

In Loving Memory of Ida M. McClary

Sunrise
February 23, 1935

Sunset
June 16, 2021



Thursday, June 24, 2021 - 12:00 Noon

CARNIE P. BRAGG FUNERAL HOME
256 Rosa Parks Blvd., Paterson, New Jersey
Rev. Mark Wright, Officiating
Janice Wright, Organist

Reflections of Life

Having spent all but the first nine years of her life in New Jersey, Ida M. "Sweet Pea" McClary considered herself a Passaicite, though, for a short while, she lived in Paterson and attended Central High School before returning to Passaic with her family. Rooted in Passaic and surrounded by her family, Sweet Pea, as she was affectionately named and called, built her life. She married Levi Wells in 1950 and had two daughters, Alberta Susan Wells and Levinia Boyd. She brought up her daughters under the Gospel of the Grace of God and held them to high standards. As a Founder of Grace Bible Class, Inc., a Sunday school teacher, and an active member and officer of the PTA on the local and regional levels, she was also a role model.

Her employment with Coastal Chemical as a secretary began in the early to mid 60's and eventually lead to a position in management. Ida's tenure there of a little over twenty-five years included course work at Passaic County Community College that helped her to prepare for work in the areas of office computer technology and computer programming. She retired from Coastal Chemical to pursue a full time interest in sales and skin care. Working as a Distributor for We Care Distributors, Inc., Sweet Pea not only enjoyed the actual work and used the skin care line herself, but she also enjoyed other aspects the job entailed—networking with people, traveling, organizing and participating in events; these interests she also pursued on a personal level after retiring from We Care Distributors, Inc.

In the late '60's Ida and Samuel McClary met, and they were married in 1969. Together they planned popular summer Sunday school outings. In 1993, Sam and the Sunday school assisted Ida in organizing and implementing the very well attended, successful, and jubilant 50th Grace Bible Class Sunday School Reunion. That Sunday School reunion and Sweet Pea's ventures with family reunions, a variety of day and overnight bus rides, and Caribbean cruises gave her as much pleasure as the experience(s) gave the participants, if not more pleasure and joy. The same held true for The Order of the Lamp, Inc., events, even more so because proceeds from these events resulted in scholarships for college-bound high school students, and continuing college students. As a "committed and loyal member and mentor" of The Order of the Lamp, Inc., Sweet Pea's diligence to the organization was publicly recognized in 2006 at the annual awards dinner by the late Dudley Saunders, one of the Founders of this non profit scholarship organization.

Also inspired by Sallie D. Gamble's commitment to education and helping the youth of Passaic advance their education, Sweet Pea chaired the Passaic Community Committee that was successful in 2017 in getting a (section of Harrison) street in Passaic and a public school in Passaic named in honor of Sallie D. Gamble: Sallie D. Gamble Way and Sallie D. Gamble School Number 16.

Sweet Pea was known for her productivity and for her singing, and for her love and compassion for others--sending special greeting cards, making cheerful phone calls, visiting the sick. She truly loved helping and supporting others, and having good times with others. Ida Mae Sweet Pea McClary gave of herself to her family and church family, her friends and community. She was born as preemie on February 23, 1935 in Greenville, South Carolina. Slightly over two pounds, she was a delicate little baby girl. But, she grew into a strong determined capable, talented woman who triumphed on the morning of June 16, 2021 when (at University Hospital, Newark, New Jersey) she woke up in Heavenly Glory. There, she was reunited with her parents Alberta and Ernest Walker, and her older sister and brother, Juanita Murray, Roy Lee Austin, Jr.

She was born in Greenville, South Carolina and lived there and attended school until she was nine, but she lived her full life in Passaic. A product of Greenville, SC, Paterson and Passaic, NJ public schools, a devoted wife and dedicated, popular mother, a beloved and treasured family member and friend, a sweet and lively lady, Ida M McClary enriched life and will be greatly missed.

Left to cherish her memory are her devoted husband, Samuel McClary; loving daughters, Alberta Susan Wells and Levinia Boyd; stepson, Guy McClary; cherished nieces Winifred Rene Steward, Allene Sinome Brooks, Kim Slade, and Lisa Lambert; one nephew, Earl Lambert; grand nieces and nephews Rashida Aisha Murray, Simone Allyese and Jevell Graham, Khalan Fredricka Slade; Xavier Simeon Brooks and Jaylen Duane Lambert; ten sweet great grand nieces and nephews; many very dear cousins. Some cousins were like her siblings, Eleanor Herbert, McCoy Grier, Elizabeth Hines; one cousin, Carol Waldon, was like a daughter; and to all of the many other cousins she was either "Aunt Sweet Pea" or "Cousin Sweet Pea"; she leaves her beloved Grace Bible Class church family and cherished choir members; her esteemed The Order of the Lamp Scholarship Organization members; countless treasured friends and neighbors (too many to name) that also meant a great deal to her.

She is our melody still.



Order of Worship

Hymn *"The Lord is My Shepherd"*
Pam White

Scripture *Ephesians 2: 8, 9*
II Timothy 2: 15

Selection *Grace Bible Class Choir*

Prayer of Comfort *Erick Walker, Deacon*

Solo *"The Battle is the Lord's"*
Pam White

Obituary *Alberta Susan Wells*

Remarks *Leon Gilchrist, Elder*

Selection *Grace Bible Class Choir*

Tribute *Alberta Susan Wells*

Eulogy *Pastor Mark Wright*
Beacon Light Community Church

Selection/Recessional *"Some Day"*
Grace Bible Class Choir with Pam White

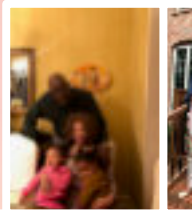
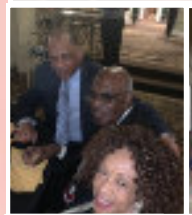
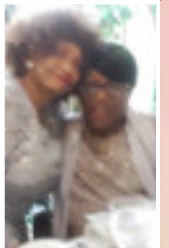
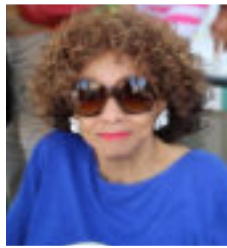
Honorary Pall Bearers *Jeffrey Herbert, Erick Walker,*
John Herbert, Lamont White, Billy Joe Hansford,
Timmy Walker, Kyle Cintron



"Safely Home" is the poem our mother used on the last page of the homegoing programs for her parents Alberta Walker (in 1995) and Ernest Walker (in 2000). The message was important enough for her to use twice. So we decided to take her lead and, as she requested, we reiterated the message in our own words below.

*We know our mother is safely home.
The power of her testimony
And the conviction of her song
Leave no doubt
That she is safely home
In Heaven, at peace forever.
And when we are called to Glory
That sweet reunion
Will be joy unspeakable!*

Susan and Veanie



Acknowledgment

The family of the late **Ida M. McClary** 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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