



Celebration of Life For



*Vernell Williams Smith Land*

**Sunrise**  
**May 13, 1939**

**Sunset**  
**August 8, 2015**



Friday, August 14, 2015  
Viewing: 12:00 - 2:00 p.m. • Services: 2:00 p.m.

**UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.**

2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY 10027

*Rev. David Jenkins, Officiating*  
*Rev. Dr. Eric B. Turner, Organist*

## Obituary

**Vernell Williams Smith Land**, daughter of the late James Allen and Geneva Williams was blessed with life on May 13, 1939 in Farmville, North Carolina. She had five sisters and one brother, whom all preceded her in death.

After a long and fruitful life, Vernell quietly made her transition to God's eternal rest on Saturday, August 8, 2015. She fought a great fight and endured until the Lord decided she had suffered enough and called her home to rest.

She received her education in North Carolina. Upon graduation, Vernell relocated to New York. She worked as a machinist and nurses aide.

Vernell's first born was a son, James Williams. Vernell was united in marriage in 1962 to Harvey Smith. They were blessed with two daughters, Rosalind and Raynell. In a loving union, with Fred Henry Lee they were blessed with one daughter, Rhonda. She was later united in marriage to her lifelong husband, Willie Edward Land. To this union, they were blessed with one son, Rodney Edward.

Vernell loved her family and her friends. There was always a smile and something funny to follow. To her children she was known and loved as "MA".

Vernell leaves to cherish her memories: her devoted and loving husband, Willie for fifty years of Fairview, NJ; sons, James (Pete), North Carolina and Rodney (Nicole), California; daughters, Rosalind and Raynell, Bronx, NY, Rhonda (Clyde), Allentown, PA, Claudette and Lillie, Atlanta, GA; grandchildren, Laurie, Michael, Keiyana, Dominique, Denzel, Saqan, Aseha, Malik, Heaven, Mia and Justus; three greatgrands, Kimberly, Jesse Jr., Andrew and one in the oven; three sisters-in-law, two brothers-in-law, Maryann, Vera Naomi (David), Carolyn (Butch) all of Virginia; a loving and devoted host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and close friends.

*Ma! We will always love you. Sleep on and take your rest, we love you but God loves you Best!*

*Your loving Family*



# *Because The Angel Came*

*No more grief and sorrow, no more suffering and pain. Now there is everlasting peace, because the angel came. Only the Lord knows what's best, and He gently held your hands, guiding you to a better place, because the angel came. When the sun rises tomorrow and you answer not to your name, we will cry, but rejoice with you, because the angel came. You can rest in peace, as you never could before, because you answered the gentle knock of the angel at your room door. We will not mourn for you, for new wings you now claim. You took your flight to Heaven on Saturday, August 8, 2015, because the angel came.*



# *When Tomorrow Starts Without Me*

*When tomorrow starts without me, and I'm not there to see if the sun should rise and find your eyes, all filled with tears for me. I wish so much you wouldn't cry, the way you did today, while thinking of the many things, we didn't get to say. I know how much you love me, as much as I love you, and each time that you think of me, I know you'll miss me too. But when tomorrow starts without me, please try to understand that an angel came and called my name, and took me by the hand and said, "my place was ready, in heaven far above and that I'd have to leave behind, all those I dearly love." But when I walked through heaven's gates, I felt so much at home. When God looked down and smiled at me, from His great golden throne. He said "This is eternity, and all I've promised you." Today for life on earth is past, but here it starts anew. I promise no tomorrow, for today will always last. And since each day's the same way, there's no longing for the past. So when tomorrow starts without me, don't think we're far apart. For every time you think of me, I'm right here in your heart.*

*-Author unknown*



# Order of Service

Processional..... Pastor and Family

## Scripture Readings

Old Testament: Ms. Sara R. McFadden..... Psalm 27:1-14

New Testament: Minister Frederick Miller..... Romans 8:35-39

Prayer of Comfort.....Deacon Lamong Dukes

Selection.....“Amazing Grace” .....Minister Frederick Miller

Acknowledgements Cards & Reading of Obituary..... Ms. Sara R. McFadden

Solo..... Ms. Joyce Burke

Moments of Reflections..... Two Minutes Please

Duet .....Stacy and Jerry Lewis

Eulogy .....Reverend David Jenkins

Selection..... “Going Up Yonder”.....Organist

Benediction .....Reverend David Jenkins

Final Viewing

*Final Resting Place*  
Concord Baptist Church Cemetery  
Chase City, Virginia  
Monday, August 17, 2015 @ 1:00pm

## **Repast**

Masonic Hall

160 West 127<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York, NY 10027

# My Grandma and Me

*I had the best dream last night  
it was just me and my grandma,  
my grandma and me.*

*We didn't do anything special or grand,  
we were just riding around in her old  
Cadillac spending time together.  
We played bingo and we won a lot  
We played the numbers and scratch off too.*

*We ate and spoke of trivial things and  
Then I wake up to hear about her passing  
and I was blue. I take solace in the knowledge  
that my grandma is free from all pain and sorrow.*

*I know she is up there reunited with granny and  
Aunt Margie, and one day I will take my Place beside her  
in the blossom of the most high. I am sad now, today, but  
I know she is at peace and in that place of abundant love  
forever more.*

*I love my grandma and I know she loved me, we shared A  
bond and I will always carry her with me. Saying goodbye  
to a loved one is very hard, it's the hardest thing in life to  
do. A part of life it is a sad part indeed.*

*My grandma lived a good life; she had many friends and a  
big, Strong, close family unit. It's so hard to say goodbye,  
man I miss her each passing day forward, she takes her  
place In my heart and mind and she will live on within me.*

By: Laurie Smith

# Afterglow

*I'd like the memory of me  
To be a happy one,  
I'd like to leave an afterglow  
Of smiles when day is done.*

*I'd like to leave an echo  
Whispering softly down the ways,  
Of happy times and laughing times  
And bright and sunny days.  
I'd like the tears of those who grieve  
To dry before the sun  
Of happy memories that I leave  
behind,  
When the day is done.*

-Helen Lowrie Marshall

## In Appreciation

Words are inadequate to express the humility and gratitude we feel towards all of the family and friends who have consoled us during our bereavement. Your prayers, love, presence acts of kindness, and service have sustained us. Everything you have done was warmly appreciated. During a time like this we realize how much our family and friends really mean to us... your expressions of sympathy will always be remembered. Thank you and may you be richly blessed. May God continue blessing you!

The Family

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