

# Reflections of Life

Rowenia Williams Patterson, a native of Sampson County, Dunn North Carolina was born on November 9, 1928. She was the third eldest daughter of the late Colon James and Maggie Lena Williams. She was educated in the Harnett County School System.

Rowenia accepted Jesus Christ as her personal savior at an early age and was baptized at the Mingo Hill Free Will Baptist Church in North Carolina. After graduating high school, she moved to Camden, NJ and lived with her Uncle Wilburt Williams and his family in 1952.

She met the love of her life and married Lincoln Patterson November 28, 1953. From this union two daughters were born, Linda Renee and Sandra Lee.

Rowenia continued to lift the name of Jesus Christ joining Chestnut Street UAME Church under the leadership of the Late Bishop David E. Hackett in 1952. She was involved with the following ministries: the Sunday School (Superintendent), Mixed Chorus, Hostess Committee, Women's Day (Chairperson), Camden Quarterly Union, Stewardess and Local Missionary Board (President/Vice President), the Official Board as a Steward, and the Executive Board of the Sisterhood Society of the Second Episcopal District UAME Church and served as a District Organizer for the Camden Area. She served as a member and held various leadership positions as well. She loved to attend the UAME Church Conferences in which she served as a Delegate.

As one of the first Operating Room Technicians trained at the former West Jersey Hospital Northern Division, Rowenia worked as an O. R. Technician in both the Northern and Southern Divisions. She worked at the Progressive Knitting Mill as a seamstress, Camden Home for Children, and tenderly cared for children in her home. She retired from JC Penney's as an accomplished salesperson, seamstress and tailor.

Rowenia was well known for her sewing skills, and for those delicious seven-up and fiveflavored cakes. She loved to help people and provided transportation for her friends. She and her husband moved to live with their daughter in Paterson New Jersey in 2008. She attended Friendship Baptist Church of Garfield regularly until 2018 when her health would no longer allow her to attend. On Saturday, May 23, 2020, Almighty God in his infinite wisdom gently whispered for Rowenia Patterson and she surrendered quietly and took her rest.

Rowenia was preceded in death by her husband of almost 65 years (she affectionately called him Lane); her siblings: four sisters: Nealie Baker, Octavia Frederick, Ada Boykins and Pearl Leach-Easton; five brothers: James, Colon Jr, Malachi, Elisha Edward and Henry Isaiah Williams; and Stepmother Estella Herring.

She leaves to cherish her memory: two daughters Linda (Donald) Pugh of Camden NJ and Sandra (Rev Arthur) Bryant of Paterson NJ; Three grandchildren: Teron Gaines of Detroit Mi, Korese Gaines and Cassaundra Bryant of Roselle, NJ; Ten great-grandchildren: Sharese, Alexandrea, Trayvon, Tyrell, Terrance, Rachel, Kayla, Tayshaun, Jorden, and Christopher Gaines; Two great-great grandchildren: Juqua and Caleb; Three sisters: Annie Ruth Bullock of Camden, NJ, Martha (Elder Charles) Moses of Godwin, NC, and Dorothy (Marshall) Hair of Fayetteville, NC; sister in law: Clara Williams of Philadelphia, PA; brother in law: Thomas Frederick of Mt Vernon, NY; a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

A song writer composed a song that exemplifies the life of Rowenia Patterson and in fact it just happens to be one of her favorite songs. "If I could help Somebody"

If I could help somebody as I travel along
If I could help somebody with a word or a song
If I could show somebody they are traveling wrong
Then my living will not be in vain.

# <u>Order of Service</u>

Musical Prelude

Presiding Bishop Aldophus Scott Jr.

> Scripture Reading Old Testament New Testament

> Prayer of Comfort

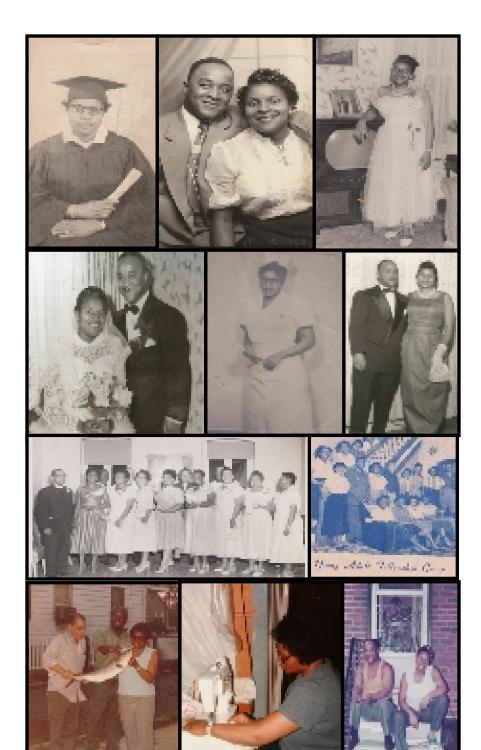
**Musical Selection** 

Eulogy Reverend Andrew Fulton

Benediction

#### **Interment**

Lakeview Memorial Cemetery Cinnaminson, New Jersey





25th Wedding Anniversary

50th Wedding Anniversary



Mom & Dad at Friendship

Mom's Home Care Aide for 10 years



Great Great Grandchild

Mom and Great Grandchild



Mothers 89th Birthday Celebration









Mom sewed all her clothes



We are our heavenly
Father's children
and we all know that
he loves us one and all;
yet there are times when we find
we answer another's
voice and call;
If we are willing, He will teach us,
His voice only to
obey no matter where,
And he knows, Yes, He knows, Just
how much we can bear
Tho' the load gets heavy, You've never
left alone to bear it all,

Ask for the strength and keep on toiling, tho the teardrops fall.

You have the joy of this assurance:

The heavenly Father will always answer prayer and He knows, Yes, He knows Just how much you can bear. (Rowenia's favorite song)

## <u>Acknowledgement</u>

The family wish to extend our sincere gratitude to all who have been kind, generous and thoughtful during our time of bereavement.

These and all other tributes will be acknowledge at a later time.

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