

A Celebration of Life  
for  
*Helen Mickens*

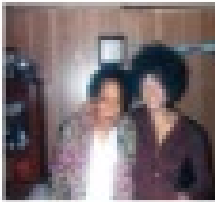
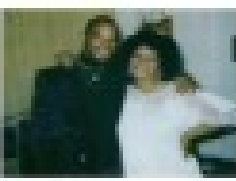


*May 18, 1937 - April 24, 2013*

*Wednesday, May 1, 2013 - 11:00 a.m.*

**CARNIE P. BRAGG FUNERAL HOME**

256 Rosa Parks Blvd.  
Paterson, New Jersey



## *Reflections of Life*



On May 18, 1937, a queen, **Helen Jackson** was born to Rev. Albert and Aida Jackson in the small town of Camden, Kershaw County, South Carolina. Helen received most of her formal education in South Carolina until she relocated to New Jersey after the untimely death of her father.

Shortly after arriving in Paterson, Helen quickly became acclimated to "life in the city" by joining the female's basketball team at her high school and gaining employment at Spotless Cleaners.

It was at this place that Helen met the love of her life Johnny Mickens and the two wed in September 1957. Of that marriage (5) beautiful children were born so the couple made the decision that Helen should leave her job to focus on being a homemaker and raising her children with the love and strong value systems that her parents taught her. Anyone whom ever encountered Helen would say "She loved her children"- and raising them right clearly was her main priority in life.

Helen is preceded in death by her husband, Johnny Mickens; (6) sisters, Margie Taylor, Lorraine Clark, Mabel Anthony, Ella Duren, Caldonia Jackson, Adele Jackson; (9) brothers, Albert Jackson Jr, Grover Jackson Sr., James Jackson, Benjamin Jackson, Hollis Jackson, Thomas Jackson, John Jackson, Willie Robert Jackson and Henry Jackson

Helen is also survived by: (5) children, Dr. Sandra Mickens, Sherry Davis, Johnny (Mick) Mickens Jr., Thomas (Tommy) Mickens and Lonnie Mickens; (12) grandchildren, Sherika Lebron, Quatia Stevens, Lavene Gass, Quatara Mickens-Townes, Jahnaya Mickens, Hope Mickens, Jahmira Mickens, Destinee Mickens, Kyree Caldwell, Johnnie Mickens III, Thomas Mickens Jr. and Jamar Mickens; (1) daughter-in-law, Paula Mickens; (1) brother-in-law, Andrew Anthony; and (4) sisters-in-law, Beatrice Jackson, Lillian Jackson, Rebecca Jackson, and Carrie Jackson.



Order of Service

Services Officiated by  
Maretta L. Hodges

Prayer of Comfort

Old Testament Reading - Stanley Sumpter  
New Testament Reading - Lamont Jackson

Hymn - "Blessed Assurance"

Reflections  
Thomas Mickens Jr.

Remarks - Family and Friends  
*Please limit remarks to (2) minutes*

Poetic Tribute - Jeannell Anthony

Acknowledgement of Epressions of Support  
Maretta Hodges

The Obituary- Alvin Bussie  
"Walk Around Heaven" - Grover Jackson

The Eulogy  
Reverend Cedric J. McCoy  
Beulah Baptist Church, Newark NJ

The Recessional

*You are cordially invited to continue to share your support with  
the family as we bury our loved one at*

Arlington Cemetery  
748 Schuyler Avenue  
Kearny, NJ 07032

*Immediately after the repast will be held at*  
Rivera's Taste of Broadway  
6-18 Maple Avenue  
Fair Lawn, NJ 07410

**Love and Admiration (The person we admired most)**  
**“Our Mother”**

Most people would most likely choose someone they may know from TV shows or by watching them perform. The people they may choose could be music artists or athletes that they maybe quite familiar with or have even met. Admiring someone or admiring means it's a personal reflection of how another person or people have influenced or helped you to make changes in your life.

There are many possible responses I could give, but a definite answer of one of the people my family admired most was our mother. She was like a ray that could help brighten the sun's light. She should be praised alone for giving birth/ bringing forth life. Knowing that one of the closest ways a woman naturally comes to death is when giving birth, alone enough to amaze, but our family is absolutely honored and blessed beyond measure to have had a mother who was nurturing, supportive and beautiful in every sense of the word. Our mother was the epitome of unselfishness. She has, time and time again, put her children first by making sure their every need was met prior to her own. She has even sacrificed not eating at times to be assured that all of her children had, multi-tasking whenever necessary, raising five children and never complaining.

Although respect comes in many forms, fashions and degrees it is all that she stands for or symbolizes that justifies her deserving to be draped with the richest and most elegant of garb that fittingly symbolizes the accolades due to her. All of this is to reflect the resilience and time tested bravery and honor akin to what is represented by a true warrior's adornments. She was a true warrior of this and all eras to come. She's been noble, upright, a hero of heroes, a calmer of her children's stormy seas, and the barer of life, wisdom, understanding and part of the solid rock upon which her children are standing. Whether within or without a crowd she was - in a word, outstanding. If I were to question, "How in the world?" the answer would have to be God's grace, mercy and family is how I can best explain it. The best from her children she always demanded. Our mom is, simply put, a righteous queen of this planet who is now in heaven.

**Written by: Lonnie Mickens**

*Acknowledgement*

The family of **Helen Mickens** acknowledges with deep appreciation all acts of kindness extended to them during this bereavement hour. God bless you for all your thoughtfulness and concern. Special thanks to Maretta L. Hodges, Stanley Sumpter, Lamont Jackson, Jeannell Anthony, Alvin Bussie, and Grover Jackson.

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Professional Services Provided By

**CARNIE P. BRAGG FUNERAL HOMES, INC.**

*Caring for the Community Since 1937*

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[www.honoryou.com](http://www.honoryou.com)

