

Footprints

One night a woman had a dream. She dreamed she was walking along the beach with the LORD. Across the sky flashed scenes from her life. For each scene, she noticed two sets of footprints in the sand; one belonged to her, and the other to the LORD. When the last scene of her life flashed before her, she looked back at the footprints in the sand. She noticed that many times along the path of her life there was only one set of footprints. She also noticed that it happened at the very lowest and saddest times in her life. This really bothered her and she questioned the LORD about it. "LORD, you said that once I decided to follow you, you'd walk with me all the way. But I have noticed that during the most troublesome times in my life, there is only one set of footprints. I don't understand why when I needed you most you would leave me." The LORD replied, "My precious, precious child, I love you and I would never leave you. During your times of trial and suffering, when you see only one set of footprints, it was then that I carried you."

Psalm 23

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 path 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 forever.

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
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Bronx, NY 10466

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www.honoryou.com

In Loving Memory
of



Joan S. Ricci

Sunrise
March 13, 1927

Sunset
November 29, 2021

Service:
Thursday, December 9, 2021 - 6:00 pm

McCALL'S BRONXWOOD FUNERAL HOME
4035 Bronxwood Avenue • Bronx, New York 10466

Obituary

Born: 3/13/27 St. Thomas, U.S.Virgin Islands; Died 11/29/2021 Bronx, NY
Mother: Muriel A. Penn Henry
Father: Julius E. Sprauve Sr.
Married to the late Alfred Daniel Ricci on April 2, 1978 and that union lasted until his untimely death on May 31, 1998. (He will be forever missed.)
Daughters: Michelle Sprauve Herring (Jacksonville, FL), Stepdaughter Angela Ricci (deceased), daughter by choice, Ramona Rodgers Faoye (Brooklyn, NY), Son-in-law Fredrick Herring
Grandchildren: Chloe Marie Herring (Fiancé, Dr. Dany Accilien), Stephen Daniel Herring, Timothy Christian Herring, Kelaiah Marie Herring, and Tiffany Ricci; Special grandson, Femi Faoye; Special trusted nephew, Donald George.

Early Childhood

Baptized at Frederick Evangelical Lutheran Church, St. Thomas and very proud of the family’s strong Lutheran background as evidenced by both parents being baptized at the Nazareth Evangelical Lutheran Church, St. John. Summertime was spent on the island of St. John between mother’s family at Monte and father’s family at Guinea Gut, Sieben and Cruz Bay. Her siblings: Hilton, Herman, Clarissa, Julius (Junior), Idalia, Leona, Kenneth, Sylvia, Rhynita and Maude all predeceased her. She is survived by Liston, Vern, and Elroy.

Educational Institutions attended

George Washington Elementary
Abraham Lincoln (currently Jarvis) Elementary
Charlotte Amalie High School Class of 1946
V.I. Teacher Institute
Hampton Institute
Polytechnic Institute of P.R.
NYU – Elementary Ed & Music

Teacher at the following institutions:

Bethany Elementary School – St. John
George Washington & Abraham Lincoln Schools– St. Thomas
Epiphany & Prince of Peace Lutheran Schools – Brooklyn, NY

Administrator – St. Lukes Evangelical Lutheran Church Little Angels Child Care Center, Brooklyn, NY

Reflections in her own words from her 2010 Biographical notes:

“CAHS prepared me for life. I was able to earn a living in New York using the education I got in St. Thomas when I moved to New York in the mid fifties. My first job in New York was for an insurance company. The Supervisor, Mr. Brown trained me well and I rose through the ranks and I became an Assistant Supervisor in that company, then moved on and worked in sales at Abraham & Strauss, Bookkeeper at a plumbing establishment then returned teaching in the early sixties.

Mentors:

Jane E. Tuitt (my fairy Godmother) – guided me in my teaching career.
Austin Donovan – forced me to inquire and ask for information.
Gwendolyn Kean (my role model) – always knew when I needed help.
J. Antonio Jarvis – helped me to keep looking at the children’s needs.
My love for children and understanding them I owe to him. The children in my classes were ‘my children’ and I treated them as such. One of my students Joan Francis said to me many years later that **I was strict but fair and my Children knew that I loved them.** That is my greatest compliment.”

Church Activities

President of Prince of Peace and St. Lukes Evangelical Lutheran Church Women.

Founding member of group that organized and started Epiphany Evangelical Lutheran Church School in Crown Heights section of Brooklyn, NY mid sixties.

President of Thrivent for Lutherans, St. Lukes Chapter; Chairperson of Worship and Music Committee, St. Luke Evangelical Lutheran Church; President of St. Lukes Congregational Council.

Other Volunteer Activities

Salvation Army (Brooklyn, NY) – worked with homeless families.
S.H.A.R.E. (food bank program) – implemented program at St. Lukes Evangelical Lutheran Church and administered the program for nine years; worked on annual Thanksgiving Basket distribution at St. Lukes which were donated by Gloria Dei Lutheran Church; sponsored of St. Lukes Senior Friendship group.



Later years

After retiring from her last job as Day Care Administrator in 1987, Mrs. Ricci continued working in her church, community and traveling back and forth to St. John with her family estate affairs. Together with her beloved husband “Dan” enjoyed being doting grandparents. The passing of her husband and declining health slowed her down tremendously and she spent her last few years at Bronx Center for Rehabilitation Nursing Home. The family appreciates all dedicated staff that took care of her, especially since the pandemic began. We give God thanks and praise for the 94 years of her life.

Order of Service

Organ Prelude

Processional

Opening Prayer Minister

Hymn..... “Just a Closer Walk with Thee”

Scripture readings:

Old Testament lessonEcclesiastes 3:1-15

New Testament lesson.....Revelation 21:2-7

Prayer of Comfort

Hymn of Praise “Lead Me, Guide Me”

Eulogy

Hymn of Affirmation..... “It is Well With My Soul”

Sermon Minister

Committal and Benediction Minister

Remarks by Funeral Director

Final Viewing

RECESSIONAL

Interment

Calverton National Cemetery
Calverton, New York