

*Homegoing Celebration for*  
***Bertha Hicks Brown***

**Sunrise**  
November 18, 1930

**Sunset**  
April 20, 2016



Saturday, April 30, 2016 - 9:30 a.m.

**Second Baptist Church of Toms River**

2 First Street

South Toms River, NJ 08757

**Officiating: Rev. Marcia R. Grayson**

**Eulogist: Rev. Dr. William A. Greene, Jr., Pastor**

## *Reflections of Life*

**Bertha Hicks Brown**, the daughter of the late Rev. Frank and Amzie Worthy Hicks, was born on November 18, 1930 in Berkeley Township, So. Toms River, NJ. She attended Berkeley Township Schools and completed her education at the Manual Training Industrial School (MTIS), known as “Tuskegee of the North” in Bordentown, NJ. She married William O. Pendleton, Sr. in 1947, and of that union were born William, Jr. and Katrina.

She attended Friendship A.M.E. Church under the leadership of her father, the late Rev. Frank Hicks (founder and pastor). She later joined Wells Chapel A.M.E. Church in So. Toms River. She later became a member of Second Baptist Church of Toms River, where she worked diligently with Vacation Bible School with the pre-school class and as registrar. It was during her fellowship at Second Baptist that she attended Monmouth Bible Institute in Farmingdale, NJ, proudly graduating with honors, after four years of study!

Bertha’s employment just prior to her retirement was at Ciba Geigy Chemical Plant in Toms River, NJ, where she worked as a maintenance technician. For many years Bertha was the “Nanny” to many children, including caring for the children of the owners/operators of Howard Johnson Hotel and Restaurant, Toms River, NJ, where she was employed for many years. She became the live-in nanny for the owner of Gateway Toyota, Toms River, caring for their child for several years, just to name a few. Bertha became the guardian of her sister’s (Alfreda) children, the late Oscar, Jr., Phillip, Nadine, and Russell, after her sister’s untimely death. Bertha loved her family dearly and put no one before them.

Her son, William O. Pendleton, Jr. predeceased her in 1984. She was also predeceased by her siblings: James Hicks, Clara Lee, Russell Hicks, Essie Clay, Ruth Lee, Loretta Price, Noel Hicks, Alfred Hicks, and Alfreda Smalls.

She leaves to cherish fond memories, her daughter Katrina Walker; her son-in-law, James; her daughter-in-law, Marie Pendleton; one brother, William Turner Hicks (Shirley); four sisters-in-law, Laura Hicks, Hattie Hicks, Rev. Alberta Alexander, and Lorraine Copeland; four grandchildren, Rev. Marcia Grayson, Desiree’ Pendleton, Maurice Walker, James O. Walker (OJ); four great grandchildren, Jazmine Fair, Jaikia Fair, James O. Walker II, Victor Hill; four great-great grandchildren, Nazzier Fair, Jai’Ere Brodie, Mar’Ciana Brodie, Ja’Zier Brodie; her adopted niece and nephews, Phillip Dillard, Nadine Hardy, Russell Dillard; two godchildren, Andrew Booker, Jr. and Barbara Ann Booker; and a host of nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.

Bert we love you sooo much!

You are the best Mom that Pokey and I could ever have!

A large piece of my heart goes with you – I miss you so much...”Maum”

# Order of Service

## **Celebration of Life!**

“So then, a Sabbath rest still remains for the people of God; for those who enter God’s rest also cease from their labors, as God did from his.” Hebrews 4:9-10

Call to Worship.....Psalms 90:1-4, 9-12.....Rev. Marcia R. Grayson

Invocation.....Rev. Ruth Bell

Selection..... “The Blood” .....Rev. Donnie Clyburn

### Scripture Readings:

Old Testament - Psalm 23.....Rev. Yolanda Clyburn

New Testament - 2 Timothy 4:6-8.....Rev. Gail Simmons

Gospel - John 14:1-6.....Rev. Semaj Y. Vanzant, Sr.

Prayer of Comfort.....Deacon Dawn Barnes

Selection.....Second Baptist Church Choir

Resolutions and Acknowledges.....Delkia Powell

### Expressions of Love (**2 minutes max**)

Clergy .....Elder Larry Mattox

Community.....Honorable Oscar Cradle

Family.....Al Hicks

Lil’ Barbara Copeland

James “OJ” Walker

Vivian Powell

Reading of Precious Memories (Obituary).....Delkia Powell

Selection.....“It Is For Me” .....Sylvia Hawkins

Eulogy.....Revelation 21:1-7.....Rev. Dr. William A. Greene, Jr.

Recessional .....Clergy and Family

Song of Victory.....“Going Up Yonder” .....Church Choir and Congregation

### **Interment**

Ocean Memorial Park  
Toms River, New Jersey

### **Pallbearers**

- |                    |                      |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Nicholas Clay   | 2. Mark Dillard      |
| 3. Michael Dillard | 4. Tige Dillard      |
| 5. Samuel Fennell  | 6. Reginald Hardy    |
| 7. Victor Hill     | 8. James “OJ” Walker |

## *My Dear Angel in The Sky, Nanny*

My first thoughts when I think of Nanny  
Was the grandmother that woke me before the sun shined  
Just to make sure I was ready for school and done with homework past early  
She made sure I didn't miss a non-sick day to learn down  
the road where I went to elementary  
She prepared me for work, life and to reach past the highest form of education  
By reaching for the understanding of God,  
The one that is the Creator of the Universe  
and the basis and foundation of our religion  
Nanny spoke of us being in God's image  
Nanny's life lessons took me past college  
Nanny proved to me for what God truly intended  
And that's already what has pass or become to pass  
And my tries throughout my 32 years of history  
can never be mentally diminished  
I had Nanny on my mind from starting many tasks until I finished  
I took the alcohol out the night cap, and love drinking cranberry and orange juice  
The doctor got me taking Seroquel to help me calm and sleep at nights  
I choose to eat and take my vitamins through my day  
Keeping myself in good health  
Like you did for me so many days you nursed me OK  
I love you and always will  
"My Dear Angel in the Sky, Nanny"

- Maurice  
"Reebeep"

## *Acknowledgement*

The family of the late **Bertha Hicks Brown** acknowledges  
all acts of kindness and sympathy during this most difficult time.  
A special thank you to Victor Hill, who so diligently helped to care for  
my Mom as well as Denise (Neat) Jackson and Janece Motley.  
We love you! God bless all of you.



## **James H. Robinson Funeral Home**

*3287 Fulton Street*

*Brooklyn, New York 11208*

*James Robinson - Funeral Director,*

*William Robinson - Funeral Director*