

Celebrating The Life of
Idalia Stewart

Sunrise
May 18, 1925

“ADA”

Sunset
February 22, 2012

Service

Sunday, February 26, 2012 - 4:00 p.m.

UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.

2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY 10027

Rev. Dr. Edward Culvert, Officiating
Marvin Hadley, Organist

Obituary

Idalia Smith Stewart was born on the island of Lovango, St. John, United States Virgin Islands on May 18th, 1925 to the late Grace Hansby and Louis Smith. Her mother passed when she was just eleven years old, leaving her to be raised in St. Thomas by her aunt, Ethlyn Jensen, who is now deceased. She continued her schooling in St. Thomas after which she worked for a while. Idalia bore two daughters, Yvonne and Diana, and as a young woman she moved to New York leaving the girls to be raised by their aunts.

In New York, she met and married Ananise J. Stewart, her husband for over forty years, who preceded her in death. Throughout her life, she was willing to share her love and knowledge with others. She was always willing to assist family and friends whenever called upon. Ada, as many knew her, was a people's person, loved to cook, enjoyed doing crossword puzzles, and liked to shop. She never complained about anything and always had a positive outlook on life. Idalia was just a loving mother, wife, grandmother and a friend to all.

Survivors



Daughters

Yvonne Smith (*deceased*)

Diana Benjamin

Grandchildren

Russell Smith
Kregg Smith

Shane Benjamin, Sr.
Sheldon Benjamin, Sr.

Adopted Granddaughter and Best Friend

Shanika Williams

Great Grandchildren

Sisters

Brothers

Special Cousin

JoAnn Stridiron

Many other cousins, friends and neighbors

Order of Service

Prelude

Procession *Stand for Family*

Hymn “Blessed Assurance”

First Reading Psalm 121
Jackie Fuentes

Obituary / Eulogy Shanika Williams

Hymn “What A Friend We Have In Jesus”

Sermon Rev. Dr. Edward Culvert

Second Reading Revelation 21: 1-7
Sandra Lovett

Benediction

Recessional Hymn “Amazing Grace”

Interment

Calverton National Cemetery
Calverton, New York

Blessed Assurance

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.

Refrain:

***This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long;
This is my story, this is my song,
Praising my Savior all the day long.***

Perfect submission, perfect delight,
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
Angels, descending, bring from above
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

Refrain

Perfect submission, all is at rest,
I in my Savior am happy and blest,
Watching and waiting, looking above,
Filled with His goodness, lost in His love.

Refrain

What A Friend We Have In Jesus

What a friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit,
Oh, what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry
Everything to God in prayer!

Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged—
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful,
Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness;
Take it to the Lord in prayer.

Are we weak and heavy-laden,
Cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge—
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?
Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In His arms He'll take and shield thee,
Thou wilt find a solace there.

Blessed Savior, Thou hast promised
Thou wilt all our burdens bear;
May we ever, Lord, be bringing
All to Thee in earnest prayer.
Soon in glory bright, unclouded,
There will be no need for prayer—
Rapture, praise, and endless worship
Will be our sweet portion there.

Amazing Grace



Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found;
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed.

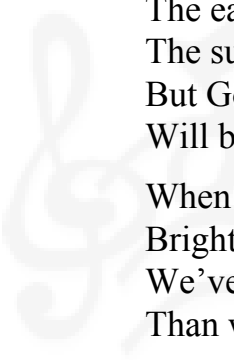
Through many dangers, toils and snares,
I have already come;
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me,
His Word my hope secures;
He will my Shield and Portion be,
As long as life endures.

Yea, when this flesh and heart shall fail,
And mortal life shall cease,
I shall possess, within the veil,
A life of joy and peace.

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow,
The sun forbear to shine;
But God, who called me here below,
Will be forever mine.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we'd first begun.



I Am 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

Acknowledgement

The family wishes to express their deep appreciation and sincere thanks for your kindness during a time of sorrow.