

Celebration of Life For
Annie R. Gaines



Sunrise: October 3, 1923

Sunset: June 2, 2016

Friday, June 10, 2016 - 12:00 Noon

St. Mark AME Church

587 Springdale Avenue
East Orange, New Jersey

Rev. Dr. Kenneth Mitchem, Pastor

Obituary

Annie R. Gaines began her life journey on October 3, 1923 in Broadway, North Carolina. She was one of thirteen children born to the late John and Sallie McLean. Annie was raised in a devout Christian family and at an early age she accepted Christ as her personal Savior.

After completing school, Annie united in marriage to Joseph Samuel Gaines. To this union three sons were born: Joseph, Leroy and Michael. She later relocated to New Jersey.

She was trained as a Nurse's Aide and volunteered her services at the Red Cross in Newark, NJ. Annie was a gifted seamstress. She not only designed and made lovely outfits for herself, but sewed for others as well. She took great pride in her appearance and was always dressed impeccably. It did not matter if she was going out for the day, or just staying home.

Annie joined St. Mark AME Church when Rev. Harmon was the pastor and the church was located on Sterling Street. She remained a devoted, dedicated member of the church and was actively involved in various ministries until her health began to fail her. Annie served as the president of the Gospel Choir, and was a Class Leader. She was also an active member of the Missionaries, the Ladies Guild and the Stewardess Board.

Annie was the recipient of many Certificates of Appreciation for her devoted services. In the year 2009, her dedicated service to her church and her community was acknowledged by the City of East Orange, Division of Senior Services. The highest honor bestowed upon her was when Rev. Cummings appointed her the Mother of St. Mark AME Church.

Mother Gaines fought the good fight, she finished the race and kept the faith and after a long illness she made her transition on Thursday, June 2, 2016 at Beth Israel Hospital, Newark, NJ. She was predeceased by her brothers: Harvey L., Charles, Alfred F., Royal S., Harold E., Theodore McLean, sister, Candis Carrington, and son, Leroy Gaines.

She leaves to cherish her memory: two sons, Joseph (Jean), and Michael Gaines; four (4) sisters, Amelia Glenn, Rochester, NY, Esther McAuley, Annie Mildred McIver and Lillie Lois Cotton of Broadway, NC; brother, Wallace O. McLean, Columbus, Ohio; special nieces, Shirley Charles, Newark, NJ and Armelia Adams, Matawan, NJ; grandchildren, Melissa Lake, Roy and Joseph Gaines, Jr., and Angella Rodgers (Gregory); great grandchildren, Angelique Lake and Jeremiah Rodgers all reside in North Carolina; and a host of nieces, great nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.

Our Mother, Grandmother, Aunt, and Sister will be sadly missed.

Order of Service

PreludeSister Dorothy Christmas

Opening Remarks Rev. Dr. Kenneth Mitchem, Pastor

Hymn of Celebration..... “What A Friend”

Prayer of Comfort..... Rev. Dr. Lloyd P. Terrell

Scripture Readings
Old Testament - Psalms 90:10-17Rev. George Britt
New Testament - 2nd Timothy 4:6-8 Rev. Daniela Small Bailey

SelectionSt. Mark Choir

Words of Comfort..... Family, Friends and Church
Sister Alice Richards
Sister Patricia Callaway
Brother Luna Mishoe

ObituaryEvangelist Shirley Johnson

Resolutions and Cards..... Sister Catherine Willis

SelectionSt. Mark Choir

Eulogy Rev. Dr. Kenneth Mitchem

Recessional..... Clergy and Family

Interment
Fairmount Cemetery
Newark, New Jersey

Repast: St. Mark AME Church



The Road To Eternity

Life is but a stopping place,
A pause in what's to be,
A resting place along the road
To sweet Eternity.

We all have different journeys,
Different paths along the way,
We all were meant to learn something,
But never meant to stay.....

Our destination is a place far
Greater than we know,
For some, the journey's quicker,
For some, the journey's slow.
And when the journey finally ends,
We'll claim a great reward,
And find an everlasting peace,
Together with the Lord.

Acknowledgement

*The family of Annie R. Gaines wishes to acknowledge with deep appreciation the many expressions of love, concern and kindness shown to them during their time of bereavement.
May God bless and keep you.*

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