



## 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

## Acknowledgements

*The family acknowledges with deep appreciation  
 all acts of kindness extended to them during this  
 bereavement hour. God bless you for all your  
 thoughtfulness and concern.*

Professional Service Entrusted To:

**McCall's Bronxwood**  
*Funeral Home, Inc.*

4035 Bronxwood Avenue  
 Bronx, NY 10466  
 718-231-7647  
 Fax 718-231-7665  
 E-mail: Director@McCalls.net  
 Web: www.mccalls.net



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# Celebration of Life



*Joyce O. Neil Sabb*

**Sunrise: June 28, 1950 – Sunset: April 30, 2025**

**Sunday, May 18, 2025 - 3:00 P.M.**

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

**Pastor**

**Rev. Rhonda R. Taylor**  
**Rev. Angela M. Redman**

**Musicians**

**Rev. Kevin Wade**  
**Dhar Bryant**

# The Master Called

I'm sorry I had to leave you.  
My loved ones, oh so dear.  
But you see, the Master called me,  
His voice was very clear!  
I had made my reservation  
A heaven bound ticket for one,  
And I knew that He would call me  
When He felt my work was done.  
I know that your hearts are heavy  
Because I have gone away,  
But when the Master called me,  
I knew that I could not stay.  
Yes, I'm sorry I had to leave you  
My loved ones, oh so dear,  
But, you see, the Master called me  
And, now I'm resting here.  
Yes, I've crossed on over to glory  
And to you all I say  
Just stay in the hands of Jesus  
And we'll meet again someday.

-Author unknown

# Safely Home

I am home in Heaven, dear ones;  
Oh, so happy and so bright!  
There is perfect joy and beauty  
In this everlasting light.

All the pain and grief is over,  
Every restless tossing passed;  
I am now at peace forever,  
Safely home in Heaven at last.

Did you wonder why I so calmly  
Trode the valley of the shade?  
Oh! But Jesus' love illumined  
Every dark and fearful glade.

And He came Himself to meet me  
In that way so hard to tread;  
And with Jesus' arm to lean on,  
Could I have one doubt or dread?

Then you must not grieve so sorely,  
For I love you dearly still:  
Try to look beyond earth's shadows,  
Pray to trust our Father's Will.

There is work still waiting for you,  
So you must not idly stand;  
Do it now, while life remaineth -  
You shall rest in Jesus' land.

When that work is all completed,  
He will gently call you Home:  
Oh, the rapture of that meeting,  
Oh, the joy to see you come!

-unknown author

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*I'd like the memory of me to be a happy one...*

Private Family Viewing 2:00 PM-2:45 PM

Gathering Music

Processional of Clergy

Greetings ..... Rev. Angela M. Redman

Musical Selection ..... Mr. Dhar Bryant "Purple Rain"

Invocation ..... Rev. Rhonda R. Taylor

Musical Selection ..... Rev. Kevin Wade "One Day at a Time"

Scripture Readings

Old Testament- 23rd Psalm ..... Rev. Tisha M. Branch

New Testament – 1 Corinthians 15: 51-57 ..... Rev. Tisha M. Branch

Prayer of Comfort ..... Rev. Angela M. Redman

Musical Selection ..... Mr. Dhar Bryant "A Change Is Gonna Come"

Acknowledgments ..... Ms. Sharon McRae

Poem ..... Ms. Karen Branch

Tributes .....(2 minutes please)

Obituary ..... Mr. Malik K. Branch

Musical Selection ..... Rev. Kevin Wade "Walk Around"

Words of Comfort ..... Rev. Rhonda R. Taylor

Committal & Benediction ..... Rev. Angela M. Redman

Remarks by the Funeral Director ..... Ms. Tamara Braithwaite

Organ Postlude ..... Mr. Dhar Bryant

**Interment**

Woodlawn Crematory  
Bronx, New York

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Celebrating a life well lived by Joyce O'Neil Sabb: daughter, sister, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, aunt, niece, cousin and a generous friend of the many she cared to love. On June 28, 1950, in Greenville, Virginia, Joyce O'Neil Branch was born to Stanley Salvatore Branch, Sr. and Eleanore (Elna) Irene Branch. Joyce was the first born of eight children. She has four sisters and three brothers.

Up until the age of 13, Joyce lived in Virginia with her Grandma Josie and Grandpa Howard. During her childhood she was affectionately known as "Red" a name given to her by her Uncle Charles (Lillian) due to her red hair. While living in Virginia she fell in love with the NFL team the Washington Redskins, now known as the Washington Commanders, a team she rooted for her entire life.

At the age of 13, she left Virginia to come to New York to live with her parents and siblings in Harlem USA. She attended and graduated from JHS 136 and Julia Richmond High School. When she was 16, she worked a part-time job at the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company as a File Clerk. After finishing high school, she went to work at the Bankers Trust Company as a Key Punch Operator at night. Later on, she dedicated 40 plus years of her life at TemPositions, Inc. as a Payroll and Accounting Manager. She happily retired at the age of 66.

Joyce had many loves in life. Her greatest love... her one and only bouncing baby boy, full of joy, Troy Lamont Branch born in 1969. Then in 1976 she met the love of her life, Clyde Sabb. They married in 1981, built a good and happy life together. Joyce especially loved her two grandsons Malik and Marcus whom she would spoil at every chance, her granddaughter Alex, Daughter in-love Tish, and great- granddaughter Lay Lay. She also loved spending quality time with her sisters on their annual vacations. It was no secret that she held a special affinity for her niece Jessica, whom she often called her baby.

In addition to family, she also loved sewing, dancing, baking, solving puzzles and listening to music. She loved watching a good old fashion western, cooking shows, Alaskan Adventures, and most certainly the search for Big Foot. A day could not go by without her wanting to play the mega and getting some scratch offs. Yet we would truly be remised if we did not mention her glamorous side. Her love for fashion, shoes, and handbags. She certainly knew how to color coordinate outfits and step out in style...a Diva!

Joyce is preceded in death by her father Stanley Salvatore Branch, Sr., her husband Clyde Sabb, and nephew Norman Mercedes Mayers.

She leaves to cherish her memory, Mother: Eleanor "Elna" Branch, Son: Troy Lamont Branch (Tisha), two Grandsons: Malik Branch (Alexandra), Marcus Branch and her great-granddaughter Alaia Branch; Sisters: Lynn Carroll, Patricia Mayers, Janet Branch, and Karen Branch; Brothers: Stanley Branch (Connie), Alonzo Branch (Ava) and Reginald Branch (Alenda); Nieces: Justine Branch, Dana Branch, and Jessica Branch; Nephews: Curtis Branch, Craig Carroll, Jovon Branch, Brandon Kum and Matthew Branch; Aunts: Ernestine Gibbs and Delores McRae; Cousins: Sharon McRae and Margarite McRae; Co-Mother in-Love: Sonia Jermin; Dear Friend: Elaine Wright, and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and loved ones.



*Fly on to heaven, fly high, fly free...*