

In Loving Memory of



Elizabeth Gilyard

Sunrise: December 6, 1943

Sunset: May 12, 2016

Service

Friday, May 20, 2016 - 11:00 a.m.

ST. PAUL BAPTIST CHURCH

249 W. 132nd Street • New York, NY

Rev. Dr. DuWayne Battle, Pastor

Obituary

Elizabeth made her entrance into the world in Cameron, South Carolina on December 6, 1943. She was the sixth of seven children born to Moses Ernest Glover and Mable Whaley Glover. "Lil", as she is affectionately known by family and friends, was not expected to live when she was born and her parents allowed a cousin to take her into her home for a period of time. When it became apparent that she was thriving, she was reunited with her family and grew up with her siblings.

Lil began her formal education in Cameron, South Carolina at the Brown Chapel Elementary School. Some years later the family moved from Cameron to Orangeburg, South Carolina and she attended St. John High School. Always the precocious one among the children, Lil met Leroy Carl Gilyard, fell in love and was joined in holy matrimony on January 26, 1959, when she was just fifteen years of age. From this union came her beloved son, Victor L. "Flip" Gilyard. Lil and her young family left Orangeburg and moved to New York City in the early 1960's, where she lived since that time. If Lil was happy being a mother, she was estatic when she became a grandmother, and over the moon to become a great-grandmother. Lil has held several employment positions throughout the years. From 1990–1992 she was employed by Bell Security, stationed at Yankee Stadium as a security officer. Lil also worked at the Stadium from 1993–1995 in the Maintenance Department.

All who knew her, know that Lil lived life on her own terms, however, one day in 2010 she began talking about "being in the storm too long." She started attending church, reading the Bible, and talking about the goodness of the Lord. On an October night in 2011, Lil gave her life to the Lord Jesus Christ. She joined the St. Paul Baptist Church, shortly thereafter, and was a regular member until her health failed.

Preceding Lil in death are her parents, four siblings, her husband and her beloved son. Lil leaves to celebrate her life: two sisters, Mary Alice Noble of NYC and Carolyn McCall of Tampa, FL; daughter-in-law, Christine; grandchildren, Chris (Adriana), Victor (Francine) and Caress (Lloyd); great-grandchildren, Tyla, Zi'Air, Adrian, Vanesa, Amie, Cadell, Athan and Monroe; six sisters-in-law, Janie, Ruby, Vivian, Deloris, Jacqueline and Burnette; two brothers-in-law, William and Gregory; nieces, Linda (Frazier), Jay (Lawrence), Brenda, Mary (Nelson), Janice, Tara, Iris and Carolyn; nephews, Charles, Kenny, Derrick, Chris, Rick, Rodney, Patrick (Tee) and extra special nephew, Clinton (Baldy) and wife, Jane who picked right up where Flip left off. Also celebrating Lil's life are twenty-four grandnieces and nephews, along with a host of very special friends and many acquaintances. Last, but certainly by no means least, the Pastor and congregation of the St. Paul Baptist Church celebrate the life of Sister Elizabeth Gilyard.

Order of Service

Invocation Prayer.....Rev. Dr. V. DuWayne Battle

Selection.....Congregational Hymn

Scripture Readings.....Rev. Sharon E. Reese

Old Testament - Ecclesiastes 7:1-4

New Testament - Revelations 21:1-7

Prayer of Comfort

Musical Selection

Reflections from the Community(Two minutes please)

Musical Selection

Acknowledgements.....Sis. Deborah Barton, Church Clerk

Reading of Obituary.....Rev. Dr. Linda W. Spears

Words of Love/Family Members..... (Two minutes please)

Eulogy.....Rev. Dr. V. DuWayne Battle

Closing Prayer and Benediction.....Rev. Dr. V. DuWayne Battle

Interment

*Forest Green Memorial Park
Morganville, New Jersey*

In Tears We Saw You Sinking

*In tears we saw you sinking
And watched you fade away.
Our hearts were almost breaking
We wanted you to stay.
But when we saw you sleeping
So peacefully and free from pain
How could we wish you back
To suffer that again?
It broke our hearts to lose you
But you didn't go alone
For part of us went with you
The day God called you home*

Lovingly Submitted by the Family

Acknowledgement

A special "THANK YOU" to Wanda Vela, Lil's longtime home health assistant who took extra special care of her and was someone she counted as a friend.

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