

Celebrating The Life of
Wilma W. Jackson

Sunrise

July 19, 1917

Sunset

July 28, 2015



Tuesday, August 4, 2015 - 11:00 a.m.

WOODY "HOME FOR SERVICES"

163 Oakwood Avenue
Orange, New Jersey 07050

Pastor Bruce McMarion Wright, Officiating
Myron Smith, Organist

Obituary

Wilma Jackson was born July 19, 1917 in Fayetteville, North Carolina to Archie Walker and Jane Thigpen. A younger sister, Lemuel, died in infancy. Her father, a tailor, died when Wilma was a baby, leaving her mother a single parent during the most challenging times in our nation's history.

Jane, also known as "Jean", had only a 5th grade education, yet she managed to support herself and Wilma by working in the homes of wealthy families. She took work where she could find it and Wilma enjoyed her years in Philadelphia where she attended elementary school and the well-known Overbrook High School.

Jean's work sometimes required her to leave Wilma with family for extended periods and family was there to welcome her into their homes with open arms.

Wilma often spoke about the wonderful times she had in Princeton with her Aunt Alice, Aunt Catherine and three cousins, Bob, Juanita and Bruce. She felt as though they were the siblings that she never had. Wilma also loved being in Newark with or near her great grandparents, Corinna and Nelson. By the time she was an adult, many family members had settled in or around Newark so she made the "Brick City" her permanent home. In 1944, Wilma married John Charles Jackson. Of that union, one child was born, a daughter, Wilma Jean Jackson (Bunny).

Wilma's love for family was boundless. Her grandparents had ten boys and three girls and as a child, Wilma got to know almost all of them well. As an only child without a father, Wilma felt a special closeness to all her uncles and aunts as well as her cousins and their children. One of her greatest pleasures was taking pictures and collecting photographs of family members. She particularly enjoyed reminiscing about the special times she shared with her family. Even in her later years, Wilma remembered those days vividly and shared stories with such detail to the delight of all.

For many years, Wilma worked as a seamstress. She later found work as a clerical assistant for the Prudential Insurance Company in Newark until her retirement in 1979. Seven years later, Wilma moved to South Orange with her daughter and grandson, Steven. Her interests included reading, music, dance, Broadway shows, politics, movies, sports and a variety of board and even video games. She liked nothing better than to challenge her teenage grandson to a video game.

Wilma died peacefully on July 29, 2015 at home, ten days after her 98th birthday. She was predeceased by her husband and grandson. She is survived by her daughter, Wilma Grey; great-granddaughter, Savana Lynn Small; first cousins, Bob Wright, Carl Thigpen and Joyce Thigpen; as well as many other wonderful relatives and friends.

Order of Service

- Organ Prelude.....Myron Smith
- Seating of the Family.....The Funeral Director
- Hymn of Comfort.....“His Eye Is On The Sparrow”
- Prayer of Comfort.....Pastor Bruce McMarion Wright
- Scripture Readings.....Lola Caldwell
Old Testament - Psalm 121:1-8
New Testament - Revelations 21:1-6
- Solo.....“The Wind Beneath My Wings” ...Tyrone Dunlap, Soloist
- Acknowledgements.....Irene Daniels
- Obituary.....Gayle Thigpen-Allen
- Poem.....Savana Lynn Small
- Solo.....“Precious Lord, Take My Hand” ...Tyrone Dunlap, Soloist
- Eulogy.....Pastor Bruce McMarion Wright
*Greater Grace World Outreach
Baltimore, Maryland*
- Recessional.....Clergy and Family

Interment
Rosedale Cemetery
408 Orange Road
Montclair, New Jersey

God's Amazing Grace

God saw the road was getting rough,
The hill was hard to climb;
He gently closed those loving eyes
And whispered "Peace Be Thine."

The weary hours, the days of pain,
The sleepless nights have passed;
The ever patient worn-out frame
Has found sweet rest at last.

God saw that you were weary
So He did what He knows best.
He came and stood beside you,
And whispered, "Come and rest."

You bid no one a last farewell,
Not even a goodbye.
You were gone before we knew it,
And only God knows why.

Acknowledgement

The family of **Wilma W. Jackson** would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation for the many thoughtful acts of kindness, support and concern extended to us during this difficult time. Thank you for keeping us in your thoughts and prayers.

Professional Services Provided By

Woody "Home For Services"

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