

*Celebrating The Life of*  
***Mattie Bell Fair***

*Sunrise*  
*June 7, 1933*

*Sunset*  
*May 12, 2016*



*Thursday, May 19, 2016 - 11:00 a.m.*

**DIVINITY MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH**

227 Tremont Avenue  
East Orange, New Jersey

*Pastor Dr. Byron E. Lennon, Sr., Officiating*

## *Obituary*

**Mattie Bell McDowell Fair** entered into eternal rest on Thursday, May 12, 2016, at her home in Orange, NJ. She was born on June 7, 1933, to Bessie and Butler McDowell in Rome, Georgia. Mattie spent her early years living and working in South Carolina before migrating to New Jersey.

Mattie worked in a number of fields throughout her life. She was well known for her astounding work ethic that was exhibited repeatedly through her work in the dry cleaners, mental health facility, and Mennen-Colgate, as well as a host of other jobs.

Mattie was well known in the community as a compassionate, concerned caregiver. She was highly respected and known as the neighborhood's "Granna", as she always offered everyone a hot plate of food, a shoulder to lean on, or a helping hand in your time of need. Mattie loved her family, friends and church community. Her words of wisdom were always right on time and welcomed by all.

Prior to becoming ill, Mattie was an active member in the Divinity Baptist Church. She loved her spiritual home and her church family. In recent years, Mattie was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease. Throughout her declining health, she remained at home where she was cared for by her loving and devoted family.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Bessie and Butler McDowell, her brothers, James Forrest and John Louis McDowell, Russell Dean and her daughters, Gloria Tisdale and Linda McDowell.

Mattie leaves to cherish her memory: grandchildren, Anthony, Beverly, Sean, Stacey and Danielle McDowell and Sholanda Acosta; her brothers, June and Walter McDowell and Clarence Collins; sisters, Ellen Alexander, Lois Dean, Beatrice Collins, Lena Faye Glen, Frankie Rice, and Shirley Davis; and sister-in-law, Marilyn McDowell. She also leaves a host of great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews and cousins.

# Order of Service

Musical Prelude.....Organist

Hymn of Comfort.....“Blessed Assurance Jesus Is Mine”

Prayer of Comfort

Scripture Readings

Old Testament - Isaiah 40:28-31

New Testament - 1 Corinthians 13:4-8

Selection

Remarks.....Family and Friends.....Two Minutes Please

Acknowledgements and Resolutions

Obituary.....Stacey McDowell

Musical Selection

Eulogy.....Pastor Dr. Byron E. Lennon, Sr.

Recessional.....Clergy and Family

## **Interment**

*Rosedale Cemetery  
408 Orange Road  
Montclair, New Jersey*

## **Repast**

*Immediately following the Interment family and friends are invited back for repast in the Church Fellowship Hall.*

# *I'm Free*

*Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free  
I'm following the path God laid for me  
I took his hand when I heard Him call  
I turned my back and left it all.  
I could not stay another day.*

*To laugh, to love, to work or play.  
Tasks left undone must stay that way,  
I found that peace at the close of day.*

*If my parting has left a void,  
Then fill it up with remembered joy.  
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,  
Oh, yes these things I too will miss.  
Be not burdened with times of sorrow,  
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.  
My life's been full, I savored much.*

*Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.  
Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,  
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.  
Lift up your heart and share with me,  
God wanted me now, He set me free!*

*-author unknown*

## *Acknowledgement*

*The family of **Mattie Bell Fair** will remember and cherish your many expressions of love, sympathy and prayers so graciously extended, thank you and may God richly bless you.*

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