

Celebration of Life and Home going of

Mrs. Norma Morgan

Sunrise
April 29, 1928

Sunset
August 24, 2012

Service

Friday, August 31, 2012 - 11:00 a.m.

ROY L. GILMORE'S FUNERAL HOME, INC.

191-02 Linden Blvd.
St. Albans, New York 11412

Rev. Edward B. Perry, Officiating

Obituary

Norma Morgan was born in Punta Alegre, Cuba on November 8, 1927. She was not registered until 5 months later which is why on paper her birthday is in April. She was one of 11 children. At the age of 4 her family returned to Jamaica, West Indies. Norma grew up in Jamaica. Norma was a hard worker. She was proud of the hard working ethic she demonstrated throughout her life. She often told of starting to help her mother with chores at the age of 4 years old. As she got older, Norma would clean fish before going to school. She also helped to string the fish on a line to hang them for drying. When she could, she worked along side her mother who had a store that served fried fish, bread and drinks.

Norma also remembered walking barefoot to the river in Saint Thomas, Jamaica, to wash clothes. She used a clapper on the stone to beat them clean. Norma was proud of the way she was brought up and often mentioned with pride, cleaning wooden floors with coconut husk, as one of her many childhood chores. Norma also helped to care for her brothers and sisters. She was very industrious and never turned away from hard work.

Norma stopped going to high school to help her mother in the store. Later she trained as a domestic worker at Caters Domestic. On Saturdays she learned to cook, bake and clean. Her mother taught her how to sew. Norma used these skills when Canadian aide workers in Jamaica employed her. Norma met her future husband, Zachariah Morgan and her two daughters, Donna and Avril, were born in Kingston in the early 1960's. Norma left Jamaica in 1965 to come to America. Zach would later join her. Her hard work had led to a sponsor from Long Island, NY, the Greenbergs. The Greenberg home in Albertson, NY would be Norma's new home. There she managed the household and helped to raise the Greenberg's two sons Harvey and Jerry. Norma was always well liked by the people she worked for. They were always happy to encourage and support her and her goals. One of her goals was to bring her family together in America.

By 1968 Norma's family had grown to 3 children with the birth of her son Wentworth. Donna and Avril joined their parents and baby brother in Jamaica, NY in 1969. Norma was able to get a job working as a cafeteria worker at Booth Memorial Medical Center in Flushing, NY. Once again Norma had a desire to improve herself, and of course she was willing to work hard. She wanted to move from behind the counter as a server and try her hand in nursing. She took classes and trained in a program offered at the Booth. She took her classes on the weekends. When the time came she took the test, passed and became a certified nursing assistant. The young woman who left school to help out at home proved that she was capable of accomplishing goals she set for improving her education too. Norma continued to elevate herself at work when she trained and became a physical therapy assistant at the hospital. Norma took the training and got the necessary credentials. Norma retired from the hospital in the early 1990's. She was a well liked, valuable, competent, and hard working employee.

Norma was a religious woman. She liked to go to church and was a member of several congregations and adult choirs in her lifetime. Her most recent membership was at Bethsalem Baptist Church. Norma prayed, sang and read scripture to support and comfort herself. She especially leaned on her faith to get her through the last months of her life.

Norma is predeceased by; her mother Muriel, father Richard, husband Zachariah and several brothers and sisters. She is survived by her children; Donna, Avril and Wentworth as well as her grandchildren and in laws; grandson John Hastings, his wife Kimberly, grandson Daniel Bruggemann-12, son in law Patrick Fagan and grandson Liam Fagan -13, grandson Zachary Morgan -18, daughter in law Christina (Esta) Morgan and granddaughters Alexis -14 and Catlin Morgan -15. Norma has 3 siblings who currently live in Jamaica, West Indies, Venlin, Ethlyn and Alfred. Norma also has many extended family members all over the world including nieces, nephews, step children and grandchildren, notably Lawrence and Hyacinth Morgan and their daughter Lauren.

When Norma left Jamaica West Indies she had a specific goal in mind, to make a better life for herself and her family. She believed in the American dream. She was willing to work hard and pave the way for her children and their children. She tirelessly stressed getting a good education to her children and especially her grandchildren. Her words to all of us today and everyday would be to always try to, "Elevate yourselves".

Norma was a devoted mother, grandmother, citizen and friend she will be dearly missed.

Order of Service

- Officiating Rev. Edward B. Perry
Senior Pastor; Bethsalem Baptist Church
- Processional Family/Clergy
(Congregation standing)
- Prayer of Comfort Rev. Edward B. Perry
- Scripture Reading Rev. Edward B. Perry
Old Testament - Psalm 90:10-12
New Testament – II Timothy 4:6-8
- Song “Blessed Assurance”
- Reflections Friends, Family, Clergy
(2 minutes please)
- Song “How Great Thou Art”
- Acknowledgments Appointee (by the Family)
- Obituary Appointee (by the Family)
- Song “Precious Lord”
- Eulogy Mr. John Hastings
- Final Viewing Funeral Director In Charge

Interment

Pinelawn Memorial Park
Farmingdale, New York

Repast
Bethsalem Baptist Church
Lower Malone Hall
177-06 129th Avenue
Springfield Gardens, NY 11434
(718) 528-5061 Office
(718) 528-5069 Fax
[*info@bethsalem.com*](mailto:info@bethsalem.com)

Psalm 23

The Lord is My Shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; He leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul. He leadeth me in the path of righteousness for His name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies. Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.



Acknowledgements

The family wishes to acknowledge with deep appreciation the many expressions of love, concern and kindness shown to their family during this hour of bereavement.

May God Bless and Keep You!

Professional Services Provided By:

Roy L. Gilmore's Funeral Home, Inc.

Angela Gilmore-Manning, *President*

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