

Home Going Service

Viola Smalls

Sunrise: February 19, 1929

Sunset: May 14, 2017



Service

Friday, May 19, 2017 - 10:00 a.m.

ST. JAMES A.M.E. CHURCH

2010 5th Avenue • New York, NY

Officiating

Reverend Ato Sparkman

Reverend Benjamin Singleton, Jr.

Reverend Juanita Houston-Brown

Organist

Professor Luke Elmore

Obituary

Viola Smalls was born on February 19, 1929 in Charleston, South Carolina to the late David and Sara Greene. Viola and her eight siblings attended Mother Emmanuel A.M.E Church. She was educated in the Charleston Public School system until she ventured off to New York City to live with her older sister Laura. There she met her longtime friend, the late Mamie Cammeron and her husband of 53 years, the late Cleve Smalls, Sr. Viola held assembly line and housekeeper positions until she reached the age of retirement.

Viola became a dedicated member of St. James AME Church in 1956, under the leadership of the late Reverend James Rivers. During her 61 year membership, she served as class leader, member of the Senior Choir, Senior Usher Board, President of the Chancel Choir and Senior Usher Board, Vice Chairperson of Steward Board and Officer. Her dedication to her church did not go unnoticed, as she received many certificates of appreciation for her service and attendance. Viola was also presented with the Recognition of Her Faithful Service Award at James/St. Phillip AME 60th Church Anniversary in 2011.

If you were blessed to know Viola Smalls, you would consider her your second mother, as she treated everyone as her own. From giving advice to telling you how she felt. Her spirit always remained faithful to God even when her sight became impaired, disabling her to do many things. She loved to dress, share her childhood stories, listen to gospel music, watch Jeopardy, Wheel of Fortune, as well as daytime stories and old Western movies.

On Sunday, May 14, 2017, Viola departed this life at age 88. She was preceded in death by her husband, Cleve Smalls, Sr., two sisters, Elizabeth and Laura, three brothers, Jesse, David and Herbert.

She leaves to cherish her precious memories: four children, Cleve A. Jr. (Rene), Ronald, Joan, and Darryl (Dee Dee); two sisters, Anna Ruth Williams and Bertha Lee Stevenson; two sisters-in-law, Ernestine Murphy (Albert) and Vivian Smalls; one brother-in-law, David Smith; ten grandchildren, Darnell (Estelle), James (Audra), Andrea, Baron (Teisha), Jamel (Lindsey), Chimere, Travis, Brianna, Brielle, and Monroe; eleven great grandchildren, Amori, Colin, Jahmiq, Jahlia, Jayden, Tristan, Autumn, Rokia, Raeona, Nathan and De'ja; and two great great grandchildren, Tamara and Kyrie.

Humbly Submitted,
The Family

Order of Service

Organ Prelude.....Professor Luke Elmore

Processional

Opening Hymn....."Blessed Assurance", (Jesus is Mine)

Prayer of Comfort.....Reverend Juanita Houston-Brown

Scripture Readings

Old Testament: Psalm 23

New Testament: John 14:1-6

Solo.....Sis. Mary Wigfall

Acknowledgements, Condolences.....Charisse Chavers

Obituary.....Charisse Chavers

Resolution.....Reverend Juanita Houston-Brown

Reflections.....Reverend Ato Sparkman
St. James/St. Phillips AME Church

Solo.....Sis. Adrian Lincoln

Remarks

Selection.....Mass Choir

Eulogy.....Reverend Benjamin Singleton, Jr.

Lord's Prayer

Committal

Benediction

Interment

Calverton National Cemetery
Calverton, New York

John 14:1-6

Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know. Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way? Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

Acknowledgement

The family wishes to express their deep appreciation and sincere thanks for all acts of kindness shown to them in their time of sorrow.

2352 8th Avenue • Manhattan, NY • (212) 666-8300

1406 Pitkin Avenue • Brooklyn, NY • (718) 774-1023

1018 Prospect Avenue • Bronx, NY • (718) 542-3833

Clifford V. James, President & CEO

www.unityfuneralchapels.com

email: unityfc@aol.com

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