

*Celebration of Life
In Loving Memory of
Spirit of New Jersey*

Sadie Mae Way

March 29, 1936 - July 3, 2019

Service

Friday, July 12, 2019 - 11:00 a.m.

Greater Friendship Baptist Church

84 Custer Avenue, Newark, NJ 07112

Officiator: Joshua G. Younger, Pastor

Obituary

Sadie Mae Way (Coade) was born on March 29, 1936 to the late Francis Sylvester and Sadie (Stykes) Coade in Savannah, Georgia.

Sadie received her early childhood education in Savannah, Georgia and graduated from Alfred E. Beach High School in 1954. It is here where she would meet Charles Way whom she would later go on to marry and they would have two daughters, Ramona and Felisha Way. Immediately following high school, she attended one year of college at Savannah State College before relocating to New York, New York in 1957. New York became an exciting place that Sadie aspired to live ever since her cousin visited with her 'proper', New York accent. She would later move to Newark, New Jersey in the early 60's where she would go on to receive her Licensed Professional Nursing and Registered Nursing certificates before pursuing and receiving her Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from Jersey City State College, now known as New Jersey City University.

During Sadie's pursuit of higher education, she would accomplish many things and hold many jobs. She served as a live-in Nanny and Housekeeper, a Factory Worker, and most important, a Mom. While raising Ramona she and Charles would later go on to adopt her newborn great niece, Felisha and fulfill her childhood dream of becoming a Nurse.

Sadie worked at Willowbrook State School, a state-supported institution for children with intellectual disabilities located on Staten Island in New York City. The school was designed for 4,000, but had a population of 6,000. At the time, it was the biggest state-run institution for people with mental disabilities in the United States. First as a nurse's aide and later becoming the nursing supervisor over her unit for several years before retiring with disability due to an injury she sustained on the job while protecting a child. Having her own disability did not prevent Sadie from doing what she loved most, helping others.

Being a Mom and a Nurse were her greatest accomplishments. Sadie loved and adored her children. She was very proud of their achievements and if you knew her, you knew her daughters. Affectionately known to all as “Ms. Sadie” or “Aunt Sadie”, her home was a place where friends and family always gathered. She was an Intellectual, who engaged those around her in meaningful conversations about current events, and local politics. Sadie was a teacher in her own right always providing encouragement and wisdom to anyone who spent time with her.

Sadie’s home was a revolving door for her friends, their children, her neighbors and even open to complete strangers. Everyone and anyone could get buzzed in. She always remembered those she loved on their birthdays and Christmas which was her favorite holiday. She loved to travel with her friends and play card games like Bid Whisk and Spades. She would often brag about running “Bostons” on her opponents during Spades games.

Sadie was a proud member of the Greater Friendship Baptist Church in Newark, NJ where she and her friends would fundraise and support. In addition, she was a member of many organizations such as Just Us Friends, a community service organization/social club that she and her close friends founded. For over seventeen years she and her group gave out Thanksgiving baskets to families in need and hosted an annual senior citizens Mother’s Day dinner at St. Mary’s Villa in Newark. She was an active member of Vailsburg Block Association Council (VBAC), the community coalition of Unified Vailsburg Services Organization (UVSO). Sadie was a member of the Poe Avenue Block Association. Poe Avenue was highly respected and revered as one of the most organized streets not only in the city of Newark but the county of Essex. Elected and appointed officials alike would find their way to Poe Avenue block parties and community fundraiser's. Sadie represented her block association at UVSO as part of VBAC. She was Champion and staunch Advocate for community engagement often helping other block associations get established and

organized. Sadie was also an Activist, often speaking up for Vailsburg at public safety meetings as she worked hand in hand with law enforcement to maintain a “Stable and Compassionate Community” (the tag line for UVSO).

Sadie was the first recipient of UVSO’s Vailsburg Day Community Service Award and received numerous Resolutions from the city of Newark, county of Essex and State of New Jersey. She also has many Certificates of Appreciation for her devoted and invaluable community service. She was recognized and commended her impressive leadership, ability to work well with others. Sadie’s loyalty and love her block, community and city was unparalleled.

Sadie was well respected by elected and appointed officials. The Honorable Mildred Crump awarded Sadie the Mary M. Oliver Humanitarian award for her community activism. At that prestigious event, Sadie shared a seat on the Dias with the late Honorable Shirley Chisom, the first black woman elected to the US Congress.

Sadie’s other commitments included serving as a spokesperson for the local chapter of the Arthritis Foundation where she would travel to senior centers, assisted living facilities and churches to educate individuals on living with Arthritis and she was awarded the Distinguished Service Award in grateful recognition of outstanding service and support of the disease.

In addition to her love and adoration for her two daughters; Ramona and Felisha she also loved her friends, who were family to her. Sadie would do anything for them and everyone reciprocated. She loved her big brother Sylvester, known as Bubba. The two of them remained close after the loss of their parents and siblings. In her later years, Sadie would require assistance from many Home Health Aides. While they helped care for her on a daily basis she in turn helped to mentor often giving them advice regarding their careers and personal lives.

Order of Service

Processional/Final View

Musical Selection Zephaniah West

Old Testament-Ecclesiastes 3:1-4.....Pastor Joshua Younger

New Testament-Corinthians 15:51.....Pastor Joshua Younger

Prayer of ComfortPastor Joshua Younger

Solo Selection.....Charlene Gilliam
"Through the Storm"

Reflections (respectfully limit 2 minutes each)..... Guests

Reading of ObituaryMecca Keyes

Acknowledgement..... Varsia Russell

Resolutions:

The New Jersey State Senate Resolution
Presented by the Honorable Ronald L. Rice

The City of Newark, Office of the Municipal Council President,
the Honorable Mildred C. Crump

Unified Vailsburg Services Organization Resolution,
presented by Pamela B. Daniels, Assistant Executive Director

Selection Charlene Gilliam
"Precious Lord Take My Hand"

Eulogy Lori Scott-Pickens

Benediction Pastor Joshua Younger

Recessional

INTERMENT

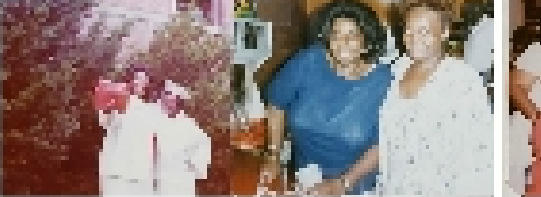
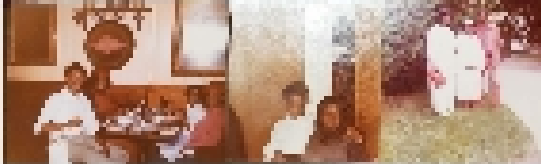
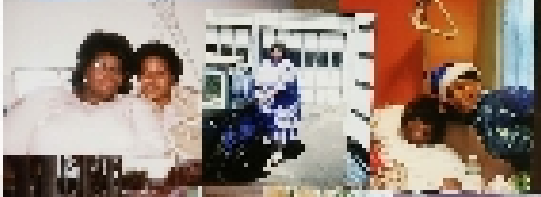
Rosedale Cemetery
Orange, New Jersey

Repast

The Suite Spot
24 1st St, South Orange, NJ 07079

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If Flowers Grow in Heaven

If flowers grow in heaven,
Lord, then pick a bunch for me.
Then Place them in my mother's arms
and tell her they're from me.
Tell her that I love and miss her
and when she turns to smile,
place a kiss upon her cheek and hold her for awhile.
Love, Ramona and Felisha

Godmother

I am grateful you chose me as your Godchild, to guide me on life's challenging journey. Through your loving words of wisdom and encouragement, your warm hugs and kisses and I cannot forget those 'fly' clothes and hats that you kept me so stylishly dressed in as a child. YOU were absolutely the best GODMOTHER. I know my life would not have been complete without you – I am eternally grateful to you and will forever cherish the beautiful memories of you.
Love you Ms. Sadie "MOM" – Carla

Acknowledgement

The family of **Sadie Mae Way** wishes to extend our sincere gratitude for all acts of kindness and sympathy shown to us at our time of bereavement. God bless you all for your thoughtfulness and concern.

Professional Services Provided By

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

1025 Bergen Street
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