



*Celebration of the Life of*  
*Mary Elizabeth Dunston*  
*June 2, 1932 ~ November 18, 2019*

*Service*

**Monday, November 25, 2019**  
*Viewing: 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.*  
*Service: 11:00 a.m.*

**Metropolitan Baptist Church**

149 Springfield Avenue  
Newark, NJ 07103



## *I'm Free*

*Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free  
I'm following the path God laid for me  
I took his hand when I heard Him call  
I turned my back and left it all.*

*I could not stay another day.  
To laugh, to love, to work or play.  
Tasks left undone must stay that way,  
I found that peace at the close of day.*

*If my parting has left a void,  
Then fill it up with remembered joy.  
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,  
Oh, yes these things I too will miss.  
Be not burdened with times of sorrow,  
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.*

*My life's been full, I savored much.*

*Good friends, good times,  
a loved one's touch.*

*Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,  
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.  
Lift up your heart and share with me,  
God wanted me now, He set me free!*



# *Order of Service*

## **Processional**

### **Hymn**

Doris McNeil

### **Scripture Readings**

Old Testament.....Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

New Testament.....Philippians 4:8

### **Prayer of Consolation**

#### **Selection**

Gordon Nelson Jr.

### **Acknowledgements**

#### **Remarks (2 minutes each)**

Reverend Nahgi Perry - Close family friend

Reverend Jerome Branham - Close family friend

Jacqueline Gullette - Niece

### **Obituary**

#### **Selection**

Anne Greene

### **Eulogy**

Rev. Dr. David Jefferson Sr.

### **Benediction**

### **Recessional**

#### *Interment*

Glendale Cemetery  
Bloomfield, New Jersey

#### *Repast*

To follow at Metropolitan Baptist Church  
149 Springfield Avenue, Newark, NJ

## *Obituary*



**Mary Elizabeth Dunston** was born on June 2, 1932 to the late Victor and Lillie Townsel of Union Springs, Alabama. She departed this life on November 18, 2019 at Parker McCarrick nursing home in Somerset, New Jersey.

Mary was the second youngest of seven siblings: Rosalie, Bessie, Victor Jr., Carrie, Katie and Jessie. Mary received her education in the public school system of Union Springs, Alabama. At an early age she accepted Jesus as her Lord and Savior. She was baptized at First Baptist Church in Union Springs, AL.

Mary relocated to Newark, New Jersey where she met and married Ollie (John) Dunston. She had four children: Diane and Dane (twins), Marilyn and Lillian. Shortly after the family moved to East Orange, NJ.

Mary was employed in New York City at Western Electric Company and then University Hospital in Newark, NJ as a Financial Counselor Supervisor. She retired from the East Orange school district as a Crossing Guard.

Mary was an active member of Metropolitan Baptist Church under the leadership of Reverend B. F. Johnson Sr. She was a faithful and devoted member. Mary served on several ministries: The Senior Usher Board, Senior Choir, Nurses Guild, Circle Four Missionary and was Secretary of the Sunday School. She was also a member of the Arthritis Support Group.

Mary was very outgoing. She loved her family and friends but most of all she loved the Lord and her church. She loved eating, listening to Family Radio, reading her daily devotions and reading the Bible.

Mary had a heart of gold. She was such a kind and giving person, always willing to lend a helping hand. She gave her time and talents generously. She volunteered at East Orange General Hospital and was also an advocate for the residents at Brookhaven Nursing Home. Her main concern was protecting the welfare of the patients and reporting any issues to the New Jersey State Ombudsman's Office.

Mary was recognized in the Orange Record Newspaper (1998) and the Mayor's office for her accomplishments and being a long-time resident of East Orange.

Mary was preceded in death by her husband Ollie Dunston, children: Dane and Marilyn, siblings: Rosalie Gaffney, Bessie M. Polk, Carrie L. Holmes, Victor Townsel Jr. and Jessie L. Huffman.

She leaves to cherish her loving memory, two daughters Diane Townsel East Orange, NJ and Lillian McDaniel (Jeffrey) Piscataway, NJ; one grandson Justin S. Williams Sr. Hickory, NC.; four great-grandchildren: Tatiana, Peyton, Saniya and Justin Jr. Hickory, NC; one sister Katie B. Ivy Union Springs, AL; one sister-in-law Geraldine Battle (Oliver) of Dover, De; one brother-in-law Johnny Dunston (Ernestine) Lutherville, MD; goddaughter Priscilla Morales; special friend Bertha Perry; a host of nieces, nephews and other relatives.





*I just want to thank you for literally everything. You were there for me since the day I was born, and I really do appreciate the love you gave me over the years. I just want you to know you did a great job you taught me everything thing from making my bed to saying my prayers. You truly made me into the man I am today I just wish I could be half the person you were. I just want you to know I'm not going to use this time to be sad, I am going to make you proud and carry out your legacy. I will strive to be the man you raised me to be. I love you so much my Gemini twin you have done a great job down here on earth. The Lord in Heaven is gaining a Beautiful Angel. Once again, I thank you for never leaving my side. Until we meet again rest in heaven my Beautiful Angel, I will love you forever. You may be gone but you will never be forgotten. Rest in Heavenly Peace G-Ma.*

*Love your grandson Justin "Shamar"*

*When I stand before God at the end of my life, I would hope that I would have a single bit of talent left and could say  
"I used everything you gave me."*

*~ Erma Bombeck ~*

*Pallbearers*

*Relatives  
Friends*

*Flower Bearers*

*Relatives  
Friends*

*Acknowledgements*

*The family of Mary Elizabeth Dunston acknowledges with deep appreciation all acts of kindness extended to them during the bereavement hour. God bless you all for your thoughtfulness and concern.*

Professional Services by:  
**Whigham Funeral Home**

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Newark, New Jersey 07102  
973-622-6872

**Carolyn Whigham, Director**



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