

*A Celebration of Life
Homegoing Service for*



Ruth Kennedy

Sunrise:
January 26, 1940

Sunset:
January 14, 2021

SERVICE:

THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 2021 – 3:00 PM

OWENS FUNERAL HOME

216 Lenox Avenue • New York, NY

Pastor Margie Cole-Kendley - Officiating

Rev. Charlotte Holley - Organist

Order of Service

Musical Prelude

Prayer of Comfort

Pastor Margie Cole-Kendley

Scripture Reading

Old Testament - Isaiah 41:10

New Testament - John 14:1-6

Selection

Going Up Yonder by Pastor Margie Cole-Kendley

Acknowledgements

Cards & Condolences

Remarks

(2 minutes please)

Obituary Reading

Selection

Rev. Charlotte Holley

Eulogy

Pastor Margie Cole-Kendley

Final Viewing

Benediction

Recessional

Interment

Bethel Cemetery

Branchville, SC

Obituary

Ruth Kennedy, affectionately known as Rutha Mae (“Mae”), was born in Branchville, South Carolina to the late Louis and Lucille (Ferrell) Smith on January 26, 1940. She was one of eight children. She accepted Christ at an early age.

Rutha Mae attended elementary school and graduated from Lockett High School with honors. Shortly after graduation, she married the late David Kennedy and moved to New York City. From that union they were blessed with two children, Craig and Deirdre.

She joined the New Mount Baptist Church and served proudly for many years in the Silver League Ministry. She was a true fashionista, before anyone knew what that was, didn’t take no mess and always spoke her mind – she was the truth. She also loved to cook, dance, listen to music and was the lead singer in the Flaming King’s band in the 1960’s and performed in many clubs in Harlem. She made the best food and cakes from scratch. Everyone knew they could always get something good to eat at Mae’s house. She also taught her nephew, Elijah and many other family members how to cook.

Another one of her favorite things was playing numbers. Yes, she loved playing the numbers and going to the casino. She also enjoyed doing other people’s hair and was always there for others (Mom Dukes to many) and lived her life to the fullest. Most will remember the smile she always had on her face no matter what.

She is predeceased by brother, Louis Smith, Jr., sisters, Hazel Smith, Alice Smith Tucker, Dorothy Smith Saunders, Winzaree Smith-Brown and Betty Ann Coleman.

She leaves to cherish her memories: son Craig and daughter Deirdre; three grandchildren: Tyshean Nicole Highsmith Kennedy (little Deirdre), Kristian Amber Kennedy (little Rutha Mae) and David Devon Cash Kennedy; three great-grandchildren: Tanise Kalani Kendra Walkine, Loyalty Nicole Kenya Bonner (little David, Sr.) and Melanie Delores Kennedy (little Rutha Mae the 2nd); sister, Molly Smith Haulcombe and brother-in-law, Arthur Haulcombe; nephews Elijah Middleton III, Herbert Brown, Jr., Lyndon Brown and a host of family and friends.

She touched and impacted so many lives and will be remembered by all. Special thanks to the Mount Sinai Visiting Doctors Program, Visiting Nurse Services of New York, Catherine Theresa Thomas and Efa Wirekoh, for providing such loving care over the years.

Lovingly Submitted By The Family.

I Am Free



Do not grieve for me, for now for I am free
and followed the path God laid for me.

I took his hand when I heard Him
call and 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 the day.

If my parting has left a void,
then fill it with remembered joy.

A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss, oh yes,
these things I too will miss.

Be not hardened with times of sorrow,
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.

My life was awesome!

I savored much – good friends,
great times and a loved one's touch.

Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,
please do not lengthen it now with undue grief.

Lift your hearts and smile -

God wanted me so now I am free.

Acknowledgement

The family of **Ruth Kennedy** will remember and cherish your many expressions of love, sympathy and prayers so graciously extended. Thank you and may God Bless you.

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS ENTRUSTED TO:

Owens Funeral Home

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