

*Celebration of Life
Home Going Service*

Helen Daisy Whitaker

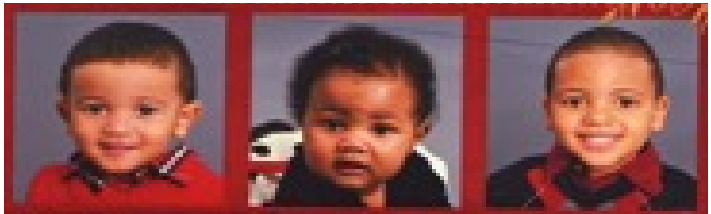
Sunrise
August 8, 1905

Sunset
October 1, 2011

Friday, October 7, 2011 - 12:00 Noon
COTTON FUNERAL SERVICE

1025 Bergen Street • Newark, NJ 07112

*Deacon Rodney Burris, Officiating
Emory Lee, Organist*



Reflections of Life

Helen Daisy Whitaker (nee) Phillips

August 8, 1905 - October 1, 2011

Helen was born in Rich Square, North Carolina on August 8, 1905. She departed this life on October 1, 2011 at Cornell Hall Nursing Home Facility in Union, New Jersey.

Helen was affectionately known as “Mother Whitaker” by members of her church and the staff at Cornell Hall Nursing Home Facility.

She was married to Gordon Whitaker in nineteen twenty-five. They were married for forty-eight years before his demise in nineteen seventy-three.

She was the daughter of the late Thomas and Lena Phillips, who were also from Rich Square, North Carolina.

In nineteen fifty-eight, Helen and her family moved to Newark, New Jersey. Twenty years later, she moved to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where she resided in The Apostolic Village owned by the Church of the Lord Jesus Christ of the Apostolic Faith where she was a dedicated a member. She enjoyed extensive travel until she gradually became disabled. In two-thousand and five, when she was one hundred years old, she was transferred to Cornell Hall Nursing Facility so that she could receive total long term care.

Helen was the loving mother of, Helen Suggs of East Orange, New Jersey. Thomas of Brooklyn, New York, Nelson of East Orange, New Jersey, Lee Ernest (deceased) / spouse Rosalie of Irvington, New Jersey, Lee Otis of Rich Square, North Carolina, Roberta Sutton / Joshua, of Durham, North Carolina, Dorena Roberts / Thomas of Virginia Beach, Virginia, Mary H. Lee of Newark, New Jersey, Connie M. Drummond / Rudolph of Durham, North Carolina. Helen had nine children, fifty-nine grandchildren, one hundred and thirty one great grand children and sixty-four great-great grand children. She also leaves to mourn, a sister in-law, Mrs. Laura Lassiter, of Union, New Jersey who is a hundred and two years old, and a host of relatives, friends, and sisters and brothers in Christ.

Helen was the eldest of ten siblings, nine preceded her death: Russell, Mason, William Henry, John Russell, Desota Morris, Reddie Shoulders, Lucky Clark, Lizzy Porter and Louisa Phelps. She and her siblings were talented gospel singers. They formed a group and sang at local churches and other engagements in areas where they resided.

Helen attended a local elementary school in the Rich Square Township. She was an excellent student, but had to drop out when she was in the fifth grade, to care for her younger siblings and to work the fields. She continued to practice her reading and math skills and studied with her children when they began to attend school.

She was not many generations from slavery and witnessed many changes in her lifetime. When she was growing up, the primary mode of transportation were the horse and wagon in her area. Her family worked as shared croppers until 1940. During that year God blessed them to purchase a farm of their own. Helen picked two to three hundred pounds of cotton per day. She remembered when wearing shoes were an option n the summertime.

When Senator Barack Obama was elected President of The United States, she said, "I never thought I would live to see a black man become president".

Helen was a woman with many skills, such as midwifery, sewing, gardening, canning and fishing, but it was her culinary skills that stood out most. She could take a very simple dish and turn it into a scrumptious meal. She was a loving mother and her family adored her.

For many years, Helen was a member of the Chapel Hill Baptist Church in Rich Square, North Carolina where she was very active as missionary and as a member of the Church's choir.

At the time of her death, Helen was a devoted member of the Church of Lord Jesus Christ of The Apostolic Faith, currently under the leadership of Bishop Omega Shelton, headquartered in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She had been a member for fifty-six years. She was a born again Christian who dedicated her life to worshipping God and living according to His word so that she might gain entry into the kingdom of God and reign with Christ forever. As she learned more she did more.

She participated in many ministries in her church such as the missionaries, praying daughters and willing workers, and was the International president of the Never-Too-Old auxiliary.

She assisted young mothers in Church with raising their children as she did with her own daughters.

She found much joy in her work and did it as unto the Lord. When she needed assistance in walking, she insisted on walking to church every Sunday with her walker, to strengthen her body so that she could continue to be active.

Helen was faithful in prayer and sublimation; she constantly called on the name of Jesus and gave thanks to God for whatever she was experiencing in her life.

She sang "Just another day that the Lord has kept me." She had faith in God and believed that he would never leave or forsake her, she trusted in him to the very end. She was absorbed with Christ. She read her bible and was always ready to sing a song of praise unto the Lord. She sang until she could not form words then she began to hum.

She was truly an inspiration to her family, the members of her church and to all who knew and loved her.

Sometimes when Helen began to sing the staff members at Cornell Hall would join her and were amazed to hear how well she could sing at her age.

Some of her favorite scriptures were: Ephesians 4:30-32 the King James Version.

"And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed until the day of redemption. Let all bitterness, and wrath and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice: And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."

One of her favorite sing-along songs was: "If I am going home with Jesus ain't that good news".

Her favorite expression was "If I don't see you on this earth again, I will meet you in New Jerusalem."

She will be sorely missed by her family and brothers and sisters In Christ.

Order of Service

Organ/Piano Prelude.....Songs of Comfort

Processional

Scriptures.....Deacon Rodney Burriss

Prayer.....Deacon Thomas Roberts

Solo.....Emory Lee

Remarks.....

Second, third, fourth generations of the Whitaker Family

Sister Mary Baker.....Daughter

Sister Kathy Lee.....Granddaughter

Brother Khalil Seeley.....Great grandson

Solo.....Sister Queenie Whitaker

Acknowledgement / Reflections.....Family and Friends

Eulogy.....Deacon Rodney Burriss

Song.....“Going Home With Jesus, Ain’t That Good News,
led by Brother Danny Roberts

Benediction

Pall Bearers

Joseph Whitaker.....Grandson

Khalil Seeley.....Great grandson

Dennis Newkirk.....Great grandson

Rajon Whitaker.....Great grandson

Jovan Whitaker.....Great grandson

Quamy Whitaker.....Great Great grandson

Interment

Evergreen Cemetery
Hillside, New Jersey



Together Again

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 part of the Master's plan,
A step on the road to home.
When you are lonely and sick at heart,
Go to the friends we know.
Laugh at the things we use to do
Miss me-but let me go.

-author unknown

Acknowledgement

Perhaps you sent a lovely card or sat quietly in a chair.
Perhaps you sent a floral piece If so, we saw it there.
Perhaps you spoke the kindest words as any friend could say.
Perhaps you were not there at all just thought of us on that day.
Whatever you did to console our hearts,
We Thank You, Whatever the part.

Professional Services Provided By

COTTON FUNERAL SERVICE
130 Main Street
Orange, NJ
973-675-6400

1025 Bergen Street
Newark, NJ
973-926-6400

COTTON-PARKER FUNERAL HOME
37 Clinton Avenue
Jersey City, NJ
201-433-1000