

In Loving Memory of
Mary Lou West

Sunrise
July 3, 1938

Sunset
March 20, 2014



Service

Friday, March, 28, 2014 - 11:00 a.m.

Christian Love Baptist Church

830 Lyons Avenue

Irvington, New Jersey

Rev. Latisha D. West, Officiating

Rev. Ronald B. Christian, Sr. Pastor

Obituary

Mary Lou West was born on July 3, 1938 in Brooklyn, New York to the late Mildred Williams and Floyd Williams. She was educated in Chester, South Carolina during her first four years of school and completed the remainder of her elementary and secondary education in Newark, New Jersey at Charlton Street School and Essex County Girls Vocational and Technical High School.

Many years later, she furthered her studies at Bloomfield College in Bloomfield, New Jersey where she completed two years towards a business administration degree. Mary Lou also completed culinary school in 2004 at the New Community Workforce Development Center in Newark, New Jersey where she graduated at the top of her class and was awarded for having the highest grade point average (GPA) and best attendance record.

In 1956, Mary Lou was united in Holy Matrimony to Joseph West, and the Lord blessed them with three sons, Derrick, Kevin, and Duane.

Mary Lou worked at Western Electric in Kearny, New Jersey for many years before leaving to advance her career at Howmedica/Pfizer Pharmaceutical Company in Rutherford, New Jersey where she retired in 2002.

Filled with compassion, love and interest in others, Mary Lou made friends easily and maintained contact with her friends throughout her lifetime. She loved to talk, laugh and listen to family and friends on the phone and in person. She shared her love unconditionally with everyone she came in contact with. Her words of wisdom and guidance were powerful, her inspiration was contagious and her heart was golden. She was not shy about offering her opinion on any topic, and she generally offered outstanding practical advice. Mary Lou lived her life with dignity, respect, love and humility.

Mary Lou was an outstanding cook and loved helping people. However, her greatest joy in life was spending time with, spoiling, and talking positively about her grandchildren and great grandchildren. They meant more to her than life itself.

Mary Lou was an amazing and devoted mother who beamed with pride when it came to her sons (and daughter-in-law Mary Ellen) whom she loved and cherished immensely. Her sons were her life. She never stopped calling her adult sons her “Babies”. She smiled when she spoke about how proud she was of them and how they turned out to be productive citizens and distinguished “Men” of character in the community. During times of strife and struggle, Mary Lou was always there for her beloved sons with an encouraging word of inspiration and motherly support; constantly reminding them that they were special and capable of achieving anything that they put their minds to. She was an extraordinary mother, a best friend and confidant to her sons. She’s their hero and a hero to her grandchildren and great grandchildren.

The bible says: “There are angels walking amongst us.” To her family and friends, she was truly one of them. The twinkle of joy in her eyes may be diminished, but the radiance of her smile and the strength of her spirit will live on forever.

God called Mary Lou West home on March 20, 2014 at 7:50pm. She was predeceased by her husband, Joseph West; her son, Derrick West; her mother, Mildred Williams; her stepfather, Robert Williams; her mother-in-law, Jannie West; and her favorite aunt, Marie Levens.

Mary Lou leaves to cherish her memory: two sons, Dr. Kevin West (daughter-in law, Mary Ellen West) and Duane West; five granddaughters, Naimah Lewis (Rajhan Lewis), Latisha West, Arielle West, Destiny West, and Jasmine West; four great grandchildren, Rajhan Lewis, Jr., Sabriya Lewis, Mikayla Houston, and Jailynn Houston; one sister, Aretha Williams; three sisters-in-laws, Lillian Wiley, Annie West, Ruth West; one brother-in-law, Charlie West, Jr., and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives and friends.

Order of Service

Processional

Hymn of Comfort

Scripture Readings

Old Testament Arielle West (granddaughter)

New Testament Naimah Lewis (granddaughter)

Prayer of Comfort Clergy

Musical Selection Deacon Keala Alkebu – Lan

Reading of the Obituary

& Acknowledgements M.I.T. Tamara Cunningham

Reflections & Remarks (please limit to 2 minutes)

Musical Selection Minister Steven Hill

Eulogy Reverend Latisha D. West (granddaughter)

Recessional

Interment Ceremony Hollywood Cemetery, Union, NJ

Interment
Hollywood Memorial Park Cemetery
Union, 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 wishes to express their sincere thanks and appreciation for all acts of kindness and expressions of sympathy that was shown to them during this time of bereavement.

Professional Services by:

Whigham Funeral Home

580 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

Newark, New Jersey 07102

973-622-6872

Carolyn Whigham, Director

