

*Celebrating the Life
of
Sis. Lena M. Gladden*

Sunrise
March 15, 1940

Sunset
December 28, 2023

Thursday, January 11, 2024
Visitation: 9:00am – 10:00am
Service to follow: 10:00am

First Baptist Church of Crown Heights

450 Eastern Parkway
Brooklyn, NY 11225

Rev. Rashad Raymond Moore, Ph.D. Sr. Pastor, Officiant/Eulogist
Bishop Alvin V. Freeland, Minister of Music

Obituary

Mrs. Lena M. Gladden was born on March 15, 1940, to the late Luther and Ella James in Wallace, NC.

Lena attended school in the Duplin County School system, in Wallace, NC. Lena wanting to venture out for better opportunities, so she relocated to NYC after graduating from high school.

Lena found employment as a C.N.A., were she worked for over 40 years in the Health Care sector until she retired.

On September 26, 1978, Lena was united in holy matrimony to Elvin Gladden (Deceased) and from this union they had 12 beautiful children, Sawara T. James, Augustus Corbett, Adolf James (Deceased), Peter Harris, Karyn Harris, Candice Darlene James (Deceased), Tonya James, Arlena James, Fatima Gladden, Leon James (Deceased), Rahiem Gladden and Kamela James.

Lena joined First Baptist Church of Crown Heights under the leadership of the late, Rev. Dr. Clarence Norman Sr. in January of 2011. Lena loved cooking for and spending time with her brothers George and Paul James who followed her from North Carolina to New York. She is preceded in death by eleven of her siblings.

When Lena's health became challenging, she was cared for by her eldest daughter Sawara James until she transitioned to her heavenly home on Thursday, December 28, 2023 at NY Presbyterian Methodist Hospital in Brooklyn, NY.

She leaves behind a cherished legacy and loving memories. She is survived by her sister, Marie Mathis; daughters, Sawara T. James, Tonya L. James, Arlena James, and Kamela Kolette James; and her son, Augustus Corbett (Toni). Her life's joy also included 12 grandchildren: Chloe Corbett, Caleb Corbett, Alim James, Dominique Baker, Wylcia M. Clark, William E. Clark, Ryan L. James, Nathaniel Newson, Jerod James, Unique James, Nithera Coggins, and Abdul Coggins; as well as 19 great-grandchildren and 4 great-great-grandchildren. She also leaves behind a wide circle of nieces, nephews, and relatives, each touched by her love and grace.

Today we thank God for the many wonderful and memorable years we have shared with our loved one, she leaves us with a great legacy more valuable than silver and gold: a legacy of strength, love, and wisdom. We thank God for the life of Mrs. Lena M. James Gladden. She will be greatly missed by her family and friends.

Order of Service

Organ Prelude Bishop Alvin Freeland

Processional Clergy, Diaconate Board & Family

Final Viewing

Congregational Hymn #418 We'll Understand It Better By and By

Scripture Reading:

Old Testament Psalms 121: 1 - 8

New Testament..... 1 Thessalonians 4: 13 -18

Prayer Of Comfort

Song Of Comfort..... "It Is Well" Bishop Alvin Freeland

Acknowledgements & Resolutions Arlena James (Daughter)

Reading Of The Obituary Dominique Baker (Granddaughter)

Reflections (2 - 3 minutes)

Representative for the Church..... Deacon Ron Newman, Chairman

Representative for the Friends & Family..... Chloe Corbett (Granddaughter)

Sermonic Solo Bishop Alvin Freeland

Eulogy Rev. Rashad Raymond Moore, Ph.D.

Sr. Pastor FBCCH

Committal/Benediction

(Recessional)

Hymn Of Rejoicing..... Bishop Alvin Freeland

Interment

Rosehill Cemetery

Linden, NJ

A letter To My Love Ones

To my children.. God had other things for me to do. Don't be upset no matter how much it hurt. I want you all happy and to know i live through you always. Support each other even during the difficult times. Having children like you all is a blessing even when times got rough my love for you all never changed. You are all Gods special gift and I want you all to remain strong and know you all are extraordinary.

To my grandkids... May you all always stand tall, work hard, and love each other with every inch of your heart. I couldn't have handpicked a better set of grandchildren and pray that you know just how precious, loved, and adored you all are in your own special ways. You will be disappointed, hurt and angry sometimes, as all people are. You may have your heart broken, struggle with health or even financial problems. But my hope is that you will take my love with you everywhere you go and never lose faith.

To my family... I've lived a goodly span of years and enjoyed them all. Laughed a lot, cried a little but most importantly I was grateful. I loved each and every one of you. All my nieces and nephews. It's so many but my love for each and every one of you will always be genuine.

To my sister Marie.. I love you very much. Do not take my death as a sad goodbye, know I am no longer in pain and I will always be watching over all of you. No sad tears for me please. Celebrate the 83 years I've lived and know I love you always.

-Lena

-Written by Dominique Baker

Acknowledgment

The family wishes to thank all of you for your prayers, messages of comfort and the many other acts of kindness shown during our hour of bereavement. May God continue to bless you in a very special way.

Professional Service Entrusted To:

SAMPSON

FUNERAL SERVICE, INC.

2601 Pitkin Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11208
Tel: 1-718-277-8000



www.hoboken.com

