



Sunrise: February 9, 1942 **Sunset:** May 17, 2016

<u>Service</u> Tuesday, May 24, 2016 ~ 11:00 am

First Baptist Church

929 Dill Avenue Linden, New Jersey

Reverend Dr. Derrick R. Dumas, Pastor

"The Lord is my Rock and my Salvation." II Samuel 22:2

Dear Grandma,

There's not a moment that doesn't go by where we aren't reminded of who you are to us. You are a true example of unconditional love, sacrifice, and perseverance. You are a legend and the legacy that you and grandpa have created will echo in our hearts for the rest of our lives. We will cherish every moment that we had the privilege to spend with you and we will share those memories with our children and our children will tell their children of the amazing things you did for us. Thank you for being the foundation of our faith and the reason behind our smiles. You are a phenomenal woman that we had the privilege to call grandma. So from our hearts we say, Thank You....

Heeey giiirl, I will miss the many animated greetings that we would share whenever we saw each other. No matter what, it always brought a smile to your face which was so contagious to anyone around us.  $\sim$  Zion

Your little poop-a-doop (Justin) is sitting up on his own and is starting on table food. We are going to miss u grandma. ~ Breana

*I graduated and I will miss our morning talks, laughs and grunts. I love you grandma!* ~ *Brittany* 

You always cared no matter how big or small the issue: I had a white t-shirt that had blue trim around the collar and sleeves, you being who you are, washed my white clothes and put a dab of bleach on it, that white shirt with blue trim became a tie dye t-shirt. The funny part is only the collar was ruined and just so I would wear the shirt again you manually bleached the sleeves...LOL You knew it was my favorite shirt. I love you grandma! ~ Antoine

I'm going to miss pretending to do your hair. Love you grandma! ~ Sara

You know I'm gonna miss those home cooked meals. I know you're in a better place waiting to cook for me once again...I miss you already... ~ Ronald

Thank you grandma for retiring and taking care of me full time. You saw me take my first steps & watched me go off to preschool and I'm so glad you were here to see me reach my 12th birthday!! I will miss you. ~ Zaire aka "Little Buddy"

Thank you for believing in our dreams and supporting us every step of the way. ~ Brandon and Veronica

Reflections of Life

"Hence forth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love His appearing." ~ II Timothy 4:8

Deaconess Ella Mae Mason-Opears, the daughter of the late Lottie Mae Mason-White and John Cooper, was born on February 9, 1942 in Florence, South Carolina. "Sister," as she was affectionately called by her family, was raised by her grandparents: Ed and Eula M. Mason.

Ella attended the public schools in Florence, South Carolina. Reared in a Christian home, Ella received Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior and was baptized at an early age at the Wesley Methodist Church in Florence, South Carolina.

While in school and working in the farmlands, Ella met the love of her life, George Spears. During their courtship, Ms. Eula (Ella's Grandmother) had a rule: George could **only** visit Ella at home on **Wednesdays** and **Sundays**. On July 29, 1961, they were united in Holy Matrimony by Rev. E. W. Cole, Pastor of the Wesley Methodist Church where Ella attended. The ceremony took place in Ella's grandparent's home in Florence, South Carolina. Sam Spears, Jr. was George's "Best Man" – but it still remains a mystery who Ella's "Maid of Honor" was. They enjoyed "51" years of marriage until her Buddy was called home to glory!

After they were married, George and Ella moved to New Jersey. This union was blessed with three children, Terri Anita, George Christopher and Ronald Edward.

Ella worked for many years in the Banking industry as well as the Copier industry until she retired. George and Ella owned and operated a Blimpie Franchise for three years where she was known as the "BLIMPIE QUEEN." She then worked as a Cafeteria Aide a Pomptonian Food Service at McManus Middle School in Linden for four years soon after she fully retired.

Ella was a member of First Baptist Church of Linden where she was baptized in 1970, under the leadership of the late Rev. Dr. Samuel E. Schell. She served faithfully on the Deaconess Board, Senior Choir, Mass Choir, Missionary Board and was one of the Advisors of the Youth Choir. Ella, was well known as a **"Songbird,"** from her youth to this present day, and used her gift to sing God's Praises at all times. She has performed in many concerts for churches and organizations and she sung with "100 Women in White" Choir and Jubilation Choir.

Deaconess Ella Mae Mason-Spears leaves to cherish fond memories, her three children: Terri (Jeff) Johnson of Roselle, NJ, George Christopher (Andrea) Spears of South Plainfield, NJ and Ronald Spears, Sr. of Roselle, NJ; eight grandchildren: Brandon (Veronica) Johnson, Brittany Johnson, Ronald Jr., Breana, Antoine, Zion, Zaire and Sarah Spears; one great-grandson: Justin Dunbar; five brothers: Clifton Mason, Gary White, Charles Rush, and Jerome White, all of Florence, S.C. and David (Janet) White of Charlotte, NC; six brothers-in-law: Sam (Whilameda), Jr. of Avenel, NJ, Rollie (Jessie Mae), Johnny L. (Iris), Charles (Carrie), and Harry (Jacquelyn) Spears and Harry Joe (Sherry) Scott, all of Florence, SC; five sisters-in-law: Mary Sue (Calvin) Bethea of Latta, SC, Florean Ellerbe of Sellers, SC, Mildred Nelson of Latta, SC, Rosa S. (David) King, and Evelena (Tommy) Godbold, all of Florence, SC; an aunt, Doree Bostick of Brooklyn, NY; two goddaughters: Tina L. Spears of Elizabeth, NJ and Shevon Parks of Somerset, NJ; close family friends: Andrea Allen, Kim Sales, and Sabrina Smith all of Linden, NJ; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives, friends and the First Baptist Church family.

Lovingly submitted, The Family

One Day Ht H Time

I'm only human, I'm just a woman Help me believe in what I could be And all that I am Show me the stairway I have to climb Lord for my sake, help me to take One day at a time

One day at a time sweet Jesus That's all I'm askin' of you Just give me the strength To do everything that I have to do Yesterday's gone sweet Jesus And tomorrow may never be mine Lord, for my sake, help me to take One day at a time

Do you remember when you walked among men Well Jesus you know If you're lookin' below, it's worse now than then Pushin' and shovin' and crowdin' my mind Lord, for my sake, teach me to take One day at a time

> One day at a time sweet Jesus That's all I'm askin' of you Just give me the strength To do everything that I have to do Yesterday's gone sweet Jesus And tomorrow may never be mine Lord, for my sake, teach me to take One day at a time ~ As sung by Ella Spears ~

## Order of Service

| Musical Prelude                                 | Michael Reaves  |
|---|---|
| Processional                                    | Clergy and Family   |
| A Parting View                                  | The Family  |
|   | stor Samuel A. Washington, Jr.<br>hurch of God • Salisbury, NC                        |
| Praise<br>Old Testament: 23 <sup>rd</sup> Psalm | Pastor Pattie Roscoe<br>Temple I.C.O.G. • Linden, NJ                                  |
| New Testament: I Thessalo                       | nians 4:13-18   |
| Selection                                       | Tina L. Spears, Goddaughter   |
| Reflections                                     | Deacon Sam Thomas<br>Whilameda Spears<br>Brandon Johnson<br>George Christopher Spears |
|   | Bishop Tony McNeill<br>e Temple I.C.O.G. • Linden, NJ                                 |
| Acknowledgments & Obituary                      | Twonna L. Spears  |
| Solo  | Terri A. Spears-Johnson   |
| Eulogy  | Reverend Dr. Derrick R. Dumas   |
| Recessional                                     | Clergy & Family   |

<u>Interment</u> Rosehill Cemetery Linden, New Jersey

A Repast will take place immediately following the Interment at the First Baptist Church Dining Hall.

> Services Entrusted To: G.G. Woody Funeral Home, LLC 206 East Eighth Avenue • Roselle, NJ 07203 www.ggwoodyfuneralhome.com

"Where Our Sympathy Expresses Itself Through Sincere Service"





"Holy Holy Holy" "In The Upper Room" "In The Cross" "Because He Lives" "Dangers Seen and Unseen" "I Won't Complain" "Amazing Grace" "Save A Seat For Me" "What Is This" "No Cross, No Crown"

Hcknowledgement

The family of the late **Deaconess Ella Mae Mason-Spears** acknowledges with deep appreciation, all acts of kindness extended to us during this bereavement hour. God bless you all for your thoughtfulness and concern.

~ The Family ~

