

Celebrating The Life  
of  
*Florence E. Cook Brown*

Sunrise  
March 31, 1924

Sunset  
September 12, 2020



**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2020 - 11:00 AM**

**WOODY "HOME FOR SERVICES"**

163 Oakwood Avenue • Orange, New Jersey 07050

*Pastor Leon Devose, Officiating*

*Mr. Myron Smith, Organist*

## Obituary

**Florence Elizabeth Roberson** was born on March 31, 1924, the fourth child and second daughter of Dennie and Flora Melvin Roberson, in Eastman, Georgia. The family moved first to Fairview, GA, the home of her grandparents Will and Mary Eliza Roberson, and then settled in Fitzgerald, Georgia. She was part of a large family (11 in total) grew up surrounded by a large extended family of aunts, uncles and cousins, that were more like siblings than cousins in Fitzgerald's tightly knit Black community during a period of complete racial segregation of the Deep South. She was part of a community of friends that would endure throughout her lifetime. Florence, or "Liz" as she was better known, attended public school and graduated from Fitzgerald Monitor Colored High School in 1941.

In 1943 Liz moved to Newark, New Jersey to join her older sister Lucy and to pursue employment. She worked in civil defense jobs during World War II. In December 1945, she married William J. Cook. From this union two sons were born – James E. Cook and Jerome Cook. During her early life in Newark, she joined and served at St. Luke A.M.E. Church. Florence spent most of her work life in manufacturing, chiefly at The Wilcolator Company and Weston Electric, until they closed. Her final job was as a teacher's aide at Belmont-Runyon School I Newark, NJ.

Liz was a feisty, funny, generous and loving mom (and aunt) who "never let the grass grow under her feet." She was an excellent cook who offered to feed anyone, a very blunt and fierce advocate for those she loved, and a traveler, when her health permitted. Florence was blessed with independence and resilience for all but the last two weeks of her life – even then saying to anyone who asked her "I'm a blessed old lady."

Florence succumbed to her long-term illness on the morning of Saturday, September 12, 2020, peacefully, in the presence of her sons Jerome and James. Her final words to her son Jerome, with a smile that seemed to express rediscovered joy, were "Praise Jesus!"

Florence was predeceased by all of her siblings over the last 96 years, and by her only grandchild, Chad Cook in 2002.

She leaves to mourn her passing, her two sons James E. Cook and Jerome Cook; her nephews Samuel(Carla) and Lawrence Greene, Ira (Deborah) Roberson, Jonathan Abel, Arthur Roberson; her nieces, Sandra Greene Pasley, Dr. Beverly Greene (Dr Margaret Charmoli), Flora Roberson Collins, Phyllis Carruthers, Goldie Roberson Davis, Emily Jayne Roberson, Michelle Cook, Rose Jackson, Helen Whipple, Dot Andrews; her cousins Carolyn (James) Pressley and Oliver Winkfield; dear friends Rachael Hartsfield and Mary Woods (whom Liz treated like a daughter), as well as grand and great grand nieces, neighbors and friends.

# *Order of Service*

Invocation ..... Pastor Leon Devose  
Hymn Of Comfort..... "Amazing Grace"  
Prayer Of Comfort ..... Pastor Leon Devose  
Holy Scripture:  
Old Testament..... Psalm 34:15, 17-19  
New Testament ..... John 14:1-6, 27  
Selection  
Reflections  
Acknowledgments & Condolences  
Obituary  
Eulogy ..... Pastor Leon Devose  
Recessional  
Committal Service (At Fairmount Cemetery)..... Pastor Leon Devose

## *Interment*

Fairmount Cemetery  
620 Central Avenue  
Newark, New Jersey



## *Acknowledgement*

The Family of **Florence E. Cook Brown** wishes to thank everyone for their prayers and kindness during our time of bereavement. While our hearts are saddened, we believe Florence has joined a "Great Cloud of Witnesses" in Hebrews 12:1.

May God continue to bless you and keep you.

Sincerely,

James Cook and Jerome Cook

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Professional Services Provided By

**WOODY "HOME FOR SERVICES"**

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