

*Celebrating the Life of*



*Doris Brenda (Cooke) Brabham*

**Sunrise**

March 5, 1949

**Sunset**

August 12, 2012

*Service*

Monday, August 20, 2012 - 7:00 p.m.

**THE HOUSE OF THE LORD PENTECOSTAL CHURCH**

415 Atlantic Avenue

Brooklyn, New York

*Rev. Herbert D. Daughtry, Officiating*

## *Reflections of Life*

**Doris Brenda (Cooke) Brabham**, beloved mother, grandmother, aunt, great-aunt, cousin, and friend, was born on March 5, 1949 in Brooklyn, New York to the late Edward and Edna Cooke.

Doris was educated in the public schools of New York City. She always had a respect for higher learning and in the spring of 2008, while a resident in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, Doris pursued and received a Bachelors of Arts degree in Sociology from Florida Atlantic University.

Although a native of Brooklyn, New York, Doris left her hometown in 1988 and relocated to Fort Lauderdale, Florida. While in Florida she served as president on the Board of Association for the Gatelake Community. She made numerous friends and was also very involved in a local circle of scrapbookers. Doris resided in Florida until the fall of 2010, when she relocated back to the east coast to be closer to her grandchildren and other family members and friends.

Doris worked for the United States Postal Service for more than fifteen years. After she retired in 1995, she began to indulge in her hobbies of travel, scrapbooking, quilting, crochet and sewing full time. She enjoyed traveling and was fortunate enough to have traveled to Europe, Asia and various Caribbean islands. When she wasn't traveling, she could be often found designing scrapbooks, and custom-made holiday cards. In addition to arts and crafts, Doris was an avid lover of gospel music and the ballads of Luther Vandross.

Doris will always be loved and remembered. She leaves to cherish her memory and celebrate her life: her two sons, Cicero (Bernadette) and Orion Brabham (Jacquelyn) and nephew, John Cooke whom she raised as her son; her sister, Lisa Cooke; brother, Harold Cooke; five grandchildren, Keira Brabham, Briana, Brandon, Bethany and Bailey Brabham; her nieces, Katrina Cooke, Anita Cooke, Chelsea and Charlotte Cooke, Akira Cooke and Atoya Thompson; her nephews, Clark Cooke, Cordell and Melchior Cooke, Malachi, Mizraim, Mijsach Thompson and Micah and Mulan Cooke; four great-nieces, Tiana McCallister, Karessa Irving, Mahogany Cooke, Deanna Gibson; a great nephew, Derrick Gibson; and a host of other relatives and friends too numerous to list.

# *Order of Service*

Organ Prelude

Opening Hymn

Scripture

Old Testament - Psalm 121

New Testament - 1 Corinthians 15:50-58

Prayer of Comfort

Selection

Reflections from Friends and Family

Acknowledgments

Obituary (read silently)

Selection

Eulogy

Minister Alice Edward

Minister Reynaldo Watkis

Benediction



## **Interment**

Rosehill Cemetery

Linden, New Jersey

## If Tomorrow Starts Without Me

If tomorrow starts without me, don't think we're far apart,  
for every time you think of me, please know I'm in your heart.

If tomorrow starts without me, and I'm not there to see, If the sun should rise and find  
your eyes all filled with tears for me; I wish so much you wouldn't cry the way you  
did today, while thinking of the many things we didn't get to say. I know how much  
you care for me, and how much I care for you, and each time that you think of me I  
know you'll miss me too;

But when tomorrow starts without me, please try to understand, that an angel came  
and called my name and took me by the hand, and said my place was ready in heaven  
far above, and that I'd have to leave behind all those I dearly love.

But as I turned to walk away, a tear fell from my eye, for all life, I'd always thought I  
didn't want to die. I had so much to live for and so much yet to do. it seemed almost  
impossible that I was leaving you. I thought of all the love we shared and all the fun  
we had. If I could relive yesterday, I thought, just for a while, I'd say goodbye and  
hug you and maybe see you smile.

But then I fully realized that this could never be, for emptiness and memories would  
take the place of me. And when I thought of worldly things that I'd miss come  
tomorrow. I thought of you, and when I did, my heart was filled with sorrow.

But when I walked through Heaven's gates, I felt so much at home. When God looked  
down and smiled at me, from His great golden throne, He said, "This is eternity and  
all I've promised you, Today your life on earth is past but here it's starts anew.

I promise no tomorrow, but today will always last. and since each day's the same,  
there's no longing for the past.

But you have been so faithful, so trusting, so true. Though there were times you did  
some things you knew you shouldn't do. And you have been forgiven and now at last  
you're free. So won't you come and take my hand and share my life with me?"

So if tomorrow starts without me, don't think we're far apart,  
for every time you think of me, please know I'm in your heart.

### *Acknowledgement*

On behalf of the family of **Doris Brabham**, we would like to  
express our deepest appreciation and thanks for every act of love  
and kindness shown during this time of bereavement.

May God continue to bless and keep you.

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