

In Loving Memory of
Edna R. Hayes



Sunrise: October 2, 1937

Sunset: July 4, 2016



Obituary

Edna R. Hayes was born on October 2, 1937 at Duke Hospital in Durham, North Carolina, to the late Katie H. Royster and Nathaniel Royster, Sr. Edna was called home on July 4, 2016, to be with her beloved husband, the late John Richard Hayes, Sr.

Edna grew up in Durham, North Carolina and attended the school system there during her childhood years. She attended and graduated from Hillside High School and met her high school sweetheart, the late John Richard Hayes, Sr. There.

On July 1, 1955, Edna married her high school sweetheart, John Richard Hayes, Sr. They started their family in 1956 and moved to New York City in 1958.

Edna began working at Chock Full O' Nuts Restaurant back in 1959 and remained there until the business was sold in 1983. In 1984, she began her career in the New York City Board of Education as a Substance Abuse Prevention and Intervention Specialist Worker and Guidance Counselor at Intermediate School 10 in Harlem, which was later named The Frederick Douglass Academy 1. It was here that she made a positive impact on the lives of many children. While being employed at the Board of Education, Edna enrolled in College at The College of New Rochelle, where she obtained a Bachelor's Degree in psychology and sociology and graduated with Honors in 1991.

Edna retired from the New York City Board of Education in 2004.

Edna was preceded in death by her sister, Helen Royster, husband, John Richard Hayes, Sr., father, Nathaniel Royster, Sr., and mother, Katie H. Royster.

Edna leaves to cherish her memory: her three children, Johnetta Hayes Smith (Levon Smith), John Richard Hayes, Jr. (Audrey Gorritz-Hayes) and her baby, LaMonica Joye Hayes; two siblings, sister, Margaret White and brother, Nathaniel Royster, Jr.; niece, Pamela Royster; and a host of grandchildren, great grandchildren, extended family and friends.

Edna traveled the world and embraced everyone with her stylish personality and as she would say, "No grass grew under my feet." Edna would light up a room with her gracious personality, and she will be truly missed by all. On behalf of the family, we would like to express our extreme gratitude for the prayers and comforting words from all.

Service

Thursday, July 14, 2016 - 6:00 p.m.

UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.

2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY 10027

Rev. Darren A. Ferguson, Senior Pastor, Officiating

Latasha Jordan, Organist

Order of Service

Processional

Selection

"One Day At A Time"

Scripture Readings

Prayer

Selection

"I Won't Complain"

Acknowledgements

Remarks

Obituary

Selection

"Going Up Yonder"

Eulogy

Committal

Viewing

Recessional

Interment

George Washington Memorial Park • Paramus, New Jersey

To Those I Love

To those I love and those that love me,
When I am gone, release me, let me go
I have so many things to see and do
You mustn't tie yourself to me with tears
Be happy that we had so many years.
I gave you my love, you can only guess
How much you gave me in happiness
I thank you for the love you each have shown
But now it's time I travel alone
So grieve for a while for me if you must
Then let your grief be comforted by trust.
It's only for a while that we must part
So bless the memories within your heart
I won't be far away, for life goes on
So if you need me, call and I will come
Though you can't see me or touch me, I'll be near
And if you listen with your heart you'll hear
All my love around you so soft and clear
And then, when you must come this way alone
I'll greet you with a smile and say,
"Welcome Home."

-Author unknown

Acknowledgement

The family acknowledges with deep appreciation all acts of kindness extended to them during this bereavement hour.
May God bless you for all your thoughtfulness and concern.

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