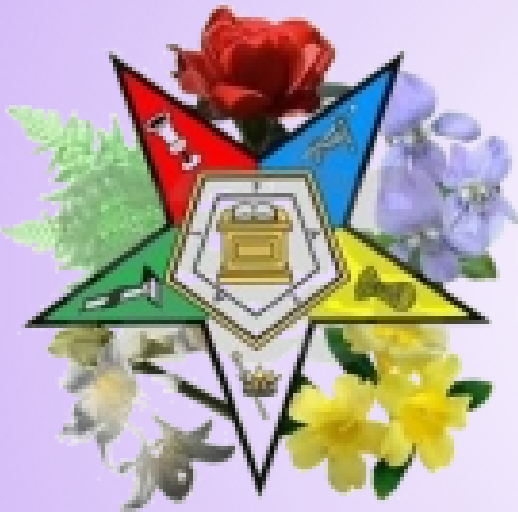


*In Loving Memory of*  
**Pearl Graham-Brown**

**Sunrise**

October 24, 1932



**Sunset**

June 21, 2017

**Service**

Wednesday, June 28, 2017 - 10:00 AM

**Greater Abyssinian Baptist Church**

88 Lyons Avenue, Newark, NJ 07112

**Evangelist Richards - Officiating**

## Obituary

Pearl M. Graham-Brown aka 'Na-Na" aka "Mama Brown" was born in Darlington, South Carolina on October 24, 1932 to the late Ernest Graham and Lucille Singletary. She was the second child of three children. Pearl lived her formative years in Darlington and Florence South Carolina where she was educated. She graduated from Wilson High School in 1949. In Florence, after graduating from high school, she worked as a Presser at Florence Steam Laundry and a cook at Horn's restaurant. She attended Mount Zion Baptist Church where she was baptized by Reverend E. H. Anthony.

In 1973, the family relocated to Newark, New Jersey where Pearl worked for the Association for Retarded Citizens (ARC) on Sanford Street in East Orange for twenty-seven years. She also worked for Essex County Youth House for five years. In 2001, she retired from ARC. Pearl joined the International Free Modern and Accepted Masons where she was a member of Chapter Peace 120 for nineteen years.

Pearl was very family oriented. She was the matriarch of the family. Her sister, Edith, Brother - in- law, Aaron and mother, Lucille died with young children and Pearl had to raise all three of them along with her own three children, Later, she met the love of her life, the late Willie Brown and had her last child. She played an integral part in the rearing of every child that was born into the family.

Pearl was a Mother, Grandmother, Aunt, Sister and Most of all a Friend. She was the rock of this family and we love her very, very much. She was a strong, independent, black woman who was the glue that kept the family together. Wherever she moved, her entire family went with her.

She stressed the importance of education and a strong work ethic that is seen in the example of he life. All her offspring portray the same traits.

She was a loving and caring individual. Everyone who met her loved her. She would help anyone who needed it. She would always say to treat people kind because you never knew when you would need someone. When you are climbing the stairs of success, the same people you see going up the stairs are the same ones you see coming down. She was wise that way.

Pearl was a very spiritual woman who continued her walk of faith when she joined Greater Abyssinian Baptist Church under Reverend Zimmerman. She became a missionary under Reverend Dr. Allen Potts where she continued her work until her health no longer allowed her to. Pearl loved life and lived it to the fullest. She enjoyed being with her family, laughing, talking and fellowshiping with each other. She supported all the members in whatever endeavor they pursued. You always knew you had an ally. But she was no push over. If you were wrong she let you know. She wanted the best from the members in her family.

Pearl was preceded in death by her parents Ernest Graham, Lucille Singletary, her loving husband, Willie Brown, her sister and brother-in-law, Edith (Aaron) Robinson, her daughter, Belinda Graham (Ronnie), her son, Ernest Graham and her nephew Angelo Ross.

Pearl leaves to cherish her memories three daughters: Deliah Ann Hart Newark, NJ, Michelle (Troy) Jenkins Montclair, NJ and Mary Graham Newark, NJ; One sister, Movena Ross Newark, NJ, Four Nieces, Faye (Earnest) Quarterman West Palm Beach, Florida, Lucinda Robinson, Royal Palm Beach, Florida, Gwendolyn (OJ) Simpson Irvington, NJ; Betty (Michael) Chasen; One Nephew, Jonathan Ross Sr Newark, NJ; Seven Grandchildren; Lutricia Bines Newark, NJ, Sharonda (Andrew) Thomas East Orange, NJ, Joshua Wright Newark, NJ, Martin Brown Jr Montclair, NJ. Jason Graham Newark, NJ, Marcell Brown Montclair, NJ and Zakirah Graham Newark, NJ; and a host of great nieces, nephews and great, great grandchildren.

# Order of Service

Processional

Opening Prayer..... Deacon Harper

Scripture Reading.....Evangelist Mincey

Old Testament

New Testament

Musical Selection.....Musician

Remarks.....Family & Friends

Acknowledgements / Obituary Reading.....Sharonda Thomas

Music Selection.....Musician

Letter to My Family.....Michelle Jenkins

Eulogy.....Evangelist Richards

Closing Prayers.....Evangelist Richards

Recessional

## **Interment**

Evergreen Cemetery  
Hillside, New Jersey

## **Pall Bearers**

Aaron Robinson Sr.

Andrew Thomas

Kwame Robinson

Aaron Robinson Jr.

Troy Jenkins Sr.

Mustafa Stribling

# LETTER TO MY FAMILY

I see you over there grieving, crying, feeling sad, wishing I was still with you. I know this is painful and it hurts. I know you all loved me and need me still. We have been together a very long time. Eighty-four wonderful years as a matter of fact. My life was a good one filled with lots of love. Each and every one of you filled my heart with joy. I am so proud of the women and men you have become. You are my legacy. A little piece of me lives in each and every one of you. So, open up your hearts and let me shine through. Let my lessons show you the way.

For the time has come to go our separate way. I must now go on this journey alone at least until I meet up with our departed loved ones. But before I go and the light of me in your hearts start to grow dimmer. I want you to think back and reflect on how things used to be. How close we all were. How we leaned on each other. No matter the obstacle, big or small, as long as we were together we could conquer all. United we stood, divided we fall. Like a hand balled into a fist, we could deliver a mighty blow. It is these times that tests your moral character and the love we have for each other. You know, tomorrow is not promise to anyone, young or old. And today might be the last chance you get to hold each other tight. So if you are waiting for tomorrow, then why not today? For if tomorrow never comes, you will regret the day that you didn't take the extra time for a smile, hug or kiss. You were too busy or angry to tell each other how much you love one another and that you will always hold each other dear. Take the time to say, "I'm sorry," "please forgive me," "thank you" or "it's okay." Because you may not have another day. Life is too short to waste this time. Love each other now. Regenerate our family bond. Remember Family over everything. Because if tomorrow never comes, you will have no regrets about today. I will be watching so make me proud. I love you all so don't be sad that I am gone.

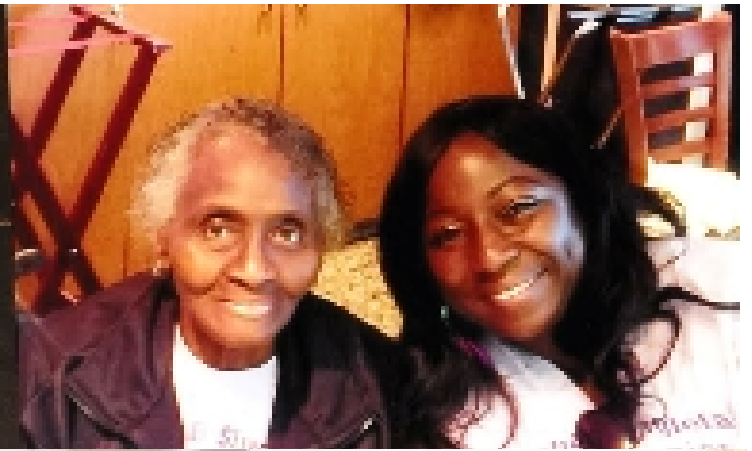
# *Pearl Graham-Brown*

Financial Secretary

Chapter Peace 120

*“I Am My Sister’s Keeper”*





**In  
LOVING MEMORY OF  
PEARL GRAHAM-BROWN...**

**Dear Mother:**

We are at a loss for words.  
Your death was so unexpected.  
We always thought there was enough  
time to hear your voice,  
to see your face, to enjoy your  
smile at least once more.  
Our hearts are broken and our pain cuts deep.  
We toss and turn and cannot sleep.  
We remember, well,  
all the lessons you taught.  
How you touched so many people  
and gave some a new start.  
Now, we hear your voice  
like whispers in the wind.  
You are gone too soon, dear mother.  
Rest in heaven and in peace for you are forever loved.  
Your Family

***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, the Graham Family 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  
37 Clinton Avenue  
Jersey City, NJ  
201-433-1000

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