

*Homegoing Celebration for*



*Lorena Sanders Wright*

Sunrise  
October 6, 1923

Sunset  
May 20, 2016

*Service*

Saturday, May 28, 2016 - 10:00 a.m.

**NEWARK CHURCH OF CHRIST**

723 Clinton Avenue  
Newark, New Jersey

*Dr. Eugene Lawton, Officiating*

# Making a case for pillows



Photo by Peter Lindner for The Post

For a 57-year-old woman, sewing is a passion. So she has a hobby in the name Family Foundation for the Handicapped, which has 20 different projects, including making 4,000 pillows for the beds of patients at the Harbor View Hospital in Long Beach, Calif., to help patients who are paraplegic.

## Woman, 66, makes 4,000 pillows for hospita patients

By PHILIP W. JACO  
Special Contributor

When a 67-year-old woman, who has lived in Los Angeles for 20 years, says she has a hobby, she means it. She has a hobby in the name Family Foundation for the Handicapped, which has 20 different projects, including making 4,000 pillows for the beds of patients at the Harbor View Hospital in Long Beach, Calif., to help patients who are paraplegic.



PHOTOGRAPH BY  
PHILIP W. JACO FOR  
THE POST

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*Order of Service for the Homegoing Celebration of  
Lorena Sanders Wright*

- Song Directors ..... Anthony Cox  
Carl Ramdas  
Kings Church of Christ
- Visitation and Viewing ... Recording by the Exciting Enchanters
- Congregational Selections (2)
- Bible Inspiration ..... Philip Angoy  
East Orange Church of Christ
- Prayer..... Clifford O'Neal  
Princeton Church of Christ
- Congregational Selections (2)
- Acknowledgment of Condolences ..... Desiree White O'Neal  
Princeton Church of Christ
- Musical Selection ..... James Moore Family  
Union, NJ
- Reflections ..... Bruce Wadzeck, Minister  
Princeton Church of Christ  
Ernest Coleman  
Newark Church of Christ  
Anthony Hardaway, grandson  
Sharon Hardaway Johnson, daughter
- Musical Selections ..... The Exciting Enchanters  
Newark Church of Christ
- Congregational Selection ..... Andre Hart  
Newark Church of Christ
- Eulogy ..... Eugene Lawton, Minister  
Newark Church of Christ
- Recessional ..... Recording by The Exciting Enchanters

**INTERMENT**

*Fairmount Cemetery  
Newark, New Jersey*

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**Lorene Sanders Wright** was born November 6, 1923 in Evergreen, Conecuh County, Alabama. Due to recording errors, she legally became Lorena Sanders, born October 6, 1923. She was the tenth of the thirteen children born to John and Myrene (Nicely Burnett) Sanders, all of whom predeceased her: Robert, Lucille, Ruby, Beader, Tishie, George, Ida Mae, Reatha, Walter, Lorena, Helen, Erskine, Elizabeth.

She graduated with high marks from Fairfield Industrial High School with skills in hairdressing, dressmaking and culinary arts, and worked in a hospital as a nursing assistant. She also worked in the shipyards of Portland, Oregon before her marriage to Lovett Hardaway and relocation to Akron, Ohio. From this union were born three daughters: Beverly Elaine, Sandra Jean, and Sharon Marie.

In 1953 Lorena and her daughters moved to New Jersey in search of a better life. No stranger to hard work, she provided for her family by performing domestic work, then working at the Hudson Lamp Company in Kearny, NJ, New Jersey Bell Telephone Company, Firefyters, and Eastern Airlines, where she worked from 1968-1987, when she retired.

She raised three grandsons after their mother's (Sandra's) death, so she resumed working: at Allstate Insurance Company, Continental Airlines, and the Newark Youth Detention Center, where she worked until her final retirement from the employment market. Love found her and she was married to Ollie Wright in 1981 by evangelist Eugene Lawton in Irvington, NJ, but he, and daughters Sandra and Beverly predeceased her.

Lorena was an accomplished seamstress and milliner, skills which she used to clothe herself and her children.



Her cooking was well-known, as she regularly invited guests and visitors to share meals in her home, and to share some word from the Lord. She was a loving and caring mother and grandmother, and was affectionately known as “Mama” by all who knew her in the neighborhood where she was a respected resident for some 55 years.

Lorena was baptized into Christ in 1934 at the age of ten by the pioneer evangelist S.T.W. Gibbs, Sr., in Fairfield, Alabama, and never looked back from serving and leading others to Him. She placed her membership at the Newark Church of Christ when it was located on Court Street, in 1953, and was a faithful member for over 50 years. She was the first directress of the Newark Adult Chorus, and was active as a teacher, soul-winner, and in the benevolence ministry. Her radiant example shall be missed and treasured at this congregation. She went home to be with the Lord on Friday, May 20, 2016, after suffering from Alzheimer’s disease for ten years.

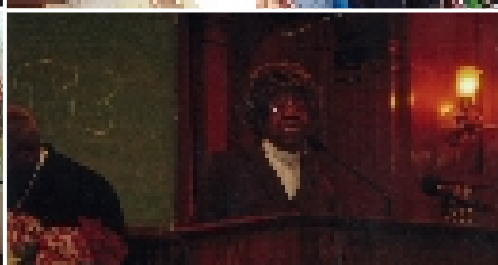
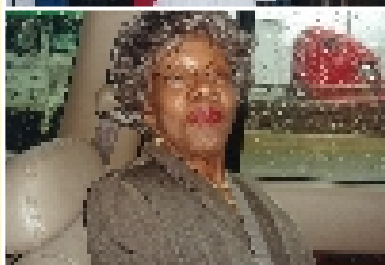
She leaves to cherish her memory her daughter, Sharon Hardaway Johnson (Bruce); nine grandchildren, Anthony, Keith, Darnell, Erin and Saroya Hardaway, Etienne and Lorena Davis, Cherilyn Johnson and Sonja Johnson (Philip) Malcolm; eleven great-grandchildren, Shariekah Wooten, Tynetta Ross, Jihaad Reeves, Shakasha Stevenson, Tasaan Wilson, Shanead Dunkley, Sharice Davis, Bryan and Keith Hardaway, Jr., Shania Ojebe, and Olivia Malcolm; six great-great grandchildren, Nasiyah and Jahni Wooten, Amir and Amare Wilson, Mekhi and (Baby) Stevenson; twenty nieces and nephews, and a host of cousins, church family and friends.

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## Proverbs 31:10-31 King James Version (KJV)

Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies. The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil. She will do him good and not evil all the days of her life. She seeketh wool, and flax, and worketh willingly with her hands. She is like the merchants' ships; she bringeth her food from afar. She riseth also while it is yet night, and giveth meat to her household, and a portion to her maidens. She considereth a field, and buyeth it: with the fruit of her hands she planteth a vineyard. She girdeth her loins with strength, and strengtheneth her arms. She perceiveth that her merchandise is good: her candle goeth not out by night. She layeth her hands to the spindle, and her hands hold the distaff. She stretcheth out her hand to the poor; yea, she reacheth forth her hands to the needy. She is not afraid of the snow for her household: for all her household are clothed with scarlet. She maketh herself coverings of tapestry; her clothing is silk and purple. Her husband is known in the gates, when he sitteth among the elders of the land. She maketh fine linen, and selleth it; and delivereth girdles unto the merchant. Strength and honour are her clothing; and she shall rejoice in time to come. She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue is the law of kindness. She looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness. Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her. Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all. Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the LORD, she shall be praised. Give her of the fruit of her hands; and let her own works praise her in the gates.



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### *Pallbearers*

Walter Gardner  
Clarence Holley  
Michael Graves

Craig Hamilton  
Gregory Hunt  
Emmanuel Mensah

### *Honorary Pallbearers*

Anthony Hardaway  
Keith Hardaway, Sr.  
Darnell Hardaway

Keith Hardaway, Jr.  
Bryan Hardaway  
Tasaan Wilson

### *Acknowledgement*

*The family of the late **Lorena Sanders Wright** is grateful for all of your prayers and expressions of sympathy and love. It is your love that comforts and eases the pain, and reminds us of God's infinite grace. May God continue to bless you and forever keep you in His loving grace.*

*"Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God;"  
Isaiah 46:10*

**HEAVEN IS WORTH IT ALL**

Professional Services by:  
**Whigham Funeral Home**

580 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
Newark, New Jersey 07102  
973-622-6872

***Carolyn Whigham, Director***

[www.honoryou.com](http://www.honoryou.com)

