

*A Going Home Celebration*  
*for*

**SONIA MARIA WALKER**



**Sunrise**  
**March 13, 1949**

**Sunset**  
**September 19, 2021**

**Service:**  
**Friday, October 1, 2021 - 11:30 am**

**Grace Baptist Church**  
3939 Dyre Avenue • Bronx, New York 10466  
**Reverend Henry Wanamaker, Officiating**

# Obituary

**Sonia M. Walker** was born March 13, 1949, in Kingston, Jamaica, West Indies. Her parents were Lloyd Nelson and Hazel Lindsay.

Sonia accepted Christ at an early age. Years later, after moving to New York, she became a member of the Grace Baptist Church here in the Bronx. At Grace, Sonia was dedicated to service. For several years, she served as Grace's treasurer and board member and took on many other associated service roles. For example, Sonia was very often involved in the planning of the annual community summer barbecue, recreational field trips, and other similar church activities. Few would disagree that she was always one of the first persons to volunteer to prepare the meals for church functions – from christening and baptism celebrations to repasts. Sonia took a special pride in her culinary skills. It was not unusual for Sonia to walk from one table to another during a church event, listening keenly to hear how much people were enjoying their meals. Perhaps more importantly, however, she wanted to know that she had contributed to their happiness.

Sonia really enjoyed cooking; hardly ever did she pass on an opportunity to be in her kitchen to cook up a very tasty meal in record time. In addition to her satisfied church brothers and sisters, her co-workers, family, and friends were all eager consumers of her delicious meals. Many present here, at some time or another, would have asked for what she made their favorite dishes - rice and peas and oxtail and brown stew chicken. There was never a person she could not befriend or feed.

Sonia was an energetic person, who brightened the rooms she entered. Standing at just about 5ft tall, maybe shorter, she had a larger-than-life personality. She was the type of woman that you heard most times before you saw her, she wanted to be excited upon arrival. She had an unmistakable presence. Everyone was Sonia's friend, and as such she never met a stranger. She would greet a person she met for the first time with the expression - "I know you from somewhere." She refused to believe that she did not know everyone.

Sonia had a passion for caring for others. She worked as a nurse at the Hebrew Nursing Home for very close to 30 years. Concurrently, Sonia worked as a private nurse caring for a lady, Betty, who lived until she was a centenarian (about 6 years ago, Betty passed away at the age of around 105); Sonia also cared for Betty's two daughters – both now aged around 80. The love she gave to all was immeasurable. How do you describe a person that was overall beautiful inside and out to everyone and I do mean everyone? I guess I'd say that such a person would appropriately be described as SONIA.

Sonia married Norman W. Johnson (now deceased) early in life. From this union came two children - Sophia Russell-Wilson and Norman Johnson. Sonia and Norman parted ways, and she was later remarried to Noel Walker in June 1984. From this union came her 3rd child - Perino Walker. Although Sonia and Noel parted ways too, almost 20 years ago, they remained friends to her last days.

Sonia departed this life on September 19th, 2021, surrounded by family. Her health had declined rapidly over the last couple of years, but through it all she never gave up on the will to live until God called her home. She will forever be missed by everyone she encountered. Her precious memories will be cherished by her daughter Sophia Russell-Wilson (and husband, Richard). Sons Norman Johnson (and wife, Gale) and Perino Walker (and wife, Jennifer). Five grandchildren, Nicholas Johnson, Alex Wilson, Ganole Walker, Aniyah Walker, and Jermanee Walker; and a host of family and friends.

# *Order of Service*

---

**Family Procession**

**Invocation**

**Hymn**

“Amazing Grace”

**Scripture**

Rev. Henry Wanamaker

**Prayer of Comfort**

Rev. Henry Wanamaker

**Acknowledgements/Remarks (2mins)**

(Family, friends...poem or expressions)

**Church resolution**

*If a member of the church would like to speak*

**Song**

“His Eyes Are On The Sparrow”

**Eulogy**

Perino Walker

**Hymn**

“Blessed Assurance”

**Mortician**

**Benediction**

*Interment*

Rose Hills Memorial Park  
Putnam Valley, New York



# *I'm Free*

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free.  
I'm following the path God has chosen 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've found now peace at the end of the day.  
If my parting has left a void,  
then fill it with remembered joys.  
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss;  
Oh yes, these things, I too will miss.  
Be not burdened with times of sorrow,  
look for the sunshine of tomorrow.  
My life's been full, I savored much;  
good friends, good times, a loved ones touch.  
Perhaps my time seems all too brief;  
don't lengthen your time with undue grief.  
Lift up your heart and peace to thee,  
God wanted me now – He set me free.

## **Pallbearers**

Perino Walker  
Ganole Walker  
Peter Johnson  
Nicholas Johnson  
Richard Wilson  
Alex Wilson

## *Acknowledgments*

The family would like to express their deep appreciation and sincere thanks for all acts of kindness shown to them during their time of bereavement.

---

*Professional Service Entrusted To:*

**McCall's Bronxwood**

*Funeral Home, Inc.*

4035 Bronxwood Avenue

Bronx, NY 10466


718-231-7647

Fax 718-231-7665

E-mail: [Director@McCalls.net](mailto:Director@McCalls.net)

Web: [www.mccalls.net](http://www.mccalls.net)



 [www.honoryou.com](http://www.honoryou.com)