

In Loving Memory of

The Broken Chain

We little knew that day,
God was going to call your name.
In life we loved you dearly,
In death, we do the same.

It broke our hearts to lose you.
You did not go alone.
For part of us went with you,
The day God called you home.

You left us beautiful memories,
Your love is still our guide.
And although we cannot see you,
You are always at our side.

Our family chain is broken,
And nothing seems the same,
But as God calls us one by one,
The chain will link again.
Author: Ron Tranmer

Acknowledgment

The family of the late **Gloria Kline Dryden** wishes to thank all of you for your prayers, messages of comfort and the many other acts of kindness shown during our hour of bereavement.
May God continue to bless you in a very special way.

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www.honoryou.com



Gloria Kline Dryden

Sunrise: October 31, 1935

Sunset: January 10, 2021

Service
Saturday, January 23, 2021 - 11:00 a.m.

CARNIE P. BRAGG FUNERAL HOME

256 Rosa Parks Blvd., Paterson, New Jersey

Bishop Donald Hilliard, Officiating

Daniel C. Johnson, Organist

A Fallen Limb

A limb has fallen from the family tree.

I keep hearing a voice that says,

"Grieve not for me.

*Remember the best times,
the laughter, the song.*

*The good life I lived
while I was strong.*

*Continue my heritage,
I'm counting on you.*

*Keep smiling and surely
the sun will shine through.*

*My mind is at ease,
my soul is at rest.*

*Remembering all,
how I truly was blessed.*

*Continue traditions,
no matter how small.*

*Go on with your life,
don't worry about falls.*

*I miss you all dearly,
so keep up your chin.*

*Until the day comes
we're together again."*

— Author Unknown



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Processional

Prayer of Comfort

Scripture Reading

Tributes
(Two Minutes Each Please)

Acknowledgements

Obituary

Musical Selection

Eulogy
Bishop Donald Hilliard (Cousin)
The Cathedral International
Perth Amboy, New Jersey

Closing Prayer of Comfort

Recessional

Interment
George Washington Memorial Park
234 Paramus Road
Paramus, New Jersey

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Gloria Evelyn (Jennings) Kline Dryden was born October 31, 1935 to Raymond and Burtis Jennings in Englewood, New Jersey. The youngest of two daughters, Gloria grew up in a loving home along with her parents and older sister, Arlena, where tight-knit, extended family members frequently visited, sharing in all of life's everyday celebrations, including holidays, birthdays, anniversaries, graduations and "just getting together" for the fun of it.

It's no surprise having been born on Halloween, that Gloria would lead a "spirited" life. In her early years, she attended Lincoln Elementary School in Englewood. She enjoyed being a member in the local American Legion Marching Band where she marched in many hometown parades. Upon completion of elementary school, Gloria left Englewood to attend Mather Academy in Camden, South Carolina, a renowned private boarding school for African-Americans that accepted students from across the country. Mather's high quality of education earned it a Class A school rating. Black students co-existing peaceably and equally with white teachers and administrators during segregation made Mather an "oasis" of race relations.

Upon graduation from the highly-regarded institution in 1955, Gloria left the south and returned to her home state of New Jersey, where she attended Paterson State Teachers College (now known as William Paterson University) and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Elementary Education. While furthering her education, she attended Fairleigh Dickinson University and Columbia University, where she received a Master's Degree in Education.

As a college student, Gloria met William "Bill" Kline and the couple were married in April 1956 in a formal ceremony at the Our Lady of Victories RC Church in Paterson, New Jersey. To that union a daughter, Michelle was born and the young family settled in Paterson. In 1979, Gloria married Irving Dryden on Christmas Day at her parents' home in Teaneck, New Jersey in a ceremony presided over by her cousin, Bishop Donald Hilliard, Jr. The couple resided in Paterson, New Jersey and remained partners in life for forty-two years.

Armed with multiple college degrees, Gloria embarked on a career in education blazing a trail as an elementary educator in the Paterson Public School System. During a career that spanned over thirty years - the majority of which were spent teaching at Paterson School Number 6 as a Teacher and Reading Specialist -- she enriched and impacted the lives of countless students, not only fulfilling the role of teacher, but as advocate, counselor and supporter. In addition, she served as a role model and hands-on mentor, not only to her daughter Michelle, who built a successful career as an educator within the Paterson Public School System, but for countless young teachers

looking for guidance from an experienced educator who knew how to navigate the intricacies of managing administrators, parents and students in an urban, public school system with style and dignity. Gloria's tremendous talents in education were recognized by the State of New Jersey when she was named "Teacher of the Year" in 1988.

Following her retirement as an educator, Gloria began a second career in Real Estate. She worked as a successful Realtor for many years with the Paterson-based Gilmore Realty, selling properties throughout Essex and Bergen counties.

In addition to her careers in Education and Real Estate, Gloria wore the hat of successful business woman. Along with her husband and partner Irving, the couple co-owned several highly-successful Paterson-based businesses including The Living Room Tavern, The Doctors Cave Gentlemen's Club, The East 31st Street Corner, as well as several other businesses including a Car Wash and Package Goods store until retiring in 2019.

She was a member of an African-American Women in Business Organization, as well as a Past Member of the Order of the Eastern Star, Queen of Sheba, Chapter #4 of Englewood, New Jersey and a member of The Urban League of Bergen County.

One of Gloria's most cherished roles was that of devoted Mother, Grandmother and Wife. Even while working hard throughout her varied careers and in retirement, some of her greatest joy came while spending time with Irving, Michelle, Cody and extended family and friends. In her free time, she enjoyed casinos and live shows in Atlantic City and Las Vegas, dining out, and hosting numerous "Fourth of July" Cookouts and Halloween/Birthday Parties at the Dryden Estate.

Our beloved Wife, Mother, Grandmother, Sister, Aunt, Friend Gloria departed this life on January 10, 2021 from complications due to the COVID-19 virus. She was taken away during a worldwide pandemic, the loss of her presence is immeasurable and she will be missed. However, her light was not extinguished and will help carry us through the darkest of times and make the best of times shine even brighter.

Gloria was preceded in death by her parents, Raymond and Burtis Jennings, and her brother-in-law, James Ryland.

She is survived by her beloved husband, Irving; daughter, Michelle Kline; her favorite grandson, Cody Haslam; stepdaughter, Denise Reaves (Eddie); step-granddaughters, Nia and Imani; her beloved sister Arlena Ryland; nephews Raymond "Skip" Ryland and Rodney Ryland; niece Robyn Ryland-Sanders (Greg), as well as a host of loving family members and friends.

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