


*Celebrating the Life and Legacy of*  
*Sandra Mc Cray*

A portrait of Sandra Mc Cray, a Black woman with short, styled hair, smiling warmly. She is wearing a white, short-sleeved button-down shirt. The background is a soft-focus image of large pink and white roses.

*Sunrise*  
August 18, 1962

*Sunset*  
September 20, 2012

Service  
Saturday, September 29, 2012 - 10:00 a.m.

**GREATER ZION HILL BAPTIST CHURCH**

2365 8th Avenue • New York, NY 10027

## Obituary

**Sandra Denise McCray** was born in Harlem, New York on August 18, 1962 to the proud and now deceased parents Thomas T. and Isadora McCray. She entered into eternal rest to be with her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ on Thursday, September 20, 2012, at 7:52 pm at Montefiore Hospital, Bronx New York surrounded by her loved ones.

Sandra was a product of the New York City (NYC) Public Schools System. She attended Public School (P.S.) 208, Wadeleigh Junior High School (JHS) class of 1976 for intellectually and gifted children and graduated from the renowned Brooklyn Technical High School class of 1980. Sandra attended New York Institute of Technology at Old Westbury on a full basketball scholarship. She later transferred to the College of New Rochelle with honors receiving her Bachelors of Arts degree in 2005. Sandra thirst for knowledge led her to obtain her Master of Science degree in Psychology at the University of Phoenix.

Along with her excellence in education, Sandra was a hard worker. Sandra had an enormous heart. Sandra held positions in the work force that showed her compassion. She was always willing to help others achieve academic and social success. Sandra held a position as a Program Assistant Manager at the Jackie Robinson Senior Center, she was a House Manager at the Leake & Watts Residential Treatment Center, she was a Senior Residential Counselor at Lakeside Facility, a Crisis Response Intervention Worker at the Pleasantville Cottage School and a School Crisis Intervention Worker at Greenburgh North Castle USFD where she was promoted to Assistant Teacher.

Anyone who knew Sandra knew how much she loved to play basketball. Sandra ate drank and slept basketball. She lived to play ball. Sandra participated on many basketball teams throughout the NYC area. Teams such as the Foster Housing Authority League, the famous Riverside Church, Queen Latifah All Stars, Women to Women Old Timers, Women With A Future and of course she was a star on her high school and college basketball teams. Sandra passion for basketball began as a child as she played behind her building backyard courts. Along with her mother she would practice her shots as her mother rebound the ball for her. Sandra loved these quiet and quality times she shared with her mother. Sandra acquired the nicknamed "KILLER" while playing in a pick-up game on the streets of Harlem. Often being the biggest girl on the court, Sandra was known for her aggressive style of playing defense. On this particular day Sandra was going after a player to keep her from scoring. Sandra teammate yelled "San "don't kill her" San just block her shot" the crowd thought she was yelling "KILLER" the name stuck and she will always be lovingly known as "KILLER"

Sandra was a loving and outgoing person who dedicated her life to helping others, especially to her late parents and her late aunt Ruth Ratcliff. She enjoyed spending quality time with her three god-children, La-La, Nay-Nay and J.D. She loved hanging out with her old college and basketball mates during their annual events. Sandra also enjoyed hosting yearly football parties for it gave her the opportunity to reconnect with her Leake and Watts extended family. Sandra loved to cook especially for the holidays where she was able to show her aunts and cousins the latest dishes she created. Thanks to her extended family friend, Ms. Vickie; Sandra found a new passion in life; plants. Once a month she would treat herself to a plant. Even though she was not always successful in maintaining the plants life her pursuit to obtain the green thumb was constant. Many times she didn't know how to care for them but her friend Ms. Vickie would always guide her even after they would die. Sandra also enjoyed traveling and experiencing new and exciting things with her partner Tiffany. Sandra was always willing to share a word of encouragement with others with her wonderful sense of humor and radiant smile, that would light up any room. Sandra deeply loved her family and friends and that love was returned.

Sandra leaves to carry on her legacy and precious memories: her aunt, Mary and Uncle John Bethea of NY; five aunts from Virginia Mazie Lee Batts, Mary Brown, Gloria Glover and Doris Glover; two uncles, John McCray and Langston McCray of Virginia; her god-mother, Sarah Lymas and god-sister, Tina Hampton of Virginia; three god-children; her cousin, Carol Campbell; a world of friends, cousins, co-workers, neighbors and her beloved partner Tiffany De Veaux.

# Order of Service

Music Prelude

Processional

Hymn of Comfort.....“Stands”  
Doris Switzer

Scripture Reading

Old Testament Philippians 4:11-13..... Minister Jacqueline Barbour

New Testament Psalm 121.....Renee

Music.....“I Won’t Complain”  
Doris Switzer

Poem.....“Safely Home”  
Irving Howell

Music.....“I Need You, You Need Me”  
Everyone

Reflections (2 mins. Please)

Deborah Howell

Julie Peterson

Victor P. Whaley

Reading of the Obituary.....Rerita (Noodie) Esannason  
Sharia Walker

Prayer of Comfort..... Belinda Benjamin

Music/Solo Song.....Najiyah N. Threatt

The Eulogy.....Father Cannaday

The Final Glimpse

Musical Prelude.....

Benediction.....Father Cannaday



Recessional.....Clergy and the Family

Musical.....“Let The Church Say Amen”

**Interment**

Rosehill Cemetery  
Linden, New Jersey

## ***I'm 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 acknowledges with deep appreciation all acts of kindness extended to them during this bereavement hour. God bless you for all your thoughtfulness and concern.*



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