

In Loving

Memory

of

Regina Okparaeke

June 11, 1950 - December 22, 2011

Service

Friday, December 30, 2011 - 6:00 p.m.

WHIGHAM FUNERAL HOME

580 Martin Luther King Blvd. • Newark, New Jersey

Obituary

Mrs. Regina Eyo Dibaya Okparaeke, affectionately known as “**Mama Sam**” to her husband and “**Mune**” to her children, was born on June 11, 1950 from the union of the late Joseph and Christina Dibaya, in Muyuka, West Cameroon. She was the fourth of five children born to her parents. As a child she lost her father to a tragic automobile accident, which would be the beginning of Regina’s many life lessons. Despite the loss, Regina was nurtured and guided by her mother who taught her the value of hard work, faith, family, and education. With only a 6th grade education, Regina left her mother’s house to further herself. At the age of seventeen, she met and subsequently married Godwin Ikechukwu Okparaeke on February 16th, 1967.

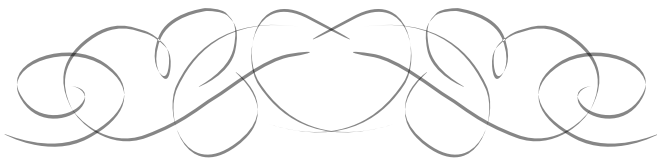
By 1974, the young couple had migrated from Cameroon to northern Nigeria in search of a better life for their growing family. After settling in their new environment, Regina went back to school where she obtained her teaching certificate. During the next eleven years, Regina juggled her family life and career, and she thrived at both. In 1981, in hopes of achieving better for him and his family, Godwin traveled to the United States of America while Regina remained in Nigeria with their six children. Some three years later, in 1987, the family began to come to America. In order to succeed at their plans, Regina and Godwin furthered their education and Regina embarked on a second career as a nursing professional. She worked very hard at her profession for over twenty years until failed health forced her to retire in 2008. At the time of her death, she had held several certificates and received many awards from the profession.

Regina was strong willed, full of passion, dedicated to her family and faithful to God. She had unconventional methods of solving any issues. She was both firm and gentle and her lack of fear was admirable. She taught her children to be hard working, honest and kind people and to never abandon each other. She was proud to call them her family and they are very proud to call her a wife and a mother. She was not only a daughter, a sister, wife and mother, but an incredible human being. The family has gone through many trials, but they remain confident that all things are possible through God who strengthens them. Anyone who has ever encountered Regina “Mama Sam” “Mune” Dibaya Okparaeke knows that her loss will leave a void in all of us.

Mrs. Regina Eyo Dibaya Okparaeke is survived by her husband Godwin, her children Samuel, Valentine, Richard, Princewill, Ndidi, Walter, and Eugene, her first grandson Samuel Jr., first granddaughter Olivia and other grandchildren, her sister Ngomongo, and brothers Joseph Jr. and Lt. General John Dibaya. She is also survived by several daughter in-laws, aunts, uncles, cousins, many children in Christ for whom she was a godmother, and numerous well-wishers and friends.

Order of Service

Opening Prayer	Pastor Emmanuel Awuni
Family Procession	Soloist <i>"Pass Me Not"</i>
Welcome	Pastor Tunde Olatunji
Praise and Worship	Winners Chapel Int.
First Reading	<i>Psalms 90:1-12</i> Bro. Gilbert Abiandu
Hymn	Winners Chapel Choir <i>"To God Be The Glory"</i>
Second Reading	<i>1 Cor. 15:50-58</i> Pastor Tope Akinsanya
Reading of Obituary	Eugene Okparaeke
Song	Prince Nico Mbargba <i>"Sweet Mother"</i>
Pastor's Message	Pastor Emmanuel Awuni
Special Prayers for the family	Pastor Emmanuel Awuni
Farewell Messages from Family and Friends	Family / Guests
Closing Prayer	Pastor Tunde Olatunji
Song	Soloist <i>"His Eye Is On The Sparrow"</i>



Death The Rare Gem

Death, the inevitable end of all living things. It comes when least expected. December 22 was a black Thursday, a day we all wished never came. How can we explain that mama is no more? Unbelievable!!!

Mune, you lived the life of a warrior, you fought so many life challenging battles and you won all. You are an epitome of peace, a perfect example of the biblical virtuous woman. You loved God and your family with all your heart.

The vacuum your death created is too big for anyone to fill in our lives but we take solace in the fact that you have gone to be with the Lord where sickness has no power over you.

The indelible foot prints you left behind we will forever follow.

Sleep on mom, we love you but God loves you most.

~ by Cynthia Okparaeke

In Appreciation

On behalf of the Okparaeke family, we express our heartfelt thank you to everyone for your support, prayers and well wishes. God bless you

Professional Services Provided by:

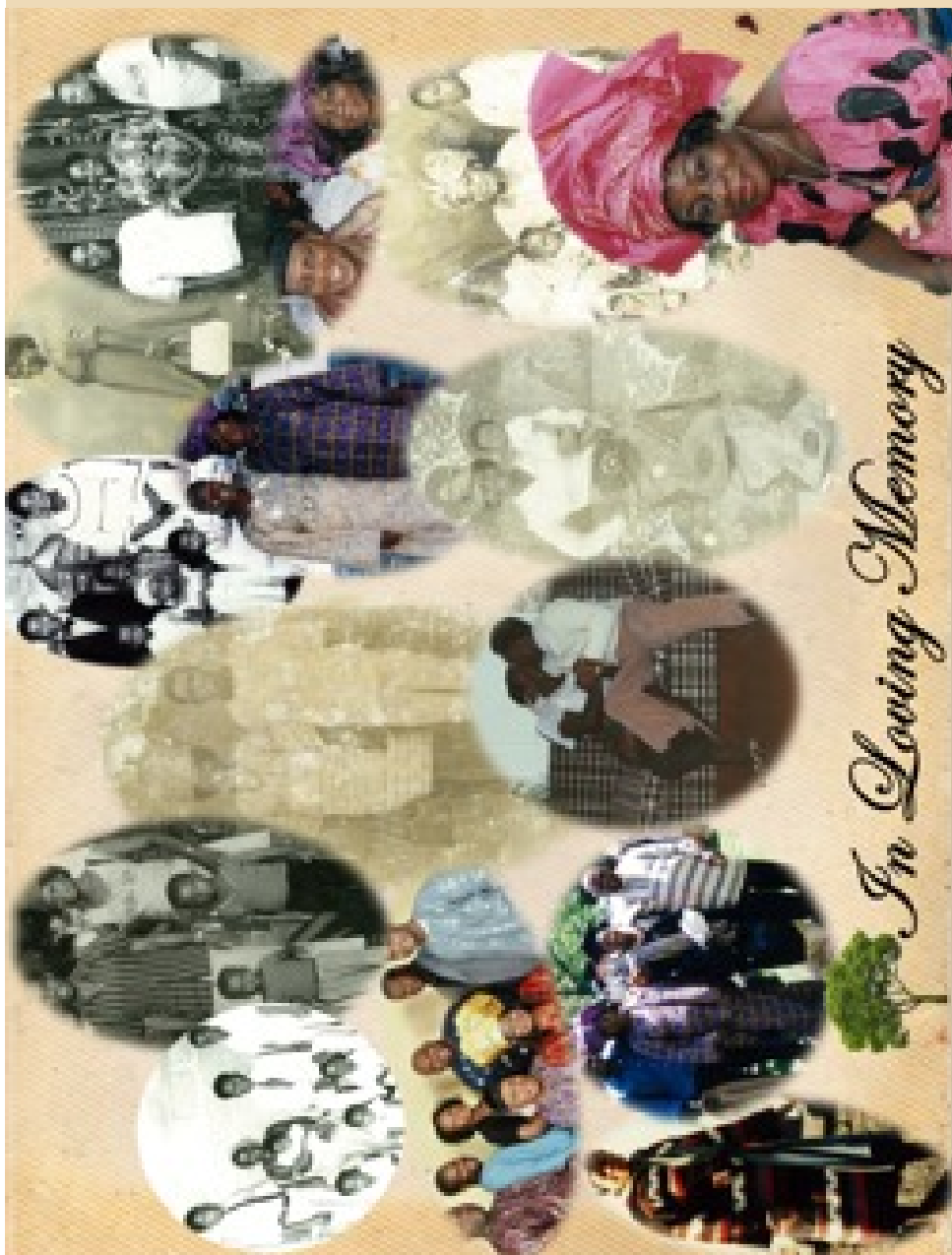
Whigham Funeral Home

580 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

Newark, New Jersey 07102

973-622-6872

Carolyn Whigham, Director



In Loving Memory