

*In Loving Memory of*

*Edith Hodge-Watkins*

*Sunrise*

January 25, 1919

*Sunset*

July 1, 2013

Service

Saturday, July 6, 2013 - 11:00 a.m.

**UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS INC.**

2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY

*Rev. Edward R. Culvert, Officiating*

*Marvin Hadley, Organist*

## *Obituary*

**Mrs. Edith Irene Hodge Watkins** passed away peacefully on the evening of July 1, 2013 at Mt. Sinai Hospital, age 94.

Born in Chattanooga, Tennessee, “Miss Edith” moved to Harlem in 1947 and has remained here ever since. She lived in the St. Nicholas Houses at 255 W. 127<sup>th</sup> Street for many, many years and was a good neighbor to all.

Edith was always a hard worker, and she worked for several families as a domestic until, in 1963, she walked into the door of the Sturgis family at 215 E. 72<sup>nd</sup> Street. While Edith entered as a domestic, she left as a beloved member of that family, having raised not only Victoria and Lisa Sturgis, but also Victoria’s children, Henry and Carolina Neely.

She raised a son, James Hill, who lived with her here and who departed for Heaven in 2001. She was very close to her mother, Cora Hodge, who came from Chattanooga to join Edith here in New York City.

Surviving Miss Edith are three grandchildren, Perry, Panathy (Pam) and Torrey Hill; three great-grandchildren, Candice, Christian and Shane; and one great-great grandchild, Candice’s baby Makahi.

Edith was an anchor within her own family as well as the Sturgis/Neely family. We will all miss her dearly, and we thank her for all the love she gave us over many, many years.

# *Order of Service*

**Processional**

**Scripture Readings**

**Prayer**

**Selection**

**Acknowledgements**

**Remarks**

**Obituary**

**Selection**

**Eulogy**

*Rev. Edward R. Culvert*

**Committal**

**Viewing**

**Recessional**

**Interment**

Kensico Cemetery  
Valhalla, New York

## THE ANSWER TO FOOTPRINTS

## PSALM 23

*My precious God, how could  
I have questioned you.*

*When there were only one set of  
"footprints" in the sand... How could  
I have thought, for even one moment,  
You would ever let go of my hand.*

*Now that you have mentioned it  
(as I look back) When things were so  
very hard... There's no way I could  
have survived without your help, My  
sweet and gracious God.*

*You said in the Bible "There would  
be trial and tribulation As long as  
there is man" ... I love you sweet  
Lord; and my life is so much easier...*

*As I remember our conversation  
about the one set of "footprints", You  
left, in the sand.*

*"Thanks for carrying me through."*

*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 paths 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 for ever.*

### 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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Clifford V. James, President & CEO

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*"Your Loved Ones Deserve The Best - Unity"*

