



*A Celebration of Life for
Viola Allen*

*Sunrise
April 16, 1915*

*Sunset
October 26, 2011*

Memorial Service

Saturday, November 12, 2011 - 3:00 p.m.

MT. MORRIS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

15 Mt. Morris Park West
New York, New York 10027

Rev. Grace Bowen, Pastor

Obituary

THE BEGINNING

Viola Brown Allen was born April 16, 1915 on John's Island, South Carolina. She was the fourth child to be born to Nathaniel Brown and Ella Ford Brown. Her siblings were Julia, Emily, Alonzo and Willamena. Viola was the last surviving child of that union.

She and her siblings attended Presbyterian Church School on John's Island for their early elementary education. Viola then attended, but did not complete Avery High School. She learned the value of hard work under the guidance of her parents, Ella and Nathaniel Brown and by completing the daily chores on the family farm. She helped to collect food planted and care for the animals. The crops included cotton, peanuts, peas, and a variety of vegetation.

Viola was always working and had the energy to continue long after everyone was tired. That exuberant quality, coupled with her motivation, remained with her throughout her life.

NEW YORK

Viola migrated to New York in the mid-1930's. She met and married Thomas Allen shortly after. They were loving and hard working parents and gave birth to two girls, Juila and Lucy Chela. In the midst of raising their daughters, Thomas was called away too soon. He died in 1965, leaving Viola to raise the girls. Viola, in her usual fashion of self-reliance and determination, wasted no time in developing herself so that she could better carry out her parental duties.

CHURCH

Viola was active as a youth in the Presbyterian Church in South Carolina. She lived by the conveyed through her church. She and Thomas attended his Baptist church during their marriage; but after his death, she renewed her commitment to the faith of her youth by becoming a member of the Mt. Morris Presbyterian Church in Manhattan. She served as a Sunday school teacher, an usher, a deaconess, and an elder. She was a member of the Bible Study group and also regularly visited the sick and shut-in. Viola had a lovely voice, and she loved performing solos and singing in the church choir.

Order of Service

Presiding.....Rev. Grace Bowen

Processional

Musical Tribute *How Great Thou Art*
Nabate Isles

Scripture

Old Testament Proverbs Chapter 31 Verses 25 – 31

New Testament St. John Chapter 14 Verses 1-6

Inspirational Reading.....*The Broken Chain*
Harry K.

Negro Spiritual *Steal Away*
Hymnal SOZ #134

Prayer Rev. Bowen

Remarks Dr. T. Adair
Eric Leonard

Liturgical Dance *I Love The Lord*
RELC Dancers

Obituary Richie M. Rhue, Jr., LFD
Unity Funeral Chapels, INC.

Eulogy..... L. Chela Allen, Daughter

Remembrances Congregation

Words of Comfort Reverend Grace Bowen

Musical Selection Julia Tibbs

Acknowledgements Richie M. Rhue, Jr.
Unity Funeral Chapels, Inc.

Closing Prayer Rev. Grace Bowen

Standing Ovation For Viola's Life

Recessional

Repast - You are invited to Food and Drinks Downstairs



The Broken Chain

We little knew that morning that God
was going to call your name.
In life we loved you dearly,
in death we do the same.
It broke our hearts to lose you,
you did not go alone,
For part of us went with you,
the day God called you home.

Acknowledgement

*The family of the late **Viola Allen** wishes to express their deep appreciation and thanks for all acts of kindness shown to them in their time of sorrow. A special thanks to Rev. Grace Bowen and members of the Mt. Morris Church family, to the RELC Middle School Administrators & Staff, to the Park Slope Senior Center, our close friends who we were able to lean upon, Robert, Debbie, Barbara, Beryl, Rashida, Harry, June, Roseann and first cousin, Audrey who in losing her mother and our Aunt a year ago provided tremendous support. Also thanks to Ruth Sistaire and MS 113 student dancers, Nabate Isles and life time family friends, Eric Leonard, and the Leonard family, and Drs. Thelma and Jeannie Adair.*



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