



*In Loving Memory of*

*Joe C. Scratch*

*October 16, 1939 - August 17, 2019*

*Service*

*Monday, August 26, 2019*

*Viewing: 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.*

*Service: 11:00 a.m.*

**ST. PAUL AME**

15 Sanford Avenue • East Orange, New Jersey

# *Order of Service*

Processional

Selection

Scripture Reading

Old Testament

New Testament

Prayer of Comfort

Selection

Remarks

(Two minutes each please)

Acknowledgements

Obituary

Selection

Eulogy

Recessional

**INTERMENT**

Fairmount Cemetery

Newark, New Jersey

# Obituary

Joe C. Scratch, affectionately known as “Big Joe” peacefully went to sleep in our Father’s loving arms on Saturday, August 17, 2019, at St. Barnabas Medical Center.

*J*

On December 19, 1959, he married his high school sweetheart, the love of his Life Glenda Coward. They shared 59 years of marriage, and of this union, one child was born Barbara.

*O*

*E*

Joe was born in Kinston, North Carolina on October 16, 1939. The son of the late Helen Tillman and Willie Scratch. He attended Sampson Elementary School and Atkin High School. At a young age, he left North Carolina to reside in New Jersey. He achieved favor with the men and women that employed him. Joe wore many hats becoming a jack of all trades and master of all! In search of the perfect job, “Big Joe” met a man who told him about New Jersey Transit where he retired from after 33 years of service as a bus operator out of Orange Garage.

*C.*

*S*

Joe was a friendly and giving person, loved by his neighbors, always offering a helping hand or advice when asked. Joe loved being outside doodling around, and when the weather permitted, he would cookout and invite the neighbors to come over for food and good conversation. Whether Husband, Father, Brother, Grandfather, Uncle or Friend, Joe C. Scratch, was sent to us from God to TOUCH our lives and he will be significantly MISSED!

*C*

*R*

*A*

Joe leaves to honor and cherish his memories; Daughter: The late Barbara Scratch-Sumelin who preceded him in death, his beloved wife Glenda, Son: Joseph (Elaine) Walker, Brothers-in-law: Elmer and Charlie Coward, Sisters-in-law: Marie (Wilbert) Croom, Brenda (Jessie) Lewis all of Kinston, NC. Grandchildren: Dr. Jennifer Sumelin, Joseph Walker Jr, Annelyse P., Miles and Isabella Walker, Niece: Alexandria (Jermaine) Sanders, Nephew: Anthony Taylor, Great niece: Imari Green, Great, Great Nephew: Joe Grant and a host of relatives and friends.

*T*

*C*

*H*

## *When Tomorrow Starts Without Me*

*When tomorrow starts without me, and I'm not there to see if the sun should rise and find your eyes, all filled with tears for me. I wish so much you wouldn't cry, the way you did today, while thinking of the many things, we didn't get to say. I know how much you love me, as much as I love you, and each time that you think of me, I know you'll miss me too. But when tomorrow starts without me, please try to understand that an angel came and called my name, and took me by the hand and said, "my place was ready, in heaven far above and that I'd have to leave behind, all those I dearly love." But when I walked through heaven's gates, I felt so much at home. When God looked down and smiled at me, from His great golden throne. He said "This is eternity, and all I've promised you." Today for life on earth is past, but here it starts anew. I promise no tomorrow, for today will always last. And since each day's the same way, there's no longing for the past. So when tomorrow starts without me, don't think we're far apart. For every time you think of me, I'm right here in your heart.*

### *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.*

#### **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**

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201-433-1000



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