



## *If Tears Could Build A Stairway*

If tears could build a stairway  
 And memories were a lane.  
 We would walk right up to heaven  
 And bring you back again  
 No farewell words were spoken  
 No time to say goodbye  
 You were gone before we knew it  
 And only God knows why  
 Our hearts still ache in sadness  
 And secret tears still flow  
 What it meant to love you  
 No one can ever know  
 But now we know you want us  
 To mourn for you no more  
 To remember all the happy times  
 Life still has much in store  
 Since you'll never be forgotten  
 We pledge to you today  
 A hallowed place within our hearts  
 Is where you'll always stay.  
 -Author unknown

## *Acknowledgments*

The family would like to express their deep appreciation and  
 sincere thanks for all acts of kindness shown to them during  
 their time of bereavement.

*Professional Service Entrusted To:*

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## *In Loving Memory of*



*Regina L. Duncan*

Sunrise  
 January 25, 1946

Sunset  
 October 31, 2020

Service:  
 Saturday, November 14, 2020 - 10:30 a.m.

**St. Phillip & James Church**  
 1160 E. 213th Street, Bronx, New York 10469



# Obituary

I would like for you to join me in fondly reflecting on the impactful life lived by my grandmother **Regina Duncan**. Let us celebrate the phenomenal life that she lived.

My grandma was born on the 25th of January 1946 in the remote village of Mabaruma, the NorthWest region in the republic of Guyana to Henry & Geraldine King; she was their only child. She began her schooling in Mabaruma & then later at the University of Guyana where she completed her studies achieving a Master in Education degree. She later married Winston Gibson & together they also had one child; Onika-Simone. Yet throughout her years she mothered countless students & colleagues.

In her early work years she served as a head teacher at Houston School, Acting head mistress, and eventually as a Headmistress at the Soesdyke Primary School in Guyana. Even though she was the Headmistress, she also served the Soesdyke community as an advocate in many ways. Especially in helping the entire school to excel in academic excellence. She would privately tutor kids at her home to make sure they succeeded at Common Entrance Exams. She migrated to the U.S.A. in 1986. After migrating she initially continued working in the field of education for 2 years as a preschool teacher and for another 2 years as a Kindergarten teacher. However, she was blessed with a passion for providing hands on care on a larger scale and felt drawn into the career of nursing. As such she conscientiously gave more than twenty years of unwavering service in the capacity of a Certified Nursing Assistant. Her colleagues and patients alike at the Beth Abraham Rehabilitation Center and Bainbridge Nursing Home would certainly attest to her commitment to the pursuit of excellence whilst providing exceptional patient care and support.

Even after retiring nine years ago, Regina continued to mentor many of her colleagues and peers and many fondly called her “mother Duncan” or “Lady D” due to the way she consistently carried herself, always properly attired, poised, respected. She had a profound passion in the exceptional delivery of patient care, that truly inspired not only her patients but also her colleagues who looked forward to working with her daily. Regina’s heart knew no

boundaries. She was a woman of virtue, dignity, high morals; the epitome of womanhood. She stood firm on her beliefs and had an enormous presence wherever she went. She believed in discipline in every aspect. She believed that without discipline one would have no structure. When Richie & I got in trouble she would pop us with the comb; so we hid the comb from her. And back to making trouble we went.

Her aspirations were always large & seemed difficult, never the less she excelled at whatever task or challenge she took on. Regina’s positive impact on the lives of her only biological child Onika-Simone, grandchildren Richard Jr & me Alyssa Regina; named after her & her only great granddaughter Leilani-Symone who she loved immensely, will forever be treasured, especially her voracious appetite for reading good books will continue to inspire us all. Her love for family extended beyond her adopted son Troy Arlington, adopted daughter Adaiah, Alva her favorite niece who became more than her Home Health Aide, her closest cousins Joy & Zandi, her best friend Aunty Shirley Reid & Richard Sr; her son in law whom she adored and regarded as her son & confidante.

In closing, Regina’s unyielding love and commitment and her larger than life personality remained even during her brief period of illness. She remained committed to live life on her own terms and to the fullest extent.

She will be sorely missed by her friends, Shirley Reid, Carmen, Heather, Ms Fisher, Brenda, Helen & Shelly to name a few and her family who truly loved her. She is survived by her daughter Onika-Simone, her son in law Richard Sr, her grandchildren Richard Maxwell Jr & Alyssa Regina and her only great granddaughter Leilani-Simone, her adoptive children Troy Arlington & Adaiah, her only surviving aunt Doris Adams, Uncle Joshua Peters & numerous cousins.

Her acts of kindness, empathy, love and ready willingness to always lend a helping hand to anyone & her passion for charity was indeed nothing short of phenomenal.

Regina passed away of natural causes October 31st, 2020 peacefully in her sleep and rose to glory.

As we comfort each other, may we strive to emulate her legacy of good virtues & dignity as we each continue on life’s journey. Grandma may you Rest In Peace & Rise in Glory beside God.

# Order of Service

## Introductory Rites

Greeting  
Sprinkling with Holy Water  
Placing of the Pall  
Placing of Christian symbols  
Opening Song (# 836 Blessed Assurance)  
Opening Prayer

## Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: Book of Wisdom 3:1-6,9  
Psalm (The Lord is my Shepherd)  
Second Reading: 2nd Roman 14:7-9,10b-12  
Gospel: Mathew 14:1-6  
Homily  
Intercessions  
Liturgy of the Eucharist

Offertory song (#841 Precious Lord)  
Continuation of the Mass as usual  
Communion Song (# Amazing grace....)  
Prayer after communion  
Obituary & tribute

## Final Commendation

Invitation to Prayer  
Incensing: (# 860 make me a channel of your peace)  
Song of Farewell  
Prayer of Commendation  
Recession Song (Soon and very soon)  
Procession to the Place of Committal (to the cemetery)

# Disposition

Ferncliff Crematory  
Hartsdale, New York