

*In Loving
Memory
of*



Equilla Burks

Sunrise
July 10, 1925

Sunset
September 6, 2013

Service

Monday, September 16, 2013 - 10:00 a.m.

UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.

2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY

Rev. Dr. Eric Turner, Officiating

Pastor David Jenkins, Organist

Obituary

Equilla Burks (Nee Freeman), was born on July 10, 1925 in Texasville, Alabama, to the late Minnie Skipper and the late Good Freeman. Equilla was the first born of two children.

She was educated in the public school system in the South. Equilla later married Willie James Burks and through that union they had six children, (two girls and four boys). While being a mother and a housewife she worked at the Dothan Steam Laundry to help support her and her family. However, in those days there were not many opportunities laid before her in the South. Therefore, in the late 1950's, she decided to move to New York City hoping for a better life for herself and her children.

Once in New York she got an apartment and took on some domestic work to help make ends meet. Equilla stayed in New York for many years until she decided to relocate to St. Petersburg, Florida in the 1980's with two of her sons, Larry and Jerome Burks. Once she arrived there she found a job, she joined Triumph Miracle C.O.G.I.C. Church under the leadership of Isaac Whitehurst. She loved her church family and became a permanent resident in the state of Florida. She and her sons remained there until their deaths.

Equilla is preceded in death by her husband, Willie James Burks, her mother, Minnie Skipper, father, Good Freeman, her sister, Roberta Jackson, her daughter, Barbara Louise Battle, two sons, Larry Burks and Jerome Burks, one granddaughter, Patricia White and one nephew, Alphonza White.

Equilla leaves to mourn: three children, her daughter, Dorothy White of Dothan Alabama; her sons, George Burks and Julian Burks of New York; three nieces of Long Island, Mary Johnson, Betty White and Marie White; two nephews of Long Island, March and Robert White; thirteen grandchildren; twenty-six great grandchildren; fourteen great-great grandchildren; and a host of other relatives and friends.

Order of Service

Processional

Selection

Scripture Readings

Prayer

Selection

Poem

Sheila Burks

Remarks

Obituary

Tiffany Burks

Poem

Michelle Blowe

Song

Malika Beacham

Eulogy

Committal

Viewing

Recessional

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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