

*Celebrating the Life of*

A portrait of Gertrude Virginia Brown, an elderly woman with short grey hair, wearing a dark jacket and a necklace. She is smiling and resting her chin on her hand. The background is a bright blue sky with white clouds and a sunburst effect.

*Gertrude Virginia Brown*

*Sunrise*

*April 27, 1953*

*Sunset*

*November 4, 2018*

*Service*

Saturday, November 10, 2018 - 2:00 pm

**HERBERT T. MCCALL FUNERAL HOME**

984 Prospect Ave • Bronx, NY 10459

*Officiating; Pastor Marlon Francis*

*Organist; Prof. Tyrone Patrick*

# *Order of Service*

*Organ Prelude*

*Processional*

*Selection*

*Scripture Reading .....Parris Ramaballie*

*Old Testament - Psalms 27*

*New Testament - John 14:1-3*

*Prayer of Comfort.....Jessell Francis*

*Selection*

*Acknowledgements and Obituary .....Joseph James*

*Selection*

*Eulogy.....Pastor Marlon Francis*

*Benediction.....Pastor Marlon Francis*

*Committal*

*Final Viewing*

*Recessional*

***Final Disposition***

*Woodlawn Crematory*

*Bronx, New York*

## *Reflections of Life*



**Gertrude Virginia Brown** affectionately called “Sister” was born April 27, 1953 in Campbell, Virginia to James and Nannie Pennix. She was the second child of six children, four sisters and one brother Geraldine Solomon, Emma Paul, Brenda Pennix, Barbara Pennix and Jerry Pennix.

Gertrude met Jerome Brown in junior high school as they grew to know and love one another they married June 24, 1971. From the marriage they had two children, Angela and Ronnie.

Sister was the definition a hard worker. A value that was instilled in an early age from her southern roots. She was born on a farm in Virginia and knew the meaning of a hard job. A trait she brought with her to New York City. She started as a cook for the Black and Puerto Rican Coalition of Construction Workers and moved to being a Laborer from at first being a Shaper (picketing on jobsites etc.). Part of a 30 year battle to breakdown discrimination barriers in city construction jobs, working for organizations that have fought to find jobs for Black, Hispanic and Female construction workers. Gertrude retired after 27 years as a Mason Tender Union Laborer, representing Local 79. Her nickname on the job was “Concrete” because “she was hard and would do what she wanted to do.”

Sister loved good food, good music and a good time. A straight shooter, you knew what she thought, felt and disliked. There were never any doubts about her position on anything or anyone, good or bad. A part of her character that all who knew her was fully aware of.

Gertrude departed this life on November 4, 2018. She leaves to mourn; 2 children, Angela Ramballie and Ronnie Brown; husband, Jerome Brown; son-in-law, Parris Ramballie; daughter-in-law, Monica Wilson; grandsons, PJ and Noel Ramballie; God-daughter, Alexis Gray, Godson, Priest Hertzog, and Eric Jackson, Jr.; a whole host of nieces, nephews other relatives and friends.



*If Roses grow in heaven, Lord please pick a bunch for us, place  
them in our mother's arms and tell her they're from us.  
Tell her that we love her and miss her and when she turns to smile  
place a kiss upon her cheek and hold her for awhile.  
Because remembering her is easy, we do it everyday, but there's an  
ache within our hearts that will never go away.*

### *Acknowledgement*

*The family of **Gertrude Brown** wishes to express their  
sincere appreciation and thanks for all acts of kindness, cards  
and condolence shown to them during the transition of our  
beloved. May God's blessings be with you always.*

*The Family*

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Professional Services Provided By  
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984 Prospect Ave • Bronx, NY 10459  
(718) 589-8428

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