

*Celebrating the Life of*  
*Ruth Kennedy*

**Sunrise**  
**April 11, 1936**

**Sunset**  
**April 26, 2024**

**Tuesday, May 7, 2024 - 12:00 Noon**

**St. Luke Baptist Church**

139-145 A.M. Tyler Pl.

Paterson, NJ

*Rev. Kenneth D. Clayton, Officiating*

# Obituary

Ruth Kennedy was born on April 11, 1936 to Joseph and Mary Kennedy in Rayville, Louisiana.

Ruth graduated from Rayville Rosenwald High School in 1954 and moved to New Jersey after graduation, and she married the late JC McFarland. She worked for Union Carbide as a forklift driver and was on the company bowling team, when the company closed she got a job working for Dutch Mill Bakery until she retired.

Ruth was a member of St. Luke Baptist Church under the leadership of Pastor Kenneth D.R. Clayton. She loved going to church and being in the presence of the Lord. She was a student in Sunday Morning Bible Study; and a member of the Women's Ministry and Floral Ministry.

Ruth lived a very joyous life, she was loved by everyone she came in contact with. Ruth enjoyed going to the Community Center at Thanksgiving and Christmas to be with her friends. She enjoyed taking walks every morning, and going out to eat with family and friends. Ruth loved her family.

She was preceded in death by her two sons; Lee Grant McFarland and Andre McFarland, parents; Joseph and Mary Kennedy, sisters; Carrie Ola Curry, Pennsicula Adams, Odessa Lavender, Alberta Wafer Johnson, Thelma Tyson, Devora Snowden and Lezet Kennedy and brother; John Henry Kennedy.

On April 26, 2024 God did not want to see her in pain any longer, so he called her home, he took her by the hand and said my child you are free no more pain no more suffering.

Those who remain to enjoy her memories are her four sons; Jaycee McFarland, Robert McFarland, Richard McFarland, Jafari Bowden, two daughters; Linda McFarland, Regina McDowell, two sisters; Helen Kennedy Lazar, Evelyn Bass, one brother; Samuel Kennedy, eighteen grandchildren and thirteen great grandchildren, nieces, nephews, brothers-in-law and friends.

# Order of Worship

## *Hymn of Comfort*

#27 “Blessed Assurance”

## *Scripture Readings*

Old Testament: Psalm 23

New Testament: John 14:1-6

## *The Prayer of Comfort*

## *The Prayer Response*

#333 “Sweet Hour of Prayer”

## *The Hymn of Hope and Assurance*

#248 “Hold to God’s Unchanging Hand”

## *Expressions of Sympathy and Comfort*

## *Acknowledgements and Reflections of Life*

## *Selection*

## *The Message of Comfort*

Pastor Clayton

## *Recessional*

#432 “I’ll Fly Away”

## *Final Disposition*

Cedar Lawn Crematory

200 McLean Blvd

Paterson, NJ 07504

## *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

## *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.

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