In Loving Memory of





<u>Service</u> Wednesday, May 17, 2017 - 10:00 a.m.

ABYSSINIAN BAPTIST CHURCH 132 Odell Clarke Place • New York, NY 10030 *Rev. Dr. Calvin O. Butts, III, Officiating*

<u>Obituary</u>

Ernestine Allison Watts was born on January 26, 1942 in Florence, South Carolina to the late Preston Allison and the late Kathereen Age.

Ernestine graduated from Williston Senior High School in New Hanover County, Wilmington, North Carolina thereby completing her course of study on May 29, 1964 and receiving her Diploma. After graduation from high school, Ernestine married and migrated to New York City. Ernestine attended the City University of New York - Lehman College and graduated on August 24, 1973 from The Manhattan Medical Assistants' School program after completing 600 rigorous hours of training.

Ernestine was a true people person that had a zest for life. She loved people and cared about the welfare of others. Being a Medical Assistant brought her many years of joy and a great sense of accomplishment. She was sought after in the community and at work for advice because she had a sharp mind and was always willing to help. If you needed anything done administratively Ernestine was the one to get it done. She garnered much respect and adoration from her family members, friends, and associates in the Harlem community. Ernestine was an excellent cook, loved to travel and had a great sense of humor.

Ernestine loved children. She adopted and welcomed many children into her home. As the mother of six children she knew how to get things done. Ernestine was excited to transition into a new career dedicated to caring for children and helping young parents learn how to care for their children. She was well equipped with a plethora of family life experience combined with her work life experience which made her perfectly suited to become a New York State Licensed and Registered Family Day Care Child Care Provider with the United Network Organization in 2000.

Ernestine was a member of Welcome Home Church and was considered the first church mother. She truly enjoyed attending church services and last attended church on Resurrection Sunday. She loved to hear a good message and wave her hands in praise. In the early afternoon of May 10, 2017, Ernestine peacefully passed away.

Ernestine was preceded in death by her twin sister, Christine Allison Shannon. She leaves to cherish her memories: six children, Jerry A. Watts (Gwendolyn), Kenneth A. Watts (Robin), Debra A. Watts, Andrew Watts, Jr., Crystal V. Cappello (Eugene) and Victor Boria; seventeen grandchildren, LaTron Johnson, Jerry Grace Watts, Shanetra Davis, Andre' Watts, Trevor Watts, Kenneth Watts, Jr., Diamond Watts, Isaiah Watts, Ismael Boria, Tyrese Watts, Amore' Brown, Nigel Blue Watts, George Sampson, Jr., DeAnndra Sampson, London Watts, Victor Boria, Jr., Gabriel Moore Boria; two great grandchildren, Elijah Grace Watts and Blake Amiri Watts; and a host of nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.

Order of Service

Prelude

Processional Minister, Officers, Family

Invocation

Congregational Hymn "Blessed Assurance"

Scripture Reading Pastor Gwendolyn Watts, Welcome Home Church Old Testament - Psalm 46:1-7 New Testament - 1 Corinthians 15:51-57

Prayer of Comfort Reverend Roderick P. McArthur Pastor, Mount Gilead Baptist Church

Solo

Eunice Newkirk "I Won't Complain"

Tributes

Brother Trevor Watts - grandchildren Sister Debra Watts - children

The Obituary

Solo

Eunice Newkirk "Precious Lord Take My Hand"

Eulogy Reverend Dr. Calvin O. Butts, III

Benediction

Recessional "I'll Fly Away"

<u>Interment</u>

Rosehill Cemetery • Linden, New Jersey



I'm Free

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free I'm following the path God laid for me I took his hand when I heard Him call I turned my back and left it all. I could not stay another day. To laugh, to love, to work or play. Tasks left undone must stay that way, I found that peace at the close of day. If my parting has left a void, Then fill it up with remembered joy. A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss, Oh, yes these things I too will miss. Be not burdened with times of sorrow, I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow. My life's been full, I savored much. Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch. Perhaps my time seemed all too brief, Don't lengthen it now with undue grief. *Lift up your heart and share with me,* God wanted me now, He set me free!

-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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