

*In Loving
Memory
of*



Mary Agnes Heckstall

Sunrise
January 20, 1925

Sunset
August 13, 2014



Service
Saturday, August 23, 2014 - 5:00 p.m.

UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.

2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY 10027

Rev. Dr. Eric B. Turner, Officiating

Rev. David Jenkins, Organist

Obituary

Mary Agnes Topping was born on January 20, 1925 in Hyde County, North Carolina to the late Daniel and Zinke McCullough Topping. She grew up in Belhaven, North Carolina with three sisters and four brothers. Two sisters, Myrtle Marie and Argie Bell, and three brothers, Daniel Irvin, Douglas Fairbanks, and Willie Rodman have preceded her in death.

Mary left North Carolina at the age of 14 in pursuit of a better life for what would soon become her legacy. Her first journey bought her to Norfolk, Virginia with her brother, "Boweaver." She then settled in Harlem, New York City at the age of 19. Soon after, she married her handsome husband, Moses Heckstall, Sr. Mary later had four children, two sons and two daughters. One son, Malcolm Noel, and one daughter, Burnett Riley have preceded her in death.

Mary worked many years as a seamstress. She would often joke and make light of making six dollars per week at her job and paying nine dollars for monthly rent. She was popularly known as "Ms. Mary," to the neighborhood friends and "Ma, Grandma, and Aunt Mary" to her family. She lived a long fulfilling life and was ecstatic to witness the world change drastically as we elected our first president of color.

On Wednesday, August 13, 2014, God called Mary home to a glorious place of peace and rest where she was reunited with her family, who went on to glory before her. She now leaves to cherish her memories: one daughter, Patricia Bunch; one son, Moses Heckstall, Jr.; four grandsons, Sean, Jamel, Noel, and Moses Heckstall, III; four granddaughters, Tonya, Kim, Lastarr, and Chanel; four great grandsons, Nicholas, Dominic, Kaden, and Noel Heckstall, Jr.; one great granddaughter, Kaiyel Sanai; one great, great granddaughter, Nicari; one sister, Gracie Mae Battle; one brother, Chappel Ellis Topping (Lillie Bell); two loving and devoted nephews, Willie "Tip" and Trevor Topping; as well as a host of many other family and friends.

Mary's feistiness and huge smile will forever be deeply missed and cherished in our hearts.

Order of Service

Processional

1st Selection

Scripture Readings:
Old Testament
New Testament - **John 14: 1-4**

Solo
"His Eyes Is On The Sparrow"
Jenee Carter

Prayer

2nd Selection
"Trouble in My Way"

Acknowledgements

Special Remarks

Solo
"Take Me To The King"
Jenee Carter

Obituary
Chanel Heckstall

Eulogy

3rd Selection
"Going Up To Yonder"

Committal

Viewing

Recessional

Final Disposition
Oxford Hills Crematory
Chester, New York

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 his call,
I turned my back and left it all.*

*I could not stay another day,
To laugh, to love, to work, to play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way,
I've found that peace at the close of the day.*

*If my parting has left a void,
Then fill it with remembered joy.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,
Ah 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.*



Acknowledgement

We wish to sincerely thank each and every one of you for the many comforting expressions of sympathy shown to us during our time of bereavement. Whether it was your kind words, thoughts, prayers, phone calls, or text messages, we send you our deepest appreciation and gratitude. May God bless each of you.

-The Family

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