Homegoing Service

Celebrating the Life



Shirley Marie Goss

Sunrise. January 5, 1951

*Sunset*: July 26, 2016

<u>Service</u> Thursday, August 4, 2016 ~ 11:00 am

Agape Family Worship Church

501 East Hazelwood Avenue Rahway, New Jersey Reverend Dr. Lawrence Powell, Senior Pastor

<u>Life Reflections</u>

## A Time to be Born

*Shirley Marie Gess* was born on January 5, 1951 in Clinton, North Carolina, daughter of Vertie Mae Vann and the late Shirley McKinney Vann. She was the eldest of two children.

## A Time to Learn, Love, and Labor

Shirley received her formal education at Clear Run High School and C.N.A. Trading School before becoming a certified Clinical Care Coordinator.

In 1969, she moved to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and one year later she gave birth to her first child Charles. Shirley married Melvin Goss on March 9, 1985, and they were blessed with two daughters, Tonya and Melinda. The family relocated to Rahway, New Jersey and later to Middlesex County where she resided for 24 beautiful years with her family.

She was employed at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in Rahway for 21 years, retiring in 2011. Previously, Shirley was employed at St. Joseph's Home for the Blind in Jersey City, New Jersey for 8 years. She was a member of Local 1199 in Jersey City. She worked with the best doctors and medical staff in the state and received numerous awards throughout her career for outstanding service.

Shirley was a loving mother of three. She liked shopping, caring for her plants, and decorating homes. Her greatest joy was spending time with her children, grandchildren and family friends during Sunday dinners at Big Momma's house, and holiday dinners such as New Year's Day, Easter, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas at her house.

## A Time to Plant

"Marie," as she was affectionately known by family and friends, was a very spiritual woman who was raised in the church. She started going to Agape Family Worship Center fifteen years ago and fell in love with the church's fellowship. She attended every Sunday when her health permitted to hear the wisdom of Pastor Lawrence Powell.

On Tuesday, July 26, 2016, Shirley Marie Goss departed this earthly life to become an angel.

She leaves to cherish fond memories, her beloved husband, Melvin Goss; dear mother, Vertie Mae Vann; devoted children: Charles "Chuckie" Fennell Goss, Tonya "Tonn" Goss-Fears, Melinda "Minnie Mouse" Goss-Avent, Mark "Marcus" Goss, Tawanna Goss and Dwayne Goss; brother, Michael Vann; two sons-in-law: Shareef Fears, Sr. and Craig Avent; two daughters-in-law: Lakisha "Keda" Brown, and Laura "Renee" Ashford; cherished eleven grandchildren: Tyla Fears, Shareef Fears, Jr., Bria Carlisle, Aijon Carlisle, Nazir Fennell, Darell McLaurin, Yasmine Lane and Rashod Walters; 3 step grandchildren; 3 great-grandchildren; three brothers-in-law; nine sisters-in-law; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, dear relatives and friends.

Lovingly submitted, The Family

| Order Of Service   |
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| ProcessionalFamily   |
| Praise & Worship Selection                                       |
| Prayer of Comfort  |
| ScripturesElder George Patrick<br>Old Testament<br>New Testament |
| Musical Selection  |
| Acknowledgement of CondolencesTowanda Frazier Little             |
| ObituaryDeirdre Goode  |
| Reflections (Limit 2 minutes please)                             |
| PoemApril V. H White   |
| SoloMichele White  |
| EulogyReverend Dr. Lawrence Powell                               |
| Benediction  |

Recessional

<u>Entombment</u> Hollywood Cemetery Union, New Jersey

Immediately after the Entombment, Family and Friends are invited to return to the church for a Repast in the Fellowship 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"



<u>Pallbearers</u> Family and Friends of **Shirley Marie Goss** 

## To Those I Love & Those Who 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 traveled alone.

So grieve for me if grieve 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 or touch me, I'll be near And if you listen with your heart, you'll hear All of my love around you, soft and clear.

And then when you must come this way alone, I'll greet you with a smile and say "Welcome Home."

Acknowledgement

The family of **Shirley Marie Goss** would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation for the many thoughtful acts of kindness, support and concern extended to us during our time of bereavement. Thank you and may God richly bless you.

