

A Celebration of Life for Jean Ratcliffe

Sunrise
September 30, 1952

Sunset
October 19, 2019



Service

Friday, November 1, 2019

Viewing: 11:00 AM - 12:00 Noon

Home Going Service: 12:00 Noon

First Zion Hill Baptist Church

1-15 Leslie Street & Clinton Avenue

Newark, New Jersey 07108

Officiates

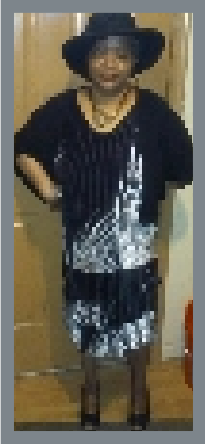
Reverend Cecil Simmons, Jr.

Mt. Sinai MBC – New Castle, DE

Reverend Dellroger Dunmore, Pastor

First Zion Hill Baptist Church – Newark, NJ

Obituary



JEAN Ratcliffe was born September 30th, 1952 along with her twin sister Jeanette to the late Mary Louise Bright and Charles Carty in Wilmington, Delaware. She peacefully answered God's call on October 19th, 2019.

Soon after the birth of the twins, the family relocated to Rose Hill, North Carolina, where the family joined "momma" Rebecca Jean Robinson, her name sake. Jean received her formal education from the schools of Duplin County, NC and graduated from Wallace-Rose Hill School in 1970. She furthered her education and graduated from secretarial school in Maryland while residing in Washington, DC. She later migrated and settled down in Newark, New Jersey.

In 1981, JEAN joined in holy matrimony to Mr. William Ratcliffe, and to this union two daughters were born. Together, they raised three children.

JEAN was employed and retired from Greystone Psychiatric Hospital in Morristown, NJ. She spent over 20 years there as the Principle clerk of the Housekeeping department and shop-steward for the CWA Union.

JEAN was a Lifetime Member and Usher at First Zion Hill Baptist Church. She was a committed member and a pillar of the Usher Board and served as Vice-President of the Missionary Ministry. She also worked with the Pastor's Aide Ministry, and the Kitchen Ministry, whether cooking or serving in the dining room. Jean loved to walk in Fashion Shows at First Zion Hill and other churches in Newark. Jean was a proud member of the New Hope Missionary Baptist Association, Inc. (Ushers' Ministry).

As an Usher, Jean was loved by First Zion Hill Ushers as well as by Ushers throughout the State of New Jersey.



JEAN loved visiting with and cooking for her family. Cooking various cake recipes, sausage and rice, pork shoulder, yams, and could craft a meal out of anything. Chopping celery and onions was therapy for her. She could come to the truth of any matter while she was chopping celery and onions, "true dat'." JEAN got a lot of satisfaction from many things but nothing gave her solace like her grandchildren. When she spent time with them, she was in her happy place.

On September 30th, JEAN celebrated her last birthday on this earth with her family and friends. On October 19th, 2019, she was given an

opportunity of a lifetime, one with all the amenities, and one she could not refuse. She went home to rest from her labor and to be with her LORD and SAVIOR, Jesus the Christ.

Jean leaves to cherish and celebrate her memory (son) William Lemar Smallwood of NJ, (daughters) L'Keisha Ratcliffe of Easton, PA, and Trishema Ratcliffe of Newark, NJ, (twin sister) Jeannette Bright of Clinton, NC and brother, James Johnson (Veronica) of Suitland, M.D. JEAN's world was completed by her grandchildren, Raekwon Scovil, Nakiyah Johnson, Samiyah Smallwood, and William (MarMar) Smallwood.

JEAN also leaves to cherish two nieces, a nephew, devoted cousins, Dora and Rosanna, her sister/friend (as she would say), Selina Pringle and a host of cousins and special friends.



A Tribute

There is a fold whence none can stray
and pastures ever green, Where sultry sun, or stormy day, Or night is never seen.

Far up the everlasting hills, In God's own light it flies;
His smile its vast dimension fills With joy that never dies.

Soon at his feet my soul will lie, In life's last struggling breath;
but I shall only seem to die, I shall not taste of death.

Far from this guilty world to be, Exempt from toil and strife,
To spend eternity with thee, My Savior, this is life.

Sorrowfully Submitted
The Family

Order of Service

Reverend Cecil Simmons, Jr.Presiding
Associate Minister – Mt Sinai MBC – New Castle, DE

Musical Prelude

SELECTION.....FZH Combined Choirs

SCRIPTURE READING

Old Testament

New Testament

PRAYER OF COMFORT

SELECTION.....Osmyn Stansbury

REMARKS.....Family and Friends (2 minutes)

OBITUARY READING.....Sister Dora Williams

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS/RESOLUTIONS...Sister Johnnie M. Fields

PRESENTATION.....Comforters of Zion
First Lady Tammy Dunmore, President

SELECTION.....FZH Combined Choirs

EULOGY.....Reverend Dellroger Dunmore, Pastor

RECESSIONAL

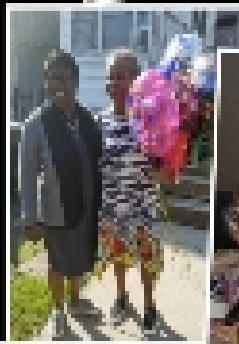
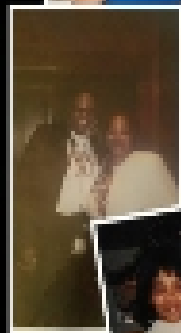
INTERMENT

Sidney J. Robinson Cemetery
Magnolia, NC

REPAST:

***First Zion Hill Baptist Church
1-15 Leslie Street
Newark, NJ***





Jean,

We have had a lifetime of us, me and you...and it's still not enough. My heart is so full of missing you already. There is so much I need to say but I really don't have to because you know. I loved you then, I love you now, I'll love you forever. Goodbye for now.

Your Loving Sister,
Jeannette





Acknowledgement

The RATCLIFFE Family acknowledges all acts of kindness shown to them during their hour of bereavement.

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

37 Clinton Avenue
Jersey City, NJ
201-433-1000

