

Celebrating the Life of



Bernetha Lee

Sunrise
June 28, 1924

Sunset
July 9, 2020

Monday, July 20, 2020 - 10am

UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.

2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY 10027

Obituary

Dearly beloved we are gathered here today to celebrate the life of **Bernetha Arelle Mears Lee** who was a loving mother, grandmother, great grandmother, great great grandmother, aunt, great aunt, great great aunt, and a great great great aunt, a cousin and a friend to many.

Bernetha Arelle Mears Lee, 96, of Darlington, South Carolina passed away on Thursday, July 9, 2020. She is the daughter of the late Otis and Marie Ings Mears; born on June 28, 1924. Bernetha was educated at local schools in Darlington. When she was in her late teens she relocated to New York City. In New York City she attended and graduated from Apex Cosmetology School.

During World War II she married her beloved husband, James Edward Lee. They were married for 66 years and had three children, those children are James Melvin Lee, Jr., Micheal Lee, and Barbara Lee.

Bernetha for many years worked as a supervisor in the Public Schools Food Service, until her retirement.

Bernetha was a lifelong member of Mother AME Zion Church, where she was a Deaconess for many years. She also worked with the women auxiliary and organized many annual banquets. An honorary plaque was made for her dedication and commitment by her beloved church members.

She leaves behind: one daughter, Barbara Lee; two granddaughters, Michelle Williams Lee and Tina Marie Lee; two grandsons, Benjamin Franklin Rawls and Sean Lee Walachi; her great grandchildren, Manisha Vazquez Lee, Quran Lee, Matia Williams, Tirike Scotite Lee, Tyshoun Lee, and Jatia Rawls; her great great grandchildren, Ronnie Prince and Jedidah Rawls; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

She was predeceased by her husband, James Lee; two sons, Michael Lee and James Melvin Lee; two granddaughters, Valerie Lee and Kimberly Lee.

Order of Service

Processional

Officiated by: Elder Theodore Hayre

Prayer of Comfort

Bryant Alexander Hayre

Scriptures:

Old Testament - Psalm 27:1-6

New Testament - Romans 8:36-39

Solo

Reading of Condolences

Michelle Lee

Obituary Reading

Manisha Lee

Tributes from the Family

Solo

Eulogy

Elder Theodore Hayre

Hymn of Encouragement

"Take Me To The King" Pamela Mann - The Family

Recessional

Burial will follow the service at
Long Island National Cemetery, Farmingdale, New York

Pallbearers

Benjamin Rawls III

Bryan Hayre

Messiah Russell

Tirike Lee

Reginald William's

Hector Vaquez, Jr.



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 his call,
I turned my back and left it all.

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

If my parting has left a void,
Then fill it with remembered joy.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,
Ah 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 savoured 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.



Acknowledgement

*The family of **Bernetha Arelle Mears Lee** would like to thank everyone for your kind expressions of sympathy shown during this difficult time. Your kind expressions of sympathy will always be remembered.*

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