



*Home Going Service for*

*Mother*

*Etta Lee Houston*

*Sunrise*

May 9, 1933

*Sunset*

June 25, 2012

Service

Monday, July 2, 2012 - 7:00 p.m.

**UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.**

2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY 10027

*Apostle Jerome King, Officiating  
Eddie Young, Musician*

## Obituary

**Etta Lee Houston** was the last child of three born to the late Julius Houston and the late Annie Nelie McCerlap. She was born on May 9, 1933 in Wayne, North Carolina and departed this life on June 25, 2012 at St. Luke's Hospital in Harlem, NY.

Etta was educated in the North Carolina School system. She relocated to NY in the mid 1950's where she raised her eight children. She worked as a domestic house keeper and then moved on to work as a Home Health Aide for which she retired from in 1995.

Etta lived her life as a devout Christian and was an active member of Salvation and Deliverance Church where she served on the Mother's Board, Prayer Warriors, Missionary Board, The Amazing Grace Choir as well as the Adult Choir for many years up until her departure. She loved helping her immediate family as well as her church family. She served as a humanitarian who raised her children, some of her children's children, one being Etta Houston Johnson, as well as three of her great grandchildren, one in which she adopted. She loved hard and long and she leaves all that have encountered her, a legacy of "Keeping it Real" and tough love that they will always be able to hold dear to them. Three of her children, Peggy Houston, Charlie Houston and Cynthia Houston-Bess preceded her in death as well as her two siblings, Pearl Thompson and Clarence (Buddy) Houston.

Etta leaves to cherish her memories: her three daughters, Annie Miller, Betty Houston and Monica Patterson; three sons, Edward Houston, Benjamin Houston and Elijah Houston as well as two sons-in-law, Walter Miller and James Bess all of New York; twenty-seven grandchildren; forty-five great grandchildren, thirteen great great grandchildren; two nieces, Velma Thompson of Philadelphia, PA and Clarisse Powell of New York; four nephews, James Thompson, Sonny Thompson both of Philadelphia, PA, Moses Powell of Syracuse and Johnny Powell of New York; twenty-five great nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Submitted in Love,  
The Family

# *Order of Service*

Processional

Scripture Reading of Old Testament ..... Assistant Pastor Sharon Johnson  
People Community Temple Church

New Testament ..... Bishop Baptist

Prayer of Comfort ..... Bishop McGee

Solo ..... Sister Stacey Young

Acknowledgement of Condolences ..... Mother Delores Bradely

Tributes ..... Mother Cora Hiss  
Mr. Samuel Tetley

Obituary ..... Minister Sheila Young

Solo ..... Kassandra Woody

Eulogy ..... Apostle Jerome King

Final Viewing

Committal

Benediction

Recessional

## **Interment**

Rosehill Cemetery  
Linden, New Jersey

## *To Those I Love*

*When I am gone, release me, let me go,  
I have so many things to see and do.  
You must not tie yourself to me with tears,  
Be happy that we had so many years.  
I gave you my love, you can only guess  
How much you gave me in happiness  
But now it's time I travel on alone.  
So grieve a while for me, if grieve you must  
Then let your grief be comforted by trust.  
It's only for a while that we must part,  
So bless the memories within your heart.  
I won't be far away, for life goes on,  
So if you need me, call and I will come.  
Though you can't see or touch me, I'll be near,  
And if you listen with your heart you'll hear  
All my love around you soft and clear.  
And then, when you must come this way alone,  
I'll greet you with a smile and say,  
"Welcome Home."*

*-Author unknown*

### *Acknowledgement*

The family of the late **Etta Lee Houston** wishes to express their sincere gratitude for the many expressions of sympathy shown during their bereavement.

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