

# *Home Going Service*



*Rosalie Littlejohn*

**Sunrise**  
**June 12, 1920**

**Sunset**  
**May 30, 2021**

**Thursday, June 10, 2021 - 5PM**

**East Ward Missionary Baptist Church**

**2011 First Avenue New York, New York 10029**

**(212) 410-9073**

**Reverend Dr. Sean P. Gardner, Senior Pastor**

**Officiating**

# *Obituary*

**Rosalie Littlejohn** was born Rosalie Cureton on June 12, 1920 in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, to parents, Arthur Massey and Bertha Cureton. Along with her siblings, Edward, Mary and Willet, Rosalie was brought up in the church where she learned her strong belief and faith in GOD, which she carried with her until her departure from this earth. She attended classes in North Carolina until she left for New York City at the age of 12.

Once Rosalie arrived in New York, she took on domestic work and made sure to send some of her wages back home to her mother to help her family. She wasn't able to return to school, but she was able to educate herself so that she could hold her own in any conversation with anybody. As she grew older she enjoyed going to the parties, dances and clubs with friends and family. It was at one of these affairs where Rosalie was introduced to her soon to be husband, Junius Littlejohn.

Junius and Rosalie were married in 1941. Their union produced two children, Gloria Jean Littlejohn and Ronald Tyrone Littlejohn. Gloria and Ronnie gave Junius and Rosalie eight grandchildren to LOVE.

Rosalie continued her domestic duties, becoming very adept at taking care of babies and eventually becoming a "baby nurse". After many years of taking care of other children and homes she decided to stay home and take care of her own family. This encompassed more than just her immediate family. Known as "Mama" to her kids and grandkids, and "Aunt Rose" to her many nieces and nephews, Rosalie helped love, raise, comfort, discipline, advise and "set straight" many of us. She has been the rock of the family, holding the family down through everything all these years. Rosalie planned the annual family picnics, Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners, repasts and birthday celebrations which were almost ALL held at her home. Today some of us marvel at how we all were able to fit in that 3-bedroom apartment, but we did and she made sure everyone, related or not was welcomed and treated like family.

Rosalie was an active member of the East Ward Missionary Baptist Church in New York. She participated on the Mother's Board, the Gospel Chorus and the Kitchen Committee. She assisted wherever she was needed.

Last year family and friends were able to celebrate Mama's 100th birthday. A big celebration was planned to commemorate such a beautiful life but due to the pandemic, things were changed and she had a Zoom party instead. The fact that so many people showed up on Zoom is a testament to how great a person she was. She was kind, sharing, zealously supportive, valued truth, kept confidences, loved truly, touched hearts and relentlessly prepared for this life. She was just a Class Act! On May 30, 2021, God gave Rosalie her wings and she took flight to her final resting place. She is preceded in death by her husband, Junius; her children, Gloria and Ronnie; a daughter-in-law, Shirleen; her grandchildren, Mark and Michael; her brothers, Edward and Bill; and her sisters, Louise and Mary. She leaves to mourn her grandchildren, Sharon, Ray, Lorraine, Chante, Quinn-Martin and Tyrone; her daughter-in-law, Marcia Littlejohn; and a host of great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews and friends.

# *Order of Service*

Prelude.....Brother Robert Newsome

Processional..... The Clergy and The Family

Invocation

Hymn of Praise.....“I’ll Fly Away”

Scripture Readings

Old Testament – Psalm 23:1-6

New Testament – John 14:1-7

Prayer of Comfort

Selection: Missionary Ghanniyya Green.....“I Still Have Joy”

Acknowledgements..... Keli Johnson

Reflections ..... (2 Minutes Please)

Church Resolution & The Obituary.....Barbara Suarez

Solo: Willet Peeples..... “I Won’t Complain”

The Eulogy.....Reverend Dr. Sean P. Gardner, Sr.  
Senior Pastor, East Ward Missionary Baptist Church

Solo: Willet Peeples.....“How Great is Our God”

The Benediction.....Reverend Dr. Sean P. Gardner, Sr.

## **INTERMENT:**

Calverton National Cemetery  
Calverton, New York

## *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 acknowledges with deep appreciation  
all acts of kindness extended to them during this  
bereavement hour. May God bless you for all  
your thoughtfulness and concern.***

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*Clifford V. James, President & CEO*

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