

Celebration of Life for



Naomi Clark

Sunrise
October 14, 1942

Sunset
July 14, 2021

Friday, July 23, 2021 – 11:00 a.m.

Ebenezer Baptist Church

216 Fourth Street
Englewood, NJ 07631

Rev. Preston Thompson Pastor
Rev. Dr. Edward D. Harper, Officiating

Reflections of Life

Naomi Clark was born on October 14, 1942 in Passaic, New Jersey to the late Willis C. Brown and Rosalie Glover Brown. She was sweetly nicknamed “Bunny” by her father who said that she looked as cute as a bunny when she was born. In later years, Bunny became affectionately known as Bonnie. Bonnie spent her formative years in Paterson, New Jersey where she attended and graduated from East Side High School.

Upon graduation, Bonnie attended Essex County School of Business where she earned her Associates degree and became a legal secretary for Prudential Insurance Company. While in Business School, Bonnie worked for Macy’s Department Store in Paramus, New Jersey. It is here where she would meet Curtis Clark, the love of her life. Curtis courted Naomi and declared his love by asking for her hand in marriage. Their marriage lasted 53 years before Curtis passed on February 14, 2017.

Bonnie and Curtis raised their family, and spent most of their lives in Bayville, New Jersey. They had two devoted children, Tracy and Kyle. Early in their marriage, they made the joint decision for Bonnie to stay home and nurture their children. She was always available to them. She helped them to navigate the world with confidence, purpose and integrity. Education was of the utmost of importance in the Clark household. She diligently worked with Tracy and Kyle to ensure that they would be successful in school. Bonnie was a member of the PTA and was actively involved in the educational process of her children. She was elated when her first born graduated from Colgate University and then went on to receive a Master’s degree from the University of Michigan. Her heart was full when Kyle was accepted and attended Hampton University, and upon completion of his degree at Ocean County College.

Bonnie took great pride in creating a beautiful home, her dream home. She loved selecting colors, wall paper and gardening. Every spring Bonnie boasted of her newly planted Hydrangeas, Irises, and opening up the swimming pool with potted flowers abound. She enjoyed life as a homemaker, trying out new recipes, baking and entertaining. Her mesmerizing smile, non-stop jokes and laughter was not only contagious, but soulfully felt as she welcomed friends and family to their home.

After Tracy graduated from high school, Bonnie decided to dedicate her life to small children and joined the Berkley Township school system. She accepted the position as secretary in the H & M Potter School library. She would light up as she shared beloved stories of her students.

Upon retirement from Berkley Township School system, Bonnie happily pursued her hobbies. She loved going to ceramic classes, traveling, and watching tennis matches. She was passionate about Venus and Serena Williams, Novak Djokovic and Rafael Nadal.

Bonnie was a dedicated fan of Johnny Mathis. Upon entering her home she would beam as she showed her most recent birthday card from Johnny Mathis, which would come each year. Johnny Mathis photos were a part of the Clark family photo gallery. If Johnny was performing in the tri-state area you could be assured that she was grabbing a ticket to see him. Johnny would always acknowledge Bonnie when she was in the audience.

Bonnie’s heart burst when she became a grandmother. She shopped throughout the year for gifts for each of her grandchildren. She and Curtis could often be found supporting their grandchildren at baseball games, basketball games, performances, and Grandparents Day at their schools. They loved going on vacation with their grandchildren and having sleep overs for them at their home. Distance was insignificant to them as they often journeyed to Texas to visit and assist with their Texan born grandchildren.

After a lengthy illness, on July 14, 2021, Bonnie exchanged her mortal garment and vessel for her immortal robe, and angelic wings. Her memory will be cherished by her only daughter, Tracy LaRosiliere and her husband Harry LaRosiliere of Plano TX; her son, Kyle Clark and his wife Rachel Clark of Toms River NJ; five grandchildren: Taylor Clark, Noah Clark, Brianna LaRosiliere, Dillon Clark, and Maya LaRosiliere; her siblings Helen Van Riper, Bernice “Sissie” Webster, and brother Phillip “Butch” Brown preceded her in death. Surviving Bonnie are her sisters Pat Burroughs, Rosalie Mallory, and Debra Boggs. Also, surviving Bonnie is a host of sisters-in law, brothers-in law, nieces, nephews and cousins.

As you rest in peace Bonnie, know that you are loved, but God loved you best.

The Family

Order of Service

The Musical Prelude.....Musicians

Prayer of Comfort.....Rev. Dr. Edward D. Harper

Reading of the Holy Scripture

Old Testament – Psalm 121

New Testament – Mathew 11:28-30

Selection/Solo Kelvin Moore

Reading of Reflections of Life.....Brianna & Maya LaRosiliere

Acknowledgements.....Kyle S. Clark

Resolutions.....Virginia Harper

Poem.....Grandchildren

Reflections.....Stacy Burroughs
Lois Chapman
Jeanne Clark Rance

Selection/Solo Kelvin Moore

Eulogy.....Rev. Dr. Edward D. Harper

Interment

Friday, July 23, 2021
Cedar Lawn Cemetery
Paterson, New Jersey

Pallbearers

Dillon Clark	Noah Clark
Kevin Glover	Brian Webster
Cleon Webster	Larry Webster

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 Him call
I 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 day.

If my parting has left a void,
Then fill it up with remembered joy.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,
Oh, 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 savored 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!

-author unknown

Acknowledgment

Perhaps you sent a lovely card, or sat quietly in a chair.

Perhaps you sent those beautiful flowers that we saw sitting there.

Perhaps you were not there at all, just thought of us that day.

Whatever you did to console our hearts, we thank you so much for whatever part.

Special thanks to Sonya Brown, Dorothy Jones, Gloria Reynolds, Michael Weinbel and the Keno Sisters of Plano. Your kindness and concern for our family means a great deal to us. We appreciate all the love and support you have extended to us during this period of sadness.

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