



In Loving Memory of

Mother Ernestine Powell

Sunrise
March 12, 1926

Sunset
November 4, 2019

Service

Saturday, November 16, 2019 • 12:00 p.m.

CONEY ISLAND CATHEDRAL OF DELIVERANCE

2816 Mermaid Avenue • Brooklyn, New York 11224

Bishop Waylyn Hobbs, Jr. - Senior Pastor and Eulogist

Obituary

Ernestine Dowd Powell passed away peacefully on November 4, 2019 in her home in Coney Island, Brooklyn. The 4th of 14 children born to Marcellus and Mary Dowd, Mrs. Powell was a native of Tarboro, North Carolina and attended public school in Edgecombe County. After finishing high school, Mrs. Powell attended Elizabeth City State Teachers College in North Carolina.

In 1947, Mrs. Powell married the love of her life, Louis C. Powell (deceased). They had two children, Tony Gordon Powell (deceased) and Shantel Louise Powell. The family moved to Brooklyn in 1958.

Mrs. Powell was a beloved pillar of Coney Island, dedicating her life to the service of God and community. She attended First Baptist Church and United Community Church where she served as Director of the Children's Choirs, teaching and mentoring scores of young people over the decades. Later, she became a devoted member of Coney Island Cathedral Church where she participated in the choir and Missionary Circle as well as unofficial church historian. She was honored to be called "Mother Powell" by all and was always incredibly proud to acknowledge Pastor Bishop Waylyn Hobbs and the entire congregation as her "Church Family."

Children always held a special place in Mother Powell's heart. She spent 26 years as an OBS technical assistant in Coney Island Hospital's maternity unit. She adored helping to bring life into the world as well as leading the Local 420 Health and Hospital Union Choir. She retired from Coney Island Hospital in 1990 but continued caring for children throughout the rest of her life.

Mother Powell's passion for her community stretched across Coney Island. She spent several years serving as Secretary of the Coney Island Anti-Poverty Program where she played a pivotal role in securing housing and career opportunities for those reaching for the American Dream. She later served on the board of multiple organizations including the Family Center of Coney Island, Parent Helpers Program, Parents United for Better Education, P.R.I.D.E. Program, the B.A.P.S. Program. She was known for directing Black History programs at several neighborhood schools and churches over the decades—and always found delight in instilling dignity.

Mother Powell's commitment to God and community was recognized by multiple New York State and New York City officials. In 2007, she was presented with the Certificate Of Heritage Recognition by New York State Senator Diane J. Savino; the Certificate of Merit Award by New York State Assemblyman Alec Brook-Krasny; and the City Council Citation Heritage Award by councilman Domenic M. Recchia. In 2011, she received a certificate from councilman Recchia honoring her 26 years as an OBS Technician at Coney Island Hospital. And in 2016, city councilman Mark Treyger presented her with a citation celebrating her 90th Birthday. In every sense of the sentiment, Mother Powell always felt blessed to receive her flowers while she could still smell them.

Mrs. Ernestine Powell lived life with a bottomless heart and open arms for everyone. People gravitated towards her kind eyes, warm smile, and wild wit. She always made her home a harbor of safety and a haven of rest for those in need and lived by the motto "if I can help somebody, then my living will not be in vain." Mission accomplished.

She is survived by her daughter, Shantel Powell Hunte, son-in-law Harold C. Hunte, grandson Justin L. Hunte, sisters Dorothy Dowd Howard and Annie Dowd German, brother Herbert Dowd, dozens of nieces, nephews, cousins, Church Family members and the entire Coney Island community.

Order of Service

Musical Prelude

Processional.....Pastor and Family

Scripture Readings

Old Testament: Psalm 23.....Sis. Alma Johnson

New Testament: John 14: 1-7.....Sis. Aaliyah Garcia

Prayer of Comfort.....Elder Harold Beard

Selection.....Sis. Rose Jackson

Cards.....Brenda Johnson/ Bradley Johnson

Condolence Letters.....Church Clerk

Obituary.....Prophetess Charlissee Johnson Murry

Remarks (1 minute please).....Family and Friends

Reflections (In her own words).....Bro. Justin Hunte

Selection.....Sis. Serena Tyson

Eulogy.....Bishop Waylyn Hobbs, Jr., Sr. Pastor

Final Viewing

Recessional.....“I Remember Momma”

Interment

Monday, November 18, 2019

Calverton National Cemetery

Calverton, New York

IN LOVING MEMORY
of
Ernestine (Steen) Powell
1926-2019

REFLECTIONS (In her own words)

A Time To Be Born

Ernestine Dowd Powell was born March 12, 1926 in Edgecombe County, North Carolina. She was the fourth child of 14 children to Marcellus & Mary Dowd.

A Time To Grow

She grew up in North Carolina with her large family. She attended Provident Elementary School, Carver High School in Pinetop, N.C. She attended Elizabeth City State Teachers College in Elizabeth, N.C.

A Time To Love

She married her childhood sweetheart Louis Powell in 1947. From this union came two children, Tony and Shantel Powell. In her family were many who loved her like a mother. She had a great love for her children. She was a harbor of safety and a haven of rest for many including those not of her family or ethnicity.

A Time To Worship

From the time she was a child, Ernestine loved to be in the church and in the service of the Lord. She was a member of Harts Chapel Baptist Church in North Carolina. When she relocated to New York, she became a member of the First Baptist Church of Coney Island, where she served in the choir and supervised the F.A.C. choir, and United Community Baptist Church, where Rev. C. Mobley is a Pastor. Her lasting love was Coney Island Cathedral Church, Pastor Bishop Waylyn Hobbs and the entire congregation. She was faithful and dedicated in her worship of God.

A Time To Work

Ernestine worked at Coney Island Hospital as a child care specialist on O.B.S. Tech. for many years. She was very well loved by her co-workers. She retired in 1990.

A Time To Die

Ernestine was taken into God's hands on November 4, 2019 at the youthful age of 93.

A Time To Mourn

Loving memories of Ernestine are cherished by her daughter Shantel Hunte; grandson Justin Hunte; son in-law Harold Hunte; sisters & brothers, nieces, nephews, friends and the many untold children that were under her loving care.

Acknowledgements

The family wishes to express their deepest and most sincere thanks to all who shared with them in this time of sorrow, especially Annie Dowd German and the entire Johnson family. May God bless and keep you in a most gracious way.

Professional Service Entrusted To:



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