

*Celebrating
the Life
Of*



A portrait of Priscilla Burke, a Black woman with short dark hair, wearing a blue button-down shirt tied at the waist, a gold necklace, and multiple silver bracelets on both wrists. She is standing in front of a white door with a decorative archway. The background is slightly faded to allow text to be overlaid.

Priscilla Burke

Sunrise: May 2, 1952
Sunset: November 12, 2017

Service:
Saturday, November 18, 2017 - 11:00 a.m.

NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH
144 Norman Street • East Orange, New Jersey
Rev. D. Gill, Pastor

Obituary

Priscilla “Penny” Burke, was born in Jersey City on May 2, 1952 to Edward Burke, Sr. and Anne Burke. Priscilla grew up on 331 ½ 8th Street in Jersey City.

She started her scholastic journey attending School 37, then Feris High School. She obtained her Bachelor’s Degree in Chemistry from St. Peters College and was later inducted into the Hall of Fame for being part of a ground breaking St. Peter’s College female basketball team.

After graduating college, she began an amazing career in education as a Science teacher in the East Orange School District in 1975. She worked in this position for 42 years. Priscilla loved teaching, she dedicated her life to education, and she refused to stop. She believed that if she wasn’t teaching, children weren’t learning. Priscilla’s students loved her, because she treated them like her own, which is why they continued to stay in contact with her even years after graduation.

Penny was also a union activist. For the last 24 years, she served as Grievance Chair of the East Orange Education Association alongside her dear friend Jacqui Greadington. She was active in the Essex County Education Association serving as Vice-President, Pride Chair, and the Delegate Assembly. She served the New Jersey Education Association on the Instruction and Training Committee for many years. Her logic, tenacious and fearless spirit made her the best choice to serve in these capacities. She will be sorely missed by the EOE, and the many friends and colleagues she acquired and received as part of her family.

During her wonderful journey in life and education, she met her partner in life Shaun Green in Jersey City they built a life and home together and were raising two beautiful daughters, Destiny Yvonne and Julia-Anne Layla Green. During their 26 year union, they accomplished love in what many thought was a phase. She was able to juggle an already busy career, two children and a very needy man. From the outside looking in, you may have thought it was overwhelming, but to her it was a breeze, because to her it was easy. Her departure from this family has left a void and heartache, but it will be mended by the family, whom she taught how to love, share and be supportive.

Priscilla was a loving wife, mother, sister, aunt, cousin, teacher and friend. She was the person you could always call and depend upon. If you called her during a snow storm, she would get up in the middle of night, and dig you out and get you where you had to go. Her kindness knew no bounds, she stepped with her heart first always, regardless of the consequence.

She donated her time and money to those who had less. She was caring and forgiving. She would always try, no matter how difficult or challenging the task. Her hand was always extended in an effort to help. She was a saint and now the angels in heaven can take a break, because Priscilla Burke will be taking care of everything.

On November 12, 2017, after teaching her loved ones all she knew about love and caring, Priscilla “PENNY” Burke, went on to help others, who needed her more.

Penny is survived by her husband Shaun Green, children Destiny Yvonne and Julia-Anne Layla Green; eight living sisters and brothers, Gloria Burke, Dieanne Jenkins, Cecilia Burke, Darleen Hicks, Edward Burke Jr., Christopher Burke, Jeremiah Burke, and Isiah Burke. Siblings Carol Enis, Lawrence Burke, Robert Burke, and Daniel Burke preceded her in death. Extended family members are, Brother-in-laws Marcel Hicks Sr., Prathan Jenkins, sister-in-laws Betty Burke, Godson Marcel Hicks Jr.; and a host of nieces and nephews, family and friends.

Order of Service

Processional

Selection

“TOTAL PRAISE” Cicely L. Tyson HS Concert Choir,
Ms. Norma Hughes, Director

Scripture Reading

Old Testament

New Testament

Prayer of Comfort

Pastor, Dawn Nichol-Manning, EOEА Executive Board

PRAISE DANCE: FOR EV'RY MOUNTAIN

Ms. Crystal Newby-Reynolds & Ms. Clarissa Newby-Phillips,
Former Students

SELECTION:

Cicely L. Tyson HS Concert Choir

Remarks

(Two minutes each please)

Obituary/Acknowledgements

Ms. Lynn Godfrey, Retired EOEА Executive Board

SOLO: “HOME” from the WIZ;

Haneefah James, Cicely L. Tyson HS, Alum;

Ms. Terri Gorgone, Cicely Tyson HS Music Teacher, Accompanist

Eulogy

Rev. D. Gill

Recessional

INTERMENT

Rosedale Cemetery, Linden, New Jersey

*Repast following the interment at 2pm at
The East Orange Board of Education, 199 4th Ave. East Orange, NJ*



Miss Me, But Let Me Go

When I come to the end of the
road and the sun has set for me,
I want no rites in a gloom filled room,
Why cry for a soul set free?

Miss me a little-but not too long,
and not with your head bowed low.
Remember the love that we once shared,
Miss me-but let me go.

For this is a journey that we all must take,
And each must go alone.

It's all part of the Master's plan,
A step on the road to home.

When you are lonely and sick at heart,
Go to the friends we know.

Laugh at the things we use to do
Miss me-but let me go.

-author unknown

Acknowledgement

Perhaps you sent a lovely card or sat quietly in a chair.

Perhaps you sent a floral piece If so, we saw it there.

Perhaps you spoke the kindest words as any friend could say.

Perhaps you were not there at all just thought of us on that day.

Whatever you did to console our hearts, We Thank You, Whatever the part.

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