



*In Loving
Memory
of*



*Odessa
Mae
Ballou*



Sunrise
December 29, 1932

Sunset
November 19, 2015

Tuesday, November 24, 2015 - 11:00 a.m.

SAINT JAMES A.M.E. CHURCH
588 Martin Luther King, Jr., Blvd. • Newark, NJ 07102
Rev. Ronald L. Slaughter, Senior Pastor
Rev. Pam Ringold, Presiding
Dr. Mary White Williams, Eulogist

Order of Service

Musical PreludeOrganist

Processional..... Clergy and Family

Opening Hymn

Prayer of Comfort

Scripture Readings:

Old Testament - Job 19:25-27..... Clergy

New Testament - Phillipian 3:20-21..... Clergy

Solo

Resolution and AcknowledgementsChurch Officer

Remarks/Family Tribute

Obituary(Read Silently)

Solo

Eulogy.....Dr. Mary White Williams

RecessionalClergy and Family

INTERMENT
Rosedale Cemetery
Linden, New Jersey



Obituary

ODESSA MAE BALLOU was born in Pittsburgh, PA on December 29, 1932 to the late Joseph and Claudia Ballou. She made her transition from this earth on November 19, 2015 in Newark, NJ at the age of 82.

One of ten Ballou siblings, “Dessa” as she was affectionately called attended primary school in Pittsburgh, PA and graduated from Schenley High School in Pittsburgh, PA. Odessa then went to work for Mercy Hospital as a switchboard operator. In 1952, she gave birth to her first child, son, Steven Ellis Ballou. With a desire for better opportunities, Odessa relocated to Newark, NJ in 1966, where she met and shared the next 40 years of her life with the late Lewis Hunt. Later in 1967, her second child, Lorna Elaine Ballou was born. Odessa attended Essex County College where she earned an Associate’s Degree in Early Childhood Education. Odessa later became the manager of the Telecommunications Department at Essex County College where she retired in 1995.

Odessa will always be remembered for her bright smile that would light up a room. Her positive demeanor and gentle touch with all she met and loved will never be forgotten. To her siblings she was a devoted sister who was always there when needed. To Steve and Lorna a loving mother who encouraged her children to strive for excellence. As an aunt she showed care and concern as if she was your mother. Finally, Odessa adored her grand and great grandchildren with a tremendous amount of love.

Odessa Mae Ballou is survived by her son, Steven, and her daughter, Lorna; grandchildren, Desiree, Stevonne, Jessica and Sharice; great grandchildren, Alexandria, Ashley, Amanda, Dahmir, Jashim, Najid and Layla; sisters, Bernice Hamilton, Hallie “Bet” Smith and Naomi Ballou; brother, Larry Ballou; and a host of nieces and nephews.

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Miss Me, But Let Me Go

*When I come to the end of the
road and the sun has set for me,
I want no rites in a gloom filled room,
Why cry for a soul set free?
Miss me a little-but not too long,
and not with your head bowed low.
Remember the love that we once shared,
Miss me-but let me go.
For this is a journey that we all must take,
And each must go alone.
It's all part of the Master's plan,
A step on the road to home.
When you are lonely and sick at heart,
Go to the friends we know.
Laugh at the things we use to do
Miss me-but let me go.*

-author unknown

Acknowledgement

Perhaps you sent a lovely card or sat quietly in a chair.
Perhaps you sent a floral piece If so, we saw it there.
Perhaps you spoke the kindest words as any friend could say.
Perhaps you were not there at all just thought of us on that day.
Whatever you did to console our hearts, We Thank You, Whatever the part.

Professional Services Provided By

COTTON FUNERAL SERVICE
130 Main Street
Orange, NJ
973-675-6400

1025 Bergen Street
Newark, NJ
973-926-6400

COTTON-PARKER FUNERAL HOME
37 Clinton Avenue
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201-433-1000

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