A Celebration of the Life of



Sunrise October 4, 1962 Sunset April 17, 2016

<u>Service</u> Saturday, April 23, 2016 – 9:30 a.m.

MOUNT OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH

11 Ashland Avenue East Orange, New Jersey 07017

Rev. Michael J. Jordan, Officiating



Cheryl Laverne Carter-Weeks

Cheryl Laverne Carter-Weeks, 53, transitioned on Sunday, April 17, 2016. She was the second child of Ruth and the late David Carter. She was born in Newark, New Jersey, and graduated from East Orange High School in 1980. After graduation, Cheryl received additional vocational training at Empire Technical School. Later in life, she would go on to complete course work at Essex County College.

Cheryl was a hard working, driven woman and acquired experience and skills at a number of jobs in various industries. However, she would find her true calling at Isaiah House homeless shelter located in East Orange, New Jersey. Over the course of the twenty-five (25) years that Cheryl was employed at Isaiah House, she touched countless lives and helped many people better themselves and get on the path toward a better life. Cheryl was dedicated to serving her community and extending a helping hand to others. Her infectious personality and genuinely giving and caring disposition drew people to her and made her even more effective in her position as Director of Community Affairs.

In addition to being dedicated to her career and service, Cheryl was also committed to the love of her life Sidney Weeks. The two met on a blind date that neither knew would turn into more than two decades of laughter, love and joy. The two were married on December 28, 1999, and saw their union grow stronger through the years. Sidney was right by Cheryl's side through good times and bad, sickness and health—every day of the remainder of her life.

As previously stated, Cheryl was an amazing servant and loving spouse. Above all however, she was a devoted mother to her only child LaTasha Carter. As a young mother, Cheryl made countless sacrifices to make sure her daughter had access to opportunities. As a single mother, Cheryl worked tirelessly to make sure her daughter never went without. Cheryl provided guidance, love, discipline and affection in her relationship with her daughter. But perhaps most important, she served as an example of what a wife, woman and mother is supposed to be. As a result, she was and will always be the single most important influence on her daughter's life. LaTasha credits Cheryl as being 100% responsible for every measure of success she has achieved in life. She also acknowledges that all the good within her is directly related to her mother's influence, and believes she would be an even better person if she had more of the mother's essence within her.

Cheryl's life shows that there are times when bad things indeed happen to good people. In 2007, she was diagnosed with breast cancer. She valiantly fought and her cancer went into remission where it remained for eight years until 2015. In 2015, Cheryl's cancer returned aggressively, culminating in her transition less than a year later. Despite her condition and her declining health, Cheryl's selflessness remained present until her final day. She continued to visit with and assist her mother. She was there for her sister as her sister confronted her own health issues. Yet her selflessness was best epitomized by her being there every day for her daughter during a difficult pregnancy, and fighting through excruciating pain to visit with and care for her grandson regularly.

Cheryl was preceded in death by her father David Carter; sister Beverly Carter; father-in-law George Weeks; brother-in-law Wesley Weeks; and twin grandsons Arinze and Nzube Onugha.

She leaves to cherish her memory: her husband, Sidney Weeks of Union, NJ; her mother, Ruth Carter of East Orange, NJ; her mother-in-law, Catherine Weeks of Union, NJ; her daughter, LaTasha Carter and son-in-law Arinzechukwu Onugha both of Orange, NJ; her sister, Felice Lewis of Newark, NJ; her nephew, Marco Carter-Johnston of Menifee, CA; brothers-in-law, Stanley Weeks of Maplewood, NJ and Anthony Weeks of Union, NJ; and her pride and joy, her grandson, Soludo David Onugha of Orange, NJ. Cheryl also leaves a host of aunts, uncles, cousins, in-laws, relatives and friends, as well as her Mount Olive Baptist Church family.

<u>Order of Service</u>

ORGAN PRECLUDE Emory Lee

PROCESSIONAL Clergy & Family

HYMN OF COMFORT

SCRIPTURE READING

OLD & NEW TESTAMENT

Interment

Fairmount Cemetery Newark, New Jersey

REPAST

After the burial, please join the family for repast and fellowship at Mount Olive Baptist Church – Fellowship Hall.



2 Timothy 4:7-8

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day - and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for His appearing.

Acknowledgement

THE FAMILY GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES ALL OF THE KIND EXPRESSIONS OF LOVE AND SUPPORT EXTENDED TO US DURING THESE HOURS 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



