

Celebration of Life for
Rivanna Susan Johnson

Sunrise: December 5, 1926 - Sunset: November 28, 2021



Thursday, December 16, 2021

Viewing: 9AM - 10AM

Funeral: 10AM

UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.

2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY 10027

Reverend Brenda Price, Officiating

Associate Minister of Convent Avenue Baptist Church

Order of Service

Organ Prelude

Processional.....Clergy and Family

Scripture Readings

Old Testament..... Psalm 23

New Testament..... Revelation 21:3, 4

Prayer of Comfort.....Reverend Brenda Price
Convent Avenue Baptist Church

Selection.....“It Is Well”

Family Reflections

Obituary.....Read in Silence

Selection..... “I’m Free”

Eulogy..... Reverend Brenda Price
Convent Avenue Baptist Church

Benediction

Final Viewing & Recessional

FINAL DISPOSITION:

Rosehill Crematory
Linden, New Jersey

Obituary

Rivanna Susan Johnson was born on December 5, 1926, to Elsie Drayton of Beauford, South Carolina, the fifth of six children, four boys and one girl. She moved to New York, at an early age.

She was married to Mr. Arthur Johnson. Rivanna was a mother of three: twins, Anthony, (Antionette died at birth) and Joyce.

She worked as a Mental Hygiene Therapy Aide at Bronx Psychiatric Center for over 25 years. She was well liked and respected by her supervisors and co-workers. Her dedication to her career and thirst for knowledge inspired her to continue the pursuit of higher learning. She received her early education in the New York City School System and earned a degree from Bronx Community.

After retiring she enjoyed traveling and spending time with her family. She was not one to entertain many people in her home, but she made an exception for her family. She had a strong loyalty to family and would allow nothing or anyone to come before them. Rivanna had impeccable taste and filled her home with eloquent art as well as furniture and especially clothing. She was a petite person but had a tremendous amount of strength and fortitude.

Rivanna was a member of St. Marks for 50+ years and even when she could no longer attend the services, she sent her support of the ministry. She maintained a daily prayer life and earnestly trusted in God. Rivanna valued good manners and would always say "Thank You" for every little show of kindness or assistance shown toward her. She not only said thank you, but she showed her gratitude by providing some type of a blessing... usually a financial one. She understood that she was blessed to be a blessing and that people don't have to do anything for us. Her greatest expression of thanks was shown to God, daily. She would say, "I have lived a good life and I thank God every day of it."

Oh, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good... yes, He is good. We give thanks to Him, for her time with us.

Rivanna was called home on November 28th, exactly one week shy of her 95th birthday. She was preceded in death by: Ann (Comsee), Lewis, Jim, Shed and Zebadiah (Zep).

She leaves to cherish her memory and legacy: daughter, Joyce Mike-Paul; grandchildren, Marie Mike, Aubrey Mike, and Edward; daughter-in-law, Emily; sisters-in-law, Floretha Drayton, Rosalee Drayton and Margret Drayton; and a host nieces, nephews, and cousins.

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

Acknowledgement

The family of the late Rivanna Susan Johnson wishes to express their sincere thanks to all who displayed the most gracious acts of kindness.

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