

*A Service of Thanksgiving
For the Life
Of
Sylvia Annetta Evelyn*



Sunrise
January 24, 1932

Sunset
March 23, 2021

Saturday, April 10, 2021 – 12:00 Noon

COTTON FUNERAL SERVICE
130 Main Street • Orange, New Jersey
The Rev. Rose Cohen Hassan, Officiating

Obituary

Sylvia Annetta Evelyn was born on January 24th, 1932 to the late Ethelene Evelyn and Samuel Webb in Kings Street, St Michael, Barbados. On Tuesday, March 23rd, 2021, Sylvia received her crown.

Sylvia was the youngest of six children, and was predeceased by her siblings, George Evelyn, Harold Evelyn, Edna Jordan and Winnifred Chase. She leaves to mourn, her remaining sibling, Dorothy Evelyn. Sylvia was previously married, and this union yielded four children, two sons and two daughters. A subsequent union yielded one daughter.

Sylvia was raised in Barbados. She pursued formal education in her passion, first at the Barbados House Craft Center. By 1987, Sylvia honed in on her culinary skills when she migrated to the United States at the New York Food and Hotel Management School, where she received several certificates of merit for outstanding achievement. She was creative and had a passion for cooking and sewing. She was quite a fashionista, and this was displayed in the garments she sewed not only for herself, but her children, grandchildren and friends. However, her heart was in her cooking. Her tasty meals and trying her hand at new recipes for which her youngest daughter and great grandson were often the taste testers, were always made from the heart.

Sylvia worshipped first at St. Mark's Episcopal church until its closing, and later at St. Andrew and Holy Communion in South Orange, until her health prevented her from being as active as she would have liked.

Sylvia was a soft spoken, warm hearted person, yet feisty. She was a good listener, and gave sound, sage advice. She always answered the call for those seeking refuge never rendering judgment but providing a warm home and heart. Her love language was making sure that you were fed, and she never wavered in this passion even with declining health. She had an unfailing love for her children, grandchildren and great-grand-children and never failed to assist them when needed. She raised her beloved grand-daughter Allison, and they were inseparable. Likewise, she was also instrumental in raising one of her great grandsons Tariq Mayo, Jr., who affectionately called her "Boo-Boo". He was her right hand, and many times a partner in crimes of love and cooking. She loved her family, and they adored her. It was only fitting that her children were there at her side, as she left behind her physical body. She now shines among the stars.

Sylvia leaves on earth to cherish her memory her sister Dorothy Evelyn, her five children Audrey Holder Atherley, and her husband, Wesley Sr., Ian Holder and his wife, Sanjean, David Holder and his wife, Deidri, Jennifer Holder, and Evett Evelyn. Grandchildren: Allison Atherley, Wesley Atherley, Daniel Atherley, Troy Holder, Samantha Holder, Kevin Holder, Anthony Holder, Andrew Wallace, Jolissa Wallace, Uwais Ali, Zinneerah Ali, Abdur- Rahman Ali, and Alvia Holder Thirteen great grandchildren, and additional family-Evelyn family, host of nieces, and nephews of the Haynes family, and friends among them- the Jones family, the Lavine family, the Burrowes family, Mike Barbee, Victor Bovell, Merilien Fenelus, Elma Sandiford and Sheila Ali.

Sylvia's body will be returned to her beloved Barbados for final internment.

Order of Service

THE PROCESSIONAL SENTENCE

Officiant: I am Resurrection and I am Life, says the Lord. Whoever has faith in me shall have life, even though he dies. And everyone who has life, and has committed himself to me in faith, shall not die for ever. As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives and that at the last he will stand upon the earth. After my awaking, he will raise me up; and in my body I shall see God. I myself shall see, and my eyes behold him who is my friend and not a stranger.

THE HYMN “O MASTER LET ME WALK WITH THEE” THE 1982 HYMNAL: #660

1. O Master, let me walk with thee
In lowly paths of service free:
Tell me thy secret; help me bear
The strain of toil, the fret of care.
2. Help me the slow of heart to move,
By some clear, winning word of love;
Teach me the way-ward feet to stay,
And guide them in the home-ward way.
3. Teach me thy patience; still with thee,
In closer dearer company,
In work that keeps faith sweet and strong,
In trust that triumphs over wrong.
4. In hope that sends a shining ray
Far down the future's broad'ning way,
In peace that only thou canst give,
With thee, O Master, let me live.

THE COLLECT

Officiant: O God, who by the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ destroyed death, and brought life and immortality to light: Grant that your servant Sylvia, being raised with him, may know the strength of his presence, and rejoice in his eternal glory; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

1

THE FIRST LESSON: A Reading from the Book of Isaiah

ISAIAH 61:1-3

Ms. Sanjean Holder *Reader:*

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our

God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM 23 KING JAMES VERSION

All: The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

SECOND LESSON: A Reading from Revelation

REVELATION 21:2-7

Reader: **MR. Tariq Mayo, Jr.**

And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.

Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

2

THE HYMN "IT IS WELL WITH MY SOUL" LEVAS: #188

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,
When sor-row like sea—billows roll;
Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,
It is well, it is well with my soul.
My sin—oh, the bliss of this glorious thought -
My sin—not in part, but the whole -
Is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
It is well with my soul
It is well with my soul
It is well with my soul
It is well with my soul
With my soul, my soul ...with my soul.

THE HOLY GOSPEL JOHN 14:1-6

Officiant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord According to John.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going."

Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

Officiant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ

THE OBITUARY MS. BARBARA GREAVES TRIBUTES MEMBERS OF THE FAMILY THE HOMILY THE REV. ROSE COHEN HASSAN

3

THE APOSTLE'S CREED

Officiant and People together

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Officiant and People together

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Officiant: For our sister Sylvia, let us pray to our Lord Jesus Christ who said, "I am Resurrection and I am Life."

Officiant: Lord, you consoled Martha and Mary in their distress; draw near to us who mourn for Sylvia, and dry the tears of those who weep.

People: Hear us, Lord.

Officiant: You wept at the grave of Lazarus, your friend; comfort us in our sorrow. People: Hear us, Lord.

4

Officiant: You raised the dead to life; give to our sister Sylvia eternal life.

People: Hear us, Lord.

Officiant: You promised paradise to the thief who repented; bring our sister Sylvia to the joys of heaven.

People: Hear us, Lord.

Officiant: Our sister Sylvia was washed in Baptism and anointed with the Holy Spirit; give her fellowship with all your saints.

People: Hear us, Lord.

Officiant: Comfort us in our sorrows at the death of our sister; let our faith be our consolation, and eternal life our hope.

Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to you our sister Sylvia, who was reborn by water and the Spirit in Holy Baptism. Grant that her death may recall to us your victory over death, and be an occasion for us to renew our trust in your Father's love. Give us, we pray, the faith to follow where you have led the way; and where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, to the ages of ages. Amen.

THE COMMENDATION

Officiant: Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your saints, where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.

You only are immortal, the creator and maker of humankind; and we are mortal, formed of the earth, and to earth shall we return. For so did you ordain when you created me, saying, "You are dust, and to dust you shall return." All of us go down to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

All: Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your saints, where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.

Officiant continues: Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Sylvia. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Receive her into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light. Amen.

THE COMMENDATION

Officiant: Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your saints, where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.

You only are immortal, the creator and maker of humankind; and we are mortal, formed of the earth, and to earth shall we return. For so did you ordain when you created me, saying, "You are dust, and to dust you shall return." All of us go down to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

All: Give rest, O Christ, to your servant with your saints, where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting.

Officiant continues: Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant Sylvia. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Receive her into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light. Amen.

THE CLOSING HYMN "PRECIOUS LORD, TAKE MY HAND" LEVAS: #106

Precious Lord, take my hand
Lead me on, let me stand
I am tired, I'm weak, I am worn
Through the storm, through the night
Lead me on to the light

5

Take my hand Lord,
And Lead me home
When my way grows drear
Precious Lord, linger near
When my light is almost gone
At the river, Lord, I stand
Guide my feet, and hold my hand
Take my hand, Lord,
And Lead me home

THE DISMISSAL

Officiant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God.

**THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW & HOLY
COMMUNION 160 WEST SOUTH ORANGE AVENUE,
SOUTH ORANGE, NJ 07079**

PHONE: 973-763-2355 FAX: 973-763-1120

E-MAIL: SAHCOffice@gmail.com

WEBSITE: [HTTPS://SAHCHURCHNJ.ORG/](https://SAHCHURCHNJ.ORG/)

ASSISTING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

READERS

Ms. Sanjean Holder, Mr. Tariq Mayo, Jr.

MUSIC CONSULTANT

Mr. Donald Morris

BULLETIN DRAFT

Mr. Bert Jones

PART-TIME INTERIM PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

Rev. Robin Mansfield

Interment

CORAL RIDGE CEMETERY

CHRIST CHURCH

BARBADOS, WEST INDIES

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 wishes to express sincere and profound thanks for all your kind words and prayers. Your many expressions of Love has helped us through this most difficult time.

Professional Services Provided By

COTTON FUNERAL SERVICE
130 Main Street
Orange, NJ
973-675-6400

1025 Bergen Street
Newark, NJ
973-926-6400

COTTON-PARKER FUNERAL HOME
57 Clinton Avenue
Jersey City, NJ
201-433-1000

