

**Celebrating The Life
Of**

Betty June Anderson

*Sunrise
June 14, 1925*

*Sunset
October 30, 2017*



Friday, November 17, 2017 - 11:00 a.m.

Elmwood United Presbyterian Church

135 Elmwood Avenue

East Orange, New Jersey 07018

Rev. Maria Crompton, Eulogist

Rev. Cranston Mitchell, Officiating

Order of Service

Prelude.....	Soft Music
Call To Worship.....	Rev. Cranston Mitchell, Pastor Christ Resurrection Missionary Baptist Church • East Orange, NJ
Processional.....	We've Come This Far by Faith
Hymn of Praise.....	Praise Him, Praise Him Sweet, Sweet Spirit in this Place
Prayer of Comfort.....	Rev. Cranston Mitchell *
Musical Selection	Minister Charles Smith Violinist
<i>Scripture Readings</i>	
OT Ruth 1:16-19.....	Deacon Carolyn Humphrey
NT Matthew 26:36-46; John 3:16.....	Deacon Benjamin Humphrey
Musical Selection.....	Solo ~ Tyrone Dunlap~ The Impossible Dream
Tributes & Reflections	
Obituary	The Life of Betty June Anderson
Spoken Word	The Glory and the Dance and the Glory
Liturgical Dance.....	Te Quiero, Jason Alvarez, Love of Jesus
Eulogy.....	Rev. Maria Crompton Elmwood United Presbyterian Church
Closing prayer	Rev. Cranston Mitchell
Committal	Rev. Maria Crompton
Recessional	Saxophonist musical selection

Repast ~ Family and friends will be received in Elmwood's Fellowship Hall

In lieu of flowers please make donations in the name of Betty J Anderson to:

Alzheimer's Association
Attention: New Jersey Chapter
PO Box 96011
Central Process Center
Washington DC 20090-6011

Harvest of Blessings Community Outreach, LLC
Harvest Scholars Education Project
377 S Harrison St, Apt 13G
Attention: Pastor Sandra Pendleton-Rock
E Orange NJ 07018-1202

The Life of Betty June Anderson

Betty June Anderson was born on June 14, 1925 in Roslyn, Long Island, NY to Eva May Peters and Arthur Baxton Edwards, and baptized on April 4, 1928. Betty had a very dynamic loving relationship with her younger sister, the late Cleo Yvonne Edwards-Lipkins.

Betty described her upbringing in her writings, “Our community was primarily made up of immigrants who believed that the American streets were “made of gold”. Each family bought property, farmed, and raised live stock. In the 30’s life in our community, which was made up Italians, Irish, Poles, Shinnecock Blacks (then referred to as Colored People) wasn’t as bad as some other parts of the country. We shared an abundance of what we had. You might say that at the time, the barter system was important to our survival. Because of the exposure to these different cultures, it made my relationship with my fellowman a more harmonious one. With the understanding of the cultures and customs, I avoided some of the conflicts that are associated with ethnocentrism.”

Her life-long desire to learn began at an early age. Betty wrote, “It was between the ages of seven and eight I became aware of the environment I so fortunately found myself in. It was at this age that piano lessons began, also the experience of learning to knit, crochet, sew, and swim. Little did I know at that time how important some of these activities would contribute to my life as an adult.”

Betty attended Amityville High School where she played the tuba and marched in the town parades. Following her junior year, a series of family deaths interrupted her schooling. Undeterred, she eventually received her equivalency high school diploma in 1968. She went on to earn a Bachelor’s Degree in Psychology at Fordham University in 1980.

In 1945, Betty was employed by the New York Bell Telephone Company as a telephone operator. She and her sister Cleo were only two of five African American women working there at that time.

She left NY Bell Telephone briefly to work as a receptionist and switchboard operator for the National Labor Relations Board, Newark, NJ. "This work was fine", she wrote, "but there was something about the Telephone Company that made me want to go back there to work, this time, with the New Jersey Bell Telephone Company." Betty enjoyed bowling with her co-workers. She started the NJ Bell Topsters that won the State Championship in 1958.

Betty eventually transferred back to the NY Telephone Company during the 1960's, when the country was going through many changes and experiencing events which led up to the assassinations of President Kennedy, Sen. Robert Kennedy, and the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., which affected the telephone company and other businesses alike. Voting rights, integration, desegregation, and discrimination became important national issues that spurred Betty to be more involved in making a difference. In 2008, She received a Certificate of Appreciation from the Verizon Pioneers, as a valued Life Member and loyal supporter for her committed service in making a positive difference in community projects. She trained as a nurse's aide with the American Red Cross and volunteered at the New York University Hospital twice a week assisting patients. Upon her retirement, she worked as a ward clerk at New Brunswick Hospital Center, Amityville, NY until 1986.

At the end of World War II, Betty met Lawrence "Larry" Pendleton - a writer, poet-laureate, and musician, in Tuskegee, Alabama. He was part of the Tuskegee 313th Army Air Forces Band and Musical Director for the Tuskegee Imperial Wings of Rhythm. They married and had one child, Minister Sandra Pendleton-Rock. After their divorce, Betty married twice and became widowed. During the 1950's and 60's, she enjoyed a long and close relationship with Richard "Eddie" Yearwood, Sr.

In the 1970's, Betty began religious studies with the Seventh Day Adventists, at the same time teaching in Sunday School at a Lutheran church. She stated, "I decided to join the Lutheran Church where I became an active member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Amityville for 30 years plus. I enjoyed teaching Sunday School."

Betty was a member of the Ladies Aide Society, Altar Guild, Adult Hand Bell Choir, and loved to play hymns on her upright piano. Her excellent sewing and knitting skills were evident in the beautiful sweaters, caps, dresses, table cloths, blankets, and quilting she made for church events.

Betty had a tremendous love of life! She loved to sing, dance, draw, paint, play board games such as Scrabble and Chess, attend cultural events, spoke fluid Spanish, and was an avid student of history, nature, yoga, and metaphysics. She traveled to such places as the Grand Canyon (Colorado), Cuba, Jamaica, Bermuda, Canada, New Mexico, and throughout states on the east coast. Because she was a great swimmer, most of the summers were spent at the beach in Long Island. She also liked to ski in Vermont with her sister Cleo, family, and special friends who shared her many adventures. She loved gardening and maintaining a variety of flowers, vegetables, and plants in the backyard of the lovely ranch-style home she built in Amityville.

Betty cared for her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, especially during the summer months, exposing them to the “good life” she enjoyed. Her robust laughter and smile were infectious and healing. She truly understood the wisdom of the phrase, “laughter is the best medicine” and she applied it regularly.

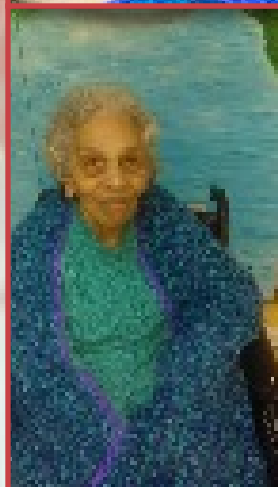
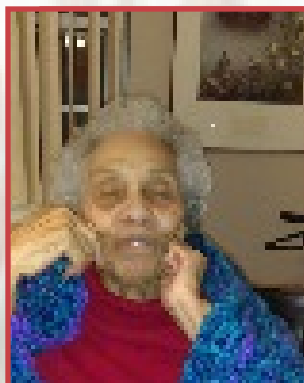
For nearly ten years, Betty required managed-quality of life care due to the growing dementia and eventual downward spiral of Alzheimer’s. During her last three years, she resided at Gates Manor Nursing Home. She was always under the watchful and loving care of her devoted daughter and advocate Sandra.

Ancestor Betty, 92, of Amityville, Long Island New York, lived a life of Light and Love connected to the Universe, “seeker of the Creator’s will”. At the end of her earthly journey, she was peaceful. Despite her Alzheimer’s dementia, before she took her last breath, she sang. After receiving Last Rites and Holy Communion at her bedside from Min. Sandra Pendleton-Rock and Min. Charles Smith at Gates Manor, Montclair, NJ, Betty quietly transitioned to eternal life on October 30, 2017. Her vibrant spirit will always remain in our hearts for eternity.

Betty was a devoted and giving mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, aunt and friend. She is survived by her daughter, Minister Sandra Pendleton-Rock; grandchildren: Danielle, Richard III and wife Jody; The Rock Family: step-grandson Colin Rock, Henry and wife Barbara; great-grandchildren Danysha, Nyelle, Aliyah, Nylah, Marcus, Amber; great-great grandsons Aden, Yaw Nigel, Richie IV; great-great granddaughter Sophia; Nieces: Patricia, Gail, Marcella; Cousin Glenn; great-nieces Chrystal, Lori; Nefertari and Christal. Nephew: Minister Charles Smith, great nephew Adam; The Howell Family: John and wife Andre, Janet and Gerry; The Yearwood Family: Richard “Red”, Valerie, Vernell, Sandra, Jazmine, Leslie Jr. Daun and husband Paul; The Perez Family: Qadir, Lucia (Lucille). The Walker Family: Rudy, Cynthia and Sylvia, and extended family and friends.

Let us Pray...Thank You, God, for this amazing life and everything in it! Thank you, God, for Your omnipresence, that we may experience your glorious nature both within and all around us. Thank you, God, for Your omnipotence, that we may feel Your boundless strength and perseverance in every moment and situation of our lives. Thank you, God, for your omniscience, that we may abide in wisdom and understanding as to all matters of the heart, at all times. Centered in You, God, let us recognize that divine will and our will are one in Truth. Divine love is a perpetual wellspring of comfort, nourishment, and joy within our holy being. Eternal life is the very source of our radiant health, vibrancy, and well-being. Let us faithfully demonstrate our divine nature today and every day. ~ Silent Unity

All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. ~ John 17:10



Mother

In tribute to your Mother:

In the haze of long ago, the hush that man
calls time...

God stood amidst His wonders and listened
to His rhymes...

He heard the rustic waters that flow without
An end

He saw it in His rainbow, where countless
colors blend

He felt it in the endless void that stretched
out into space

Where Man To Come would look to when he
sought a guiding grace

And thus He fashioned Mother, with wisdom
love and care

Then placed her midst His wonders for man to
come to share...

And man did come to dwell beneath the void of
endless space

And man did look to Mother when he sought
a guiding grace

Thus has it been to always be from birth to
heavens hall

Mother, still our guiding grace her love to
share with all...

by Larry Pendleton
May 10, 1992



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