

**CELEBRATING THE LIFE
OF**

Carena Watkins

Sunrise: October 28, 1922 - Sunset: June 4, 2017



**Service:
Saturday, June 10, 2017 - 10:00 AM**

**PARADISE BAPTIST CHURCH
348-352 15th Avenue • Newark, New Jersey 07103
Bishop Jethro C. James, Jr., Officiating**

Obituary

Carena Watkins aka BigMa born October 28 1922 to the late Percie and Mattie Long in Louisburg, North Carolina departed this life on Sunday June 4, 2017 at University Hospital in Newark, New Jersey. She was educated in the Franklin County school system. At an early age she proclaimed salvation and joined the Walnut Grove Baptist Church in Louisburg, North Carolina.

She migrated to Washington, D.C. where she married the late Jessie Watkins on March 25, 1944. From this union 5 children were born. She enjoyed taking care of her family. BigMa loved preparing a good old southern breakfast for out towners which consists of homemade biscuits, steak, gravy, rice or a homemade apple pie. On Sunday mornings when she had family circle prayer you had to be prepared to say a bible scripture. She was not ashamed to tell her age. She was proud to be 94. However, you could not tell her age from the elegant outfits topped off with the perfect hat.

In 1960, Jessie and Carena relocated to Newark, New Jersey from Washington, D.C. She joined First NewBorn Tabernacle under Pastor Clarence Richardson. She was a Sunday school teacher, recording secretary, missionary, trustee and on the Mother Board. She also organized an annual Family & Friends day. She received several awards and recognition for outstanding work in the Church. Mother Watkins joined Paradise Baptist Church under the leadership of Bishop Jethro C. James, Jr. after the illness of her former Pastor, Rev. Dr. Wanda E. Richardson. She was a praiser and believed in worship. Mother Watkins truly loved the Lord. She was a loving mother, grandmother, great/great grandmother, sister, aunt and friend to many who knew her.

She leaves to mourn her cherished memories two daughters Sylvia Clagon-Lloyd (Louis) Waldorf, MD, Joyce Elaine White, Newark, NJ, two sisters Maxine Yarborough and Doretha Pridgeon (Otis) East Orange, NJ, one brother Lonnie P. Long (Boot) Washington, D.C, 12 grandchildren, 22 great grandchildren, 6 great-great grandchildren and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her husband Jessie Watkins, three sons, Carl, Roger and Danny Watkins and three brothers, Edward (EC), Eddie and Bennie Robert Long.

Order of Service

Processional

Selection

Scripture Reading

Old Testament

New Testament

Prayer of Comfort

Selection

Remarks..... (Two minutes each please)

First New Born Tabernacle Church....Evang. Beulah Perry and Min. Sabrina Martin

Granddaughter.....Desiree Clagon

Sisters.....Doretha Pridgeon & Maxine Yarborough

Daughter.....Sylvia Clagon-Lloyd

Liturgical Dance.....Yasmin Watkins
"Never Could Have Made It"

Letter To The Family from Chris White.....Tara Weaver

Acknowledgements

ObituaryPamela Watkins (PC)

Selection

EulogyBishop Jethro C. James, Jr.

Recessional

INTERMENT
Hollywood Cemetery
Union, New Jersey

Don't

*Don't spend too much time in mourning,
Tears are for the sad;
I left to be with Jesus
And this should make you glad.
Don't waste your hours in grieving,
No need to feel distress;
I'm tired of life's frustrations
And had to get some rest.
Don't puzzle yourself with questions
Or try to reason why
Life here for me was ended,
It came my time to die.
Don't lose the love I gave you
Feed it with your care;
Grow it with devotion
And spread it everywhere.
Don't fret because my leaving
Came in such a way;
We'll have another meeting
In God's eternal day.*

-Author unknown

"Together Again"



Acknowledgement

Perhaps you sent a lovely card or sat quietly in a chair.
Perhaps you sent a floral piece If so, we saw it there.
Perhaps you spoke the kindest words as any friend could say.
Perhaps you were not there at all just thought of us on that day.
Whatever you did to console our hearts, We Thank You, Whatever the part.

Professional Services Provided By

COTTON FUNERAL SERVICE
130 Main Street
Orange, NJ
973-675-6400

1025 Bergen Street
Newark, NJ
973-926-6400

COTTON-PARKER FUNERAL HOME
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