one, and who now share our grief and bereavement in kind words, flowers, cards, and other courtesies, we pray that God will continue to bless each of you.

Professional Services Provided By

COTTON FUNERAL SERVICE
130 Main Street
Orange, NJ
973-675-6400

1025 Bergen Street
Newark, NJ
973-926-6400

COTTON-PARKER FUNERAL HOME
37 Clinton Avenue
Jersey City, NJ
201-433-1000

