

*In Loving
Memory
of*



Marie B. Davis

May 15, 1918 - September 30, 2011



Precious Memories



Reflections of Life

Today is a Homegoing celebration of the life of **Marie Best Davis**, who was a mother, grandmother, great grandmother, great great grandmother and a great great great grandmother. Marie was born on May 15, 1918 in Horry County, South Carolina. She was the ninth of fourteen children born to the late Edward Thomas Best and Lola Strickland Best. She went to sleep in Jesus, Friday, September 30, 2011 at home sitting in her favorite recliner.

During her early years, Marie went to school and shared household chores with her thirteen siblings. This included cooking, cleaning and sewing. She also worked on the family farm. She would pick cotton, strip tobacco, feed the chickens, milk the cows and tend to the crops.

In 1937, at the age of 19, Marie met and married James H. Davis. They started a family and in 1957 the Davis' moved to Paterson, NJ.

She was an excellent seamstress and cosmetologist. Marie was also an entrepreneur along with her many other talents.

In the early 1960's, she opened her own hair salon and did very well. Back in those days it was difficult for an African American woman to have ownership of anything, but she did and succeeded.

In 1971, after the lost of two sons and a daughter-in-law, she took on the responsibility of raising three of her grandchildren, Richard, Anthony and Keith Davis, who were all under the age five years old at the time.

Throughout most of her life, she enjoyed church membership at Solid Rock Baptist Church over fifty years where she was a Missionary, Nurse's Aide, Usher, Senior choir member and Mother of the Church. Marie also enjoyed spending time with her family, the Northside and Golden Keys Senior Citizen Centers, traveling, going out to eat, working on cross word puzzles and crocheting. She was strong, beautiful, and smart. She accomplished a lot in her ninety-three years.

Her husband, James H. Davis went home to be with the Lord in 1996. She was also predeceased by her sons, Fred, Tom and Richard Davis and eleven of her siblings, George Best, Hartford Best, Sherman Best, Jonas Best, Lerow Dixon, Cubie Gore, Emma Jo, Lottie Ross, Goldie Carter, Helen Bowens and Cassie Best. Her other siblings, Esther and Arlene Williams both resided in Philadelphia, PA. Her remaining children are, Maggie Johnson, Barbara Davis, Hazel Davis and James Harold Davis of Paterson, NJ, Jerry Davis of Clifton, NJ, Glen Davis of Elizabeth, NJ and Willie Davis of Rockville, Maryland; twenty-nine grandchildren, Lynda Faye and Michael, Priscilla, Marcina and Kenny, Cynthia and Perry, Kimberly, Gene, Diane, Mark, Daryl, Ricky, Jeffrey, Bruce, Geraldine, Richard, Anthony, Keith, Tracey, Felicia, Michael, Monique, Jonathan, Monica, Pebbles, Simon, J-Ron and J-Rod; about thirty great grandchildren; thirteen great great grandchildren and one great great great grandchild. Marie has left a great legacy for her family to carry on through the next generations, the most important one being to trust and believe in her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Order of Worship

Service

Friday, October 7, 2011 - 6:00 p.m.

SOLID ROCK BAPTIST CHURCH

193 Spring Street

Paterson, New Jersey

Rev. Bennett Johnson III, Officiating

Musical Prelude Organist

Processional and Viewing

Opening Hymn Solid Rock Baptist Church Choir

Scripture Readings

Old Testament – Psalm 23

New Testament – I Thessalonians 4:13-18

Prayer of Comfort Rev. Bennett Johnson

Solo Denise Coba

Resolutions & Acknowledgements

Solo Rhavynn Drummer

Expressions

Solo Cousin Maxine or Choir

Obituary

Selection

Eulogy

Altar Call

Closing Hymn Solid Rock Baptist Church Choir

Recessional/Benediction

Interment

Saturday, October 8, 2011 at 9:00 a.m.

Fair Lawn Memorial Cemetery

22-21 Maple Ave. Fair Lawn, New Jersey

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 Trod 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!

Acknowledgements

The family of Marie Best Davis extend our gratitude and love for the many acts of kindness, support and prayers during this time. Your presence here today is an encouragement to our hearts. Thank you and may the blessing of the Lord be upon you all.

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