

In Loving Memory of



Edna Skelton

Sunrise
July 25, 1934

Sunset
August 8, 2013

Service

Friday, August 16, 2013 - 6:30 p.m.

UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.

2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY 10027

Rev. J.G. McCann, Sr., Officiating

Rev. Dr. Eric B. Turner, Organist

Obituary

Edna Ruth Walker “Big Mama” was called home on Thursday, August 8, 2013. Edna was born on July 25, 1934 in Charlotte, North Carolina to the late James and Ethel McMillian. She attended Sterling High School in Pineville, North Carolina. She fell in love and conceived her beloved oldest daughter, Delores (predeceased).

She later met and married James Skelton who predeceased her. From this union they have six children, James Jr., Marilyn, Debra, Anthony, Priscilla (predeceased) and Aquilla.

She relocated to New York City in 1968, where she became employed at the Peninsula Hotel. She also worked as a Governess. She was a member of First Calvary Baptist Church and a gospel singer with a group called “Gospel Jubilees”.

She later met and fell in love with her longtime companion James Witherspoon (predeceased). From that union they had one daughter, Michelle.

Words From Her Children

James Jr.: You are my heart my everything. There is no replacing you I will always miss you and I love you deeply.

Marilynn: Ma you know I love you and I always will. If it wasn't for you I will not be the strong woman I am today. You are my everything, I love you and I will always miss you, you are not suffering anymore.

Aquilla: I love my mother. She was the sweetest person in the whole world. You were my best friend from the beginning to the end.

Debra: I love my mother she was there for me through the good and bad times. I want you to rest in peace you don't have to suffer anymore. I love you Mommy always.

Michelle: My dearest you are a true soldier and I love you to the end.

Anthony: I Love you.

Big Mama will always be remembered for her loving heart, open arms, warm meals and out spoken words. There wasn't anything she wouldn't do for anyone she knew and loved. She was our mother, grandmother, friend, listener, counselor and provider. She would always say what was on her mind regardless to how harsh it may have been but it was the truth and she said it with love. We are going to miss you dearly and love you forever.

She leaves to mourn and cherish her memories: children, Allen (predeceased), Delores (predeceased), James Jr., Marilyn, Debra, Anthony, Priscilla (predeceased), Aquilla and Michelle; daughter-in-law, Maria and Carol; son-in-law, Walter (predeceased); twenty grandchildren; thirty-one great grandchildren; eleven great great grandchildren; and a host of cousins, extended family and friends.

Order of Service

Processional.....Clergy and Family

Selection

Old Testament Scripture.....Psalm 23

Prayer

New Testament Scripture.....Revelation 21:1-4

Reflection (2 min limit please).....Honored Guest

Obituary.....Margo Jones

Solo.....Elruby Brownlee-Thomas

Eulogy

Closing Prayer/Recessional

Final Disposition

Oxford Hills Crematory
Chester, New York

Repast

*772 St. Nicholas Avenue #57
New York, New York*

Lonely Is The Home Without You

*Lonely is the home without you,
Life to us is not the same;
All the world would be like Heaven,
If we could have you back again.
A light from our household gone,
A voice we loved is still,
A place is vacant in our home
That never can be filled.
May the God of Love and Mercy,
Care our loved one who is gone,
And bless with consolation,
Those left to carry on.
The happy hours we once enjoyed,
How sweet their memory still
But death has left a vacant place,
This world can never fill.
How dearly we loved you,
And prayed you might live,
But Jesus just beckoned,
And we had to give.
God gave us strength to bear it,
And courage to fight the blow,
What it has meant to lose you,
God alone will ever know.*

To Those I Love

*To those I love and those that love me,
When I am gone, release me, let me go
I have so many things to see and do
You mustn't tie yourself to me with tears
Be happy that we had so many years.
I gave you my love, you can only guess
How much you gave me in happiness
I thank you for the love you each have
shown But now it's time I travel alone
So grieve for a while for me if you must
Then let your grief be comforted by trust.
It's only for a while that we must part
So bless the memories within your heart
I won't be far away, for life goes on
So if you need me, call and I will come
Though you can't see me or touch me,
I'll be near And if you listen with your
heart you'll hear All my love around you
so soft and clear And then, when you
must come this way alone I'll greet you
with a smile and say,
"Welcome Home."*

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.

2352 8th Avenue • Manhattan, NY • (212) 666-8300
1406 Pitkin Avenue • Brooklyn, NY • (718) 774-1023
1018 Prospect Avenue • Bronx, NY • (718) 542-3833

Clifford V. James, President & CEO
www.unityfuneralchapels.com
email: unityfc@aol.com



"Your Loved Ones Deserve The Best - Unity"