



A Celebration of Life and
Home Going Service for

Estella Hicks

Sunrise
July 22, 1925

Sunset
March 30, 2013

Service

Tuesday, April 9, 2013 - 10:00 a.m.

UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS INC.

2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY

Officiating, Dr. Contress Braxton, Pastor

Obituary

Estella Washington Hicks was born in Lagrange, North Carolina to the late Cleveland and Zodie Tyson on July 22, 1925. She was the younger of two children; her older brother, J.D. Tyson predeceased her. Estella, J.D. Tyson and first cousin, James Griffin (deceased), shared a love, loyalty and strong bond that was admirable. Estella had profound maternal instincts whose very presence said love and nurturer. Estella better known as Mother to all who knew her, nurtured and cared for her children, their friends and other children in the community.

Mother attended the public school system in Lagrange, North Carolina where she completed the eighth grade before giving birth to her first child, Raymond Earl (deceased). Estella would say that she wanted to be a psychologist if she had the opportunity. She did however have a PhD. In life, which was shown by the many people she helped navigate through life's adversities. Mother gave of herself expecting nothing in return but an occasional thank you, so that life would be a little better for others. However, Estella's primary career was being a Mother and House Wife. She also did domestic work for others during periods of her life. She provided a caring and loving touch to any endeavor that she participated in.

Estella Hicks Tyson met and married the late Benjamin S. Washington and from that union they raised thirteen children, they are Raymond (deceased), William Lawrence, Carolyn Jean Braxton, Melvin (deceased), Lenwood, Valerie (deceased), Denise Phillips, Bee Jay, Angelo/Freddie, Kenny (deceased), Stephanie Hicks-Mbaye, Kevin and Estella/Bop.

She leaves to mourn: five sons and four daughters; three sons-in-law, Momar Mbaye, Fox Clayton Lyles and Charles Braxton; four daughters-in-law, Michelle Williams Hicks, Debra Brown Hicks, Pearline Hicks and Diane Brownlee Hicks. Estella was the proud grandmother of sixty-five grandchildren and great grandmother of thirty children. She also leaves to mourn her two loving God daughters, Rosalyn Maxwell and Katrina Kennedy.

The Hicks family would like to extend a special thank you and note of appreciation to the care givers who helped Mother make this peaceful transition to Heaven. They are Karen Williams, Tabara Ly (Lee), Karenette Askew, Nancy Baysah and Fatou Drame. Mother, thank you for your love, guidance and listening ears through the years.

The Hicks Family

I Am Resting

*I've parted this life my loved one,
But worry not for I am not gone,
I am merely resting.
Don't cry or mourn
For God is with you and in your hearts.
Carry on.*

*We will miss each other,
But remember God is with us all.
Be strong my loved one,
For I am not gone,
but merely resting.*

-Author unknown

I Needed The Quiet

*I needed the quiet so He drew me aside,
Into the shadows where we could confide.
Away from the bustle where all the day long
I hurried and worried when active and strong.
I needed the quiet tho' at first I rebelled
But gently, so gently, my cross He upheld.
And whispered so sweetly of spiritual things
Tho' weakened in body, my spirit took wings
To heights never dreamed of when active and gay.
He loved me so greatly, He drew me away.
I needed the quiet. No prison, my bed,
But a beautiful valley of blessings instead -
A place to grow richer in Jesus to hide.
I needed the quiet, so He drew me aside.*

-Alice H. Mortenson

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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