

To Those I Love

by Isla Paschal Richardson

*If I should ever leave you whom I love
To go along the Silent Way, grieve not,
Nor speak of me with tears, but laugh and talk
Of me as if I were beside you there,
(I'd come... I'd come, could I but find a way!
But would not tears and grief be barriers?)
And when you hear a song or see a bird I loved,
Please do not let the thought of me be sad...
For I am loving you just as I always have...
You were so good to me!
There are so many things I wanted still to do...
So many things to say to you...
Remember that I did not fear...
It was just leaving you that was so hard to face...
We cannot see Beyond... But this I know;
I loved you so...
'Twas heaven here with you!*

Acknowledgement

*Our family would like to express Their appreciation and gratitude for
the many acts of kindness during this time of bereavement.
May God bless you all for your concern.*

www.honoryou.com



Professional Services Provided By
WOODY "HOME FOR SERVICES"
163 Oakwood Ave. • Orange, NJ 07050
Ph (973) 674-0814 • Fax (973) 677-0644
www.honoryou.com

Celebrating the Life
of

Anna Virginia Hicks

December 11, 1923 - May 3, 2022

Service
Tuesday, May 17, 2022 - 1:00 pm

WOODY "HOME FOR SERVICES"
163 Oakwood Avenue • Orange, New Jersey 07050

Miss Me But Let Me Go

*When I come to the end of the road
And the sun has set for me
I want no rites in a gloom-filled room.
Why cry for a soul set free?*

*Miss me a little—but not too long
And not with your head bowed low.
Remember the love that we once shared,
Miss me—but let me go.*

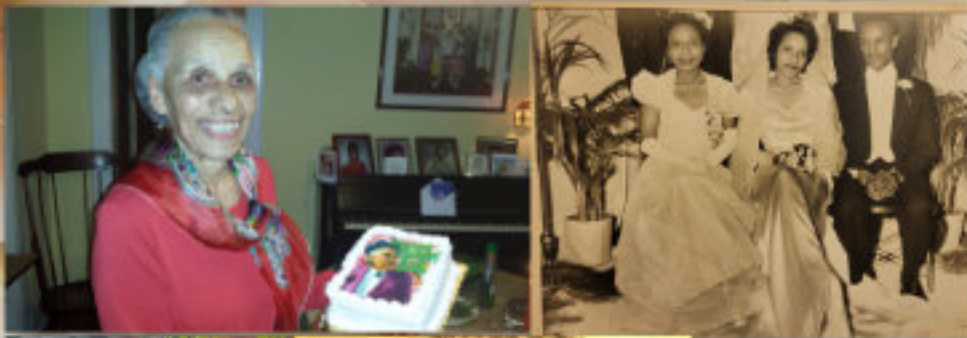
*For this is a journey that we all must take
And each must go alone.
It's all a part of the Master's plan,
A step on the road to home.*

*When you are lonely and sick of heart
Go to the friends we know
And bury your sorrows in doing good deeds.*



P
R
E
C
I
O
U
S

M
E
M
O
R
I
E
S



Order of Service

Musical Prelude/Processional
The Family

Songs
"One Sweet Day," Mariah Carey
"Blessed Assurance" by Loraine Baucum

Welcome
Pastor Saafir Jenkins

Song
Emily Murphy, MT-BC
"Que Sera Sera" by Doris Day

Scripture Reading
Old Testament - Psalms 23
New Testament - John 14:1-3

Prayer of Comfort
Rabbi Theodore Lichtenfeld, Interfaith Chaplain, VNA

Song
Emily Murphy
"Side by Side" by Gus Kahn and Harry Woods

Poem
"To Those I Love"

Reading of Obituary

Words of Comfort / Reflections
Family and Friends

Acknowledgements & Resolutions

Eulogy
Pastor Saafir Jenkins, Ruach Outreach Ministries

Recessional
"New Orleans Style Second Line"
Clergy and Family
"To My Father's House" by Edwin Hawkins Singers

Interment
Rosedale Cemetery
408 Orange Rd • Montclair, NJ

O
R
D
E
R

O
F

C
E
L
E
B
R
A
T
I
O
N



Anna was born in Smithfield, Virginia on December 11, 1923. She was the youngest daughter of five children born to Armstead Johnson and Georgia Darden Johnson. She had three older sisters (Lelia, Georgette, and Helene) and a younger brother Armstead (AG) Johnson. In 1934 after the death of their father, the family moved to East Orange, NJ where she received her education in the public schools.

As a young adult, Anna worked in service with her mother and sisters. Her formal work life started as a clerk at G&G Drug Store in East Orange and finally at Lerner Shops in downtown Newark until her retirement in 1985.

Anna met her future husband, Ernest Hicks, while he was overseas in the military. Their love story began when a family friend asked if she would be interested in being a pen-pal to someone who was serving overseas. After saying yes, she began receiving letters and one in particular caught her eye because she said he wrote such interesting letters. They corresponded for a while, eventually met, and were married in December of 1946 after he was discharged. Their forty-three-year marriage lasted until his death in 1989. During that time, they lived in East Orange NJ, Milwaukee,

Wisconsin, and Orange NJ. Although they had no children of their own (the cats Tammy and Sahara don't count), they were the loving "Aunt Anna and Uncle Ernie" to several generations of nieces and nephews. One of her favorite memories was the time she and Ernie took a vacation to Mexico City. They also enjoyed driving to visit family in Virginia.

After retiring Anna moved initially to a retirement community, Clear Water Village, in Spotswood NJ and later to Crescent Park Apartments. Anna loved to dance and was considered the life of the party at her Senior Citizen building in Spotswood, NJ. In fact, for many events, the party wouldn't start until she arrived. She would enter, waving and greeting everyone and then start dancing with her signature moves which would get the crowd up and dancing. In addition to dancing, she enjoyed sewing, knitting, baking, and gardening. Flowers always brightened her day; her green thumb kept her bouquets vibrant for weeks. As the family griot, her animated stories were legendary. We laughed along with her every time as she would bring the stories to life by adding voices, gestures, and posture. Anna remained quite limber into her nineties. She will fondly be remembered for getting on the floor with youngest members of the family, mimicking their various poses and stretching her legs behind her head to the amazement of the rest of the family.

Anna transitioned on May 3, 2022, in Spotswood, NJ. She was predeceased by her husband, sisters, and brother. Her legacy lives on through her many nieces and nephews from the Johnson, Brinkley, Anderson and Hicks families and a host of friends.

Arimenta, Armstead, Asia, Myazia, Assadah, John David (Eunice), David J'Ayinde (Berline), Lelia-Alice Shani, Aaron Malik, Anaje Eunice-Michelle, Elijah Yhnns-Dawiit, Brinkley, Antoine, Jennifer, Mary, Gerald, Juanita (Eugene), Novella, Robert, Denise, Duane (Lola), Patrice, and Pamela.

In lieu of flowers a donation/memorial gift may be made in her name to the National Museum of African American History and Culture, 1400 Constitution Ave., NW, Washington, DC. (Part of the Smithsonian Museum System) <https://s.si.edu/37qQzqf>