

Celebrating the Life of
Gwendolyn Powell-Stewart

March 15, 1922 - June 10, 2017



Viewing - 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Saturday, July 1, 2017 - 4:00 p.m.

ETERNITY FUNERAL SERVICES
725 E. Gun Hill Road • Bronx, NY 10467
Pastor Gloria Johnson, Officiating
Ian Staley, Organist

Obituary

Gwendolyn Powell-Stewart affectionately known as “Miss Mama” was born in Oriente Province, Cuba on March 15, 1922. She was the first child of eight to Oscar Powell and Estella Mason. At the age of 16, she moved to Jamaica where she resided in Seaforth St. Thomas, then later Hillside. Here she would now embark on a new journey. After a couple years of living in Hillside, she met the love of her life Nathaniel Stewart (Mass Natty). This unbreakable, lovely union produced 10 children: Bundy, Dellyman, Horace, Salma, Adrian, Aubrey, Zelda, Jud, Vel & Nad. Gwendolyn was a strong and hardworking mother who did domestic work for a living. She was known as the lady you can count on for the best and neatest ironed garments in her community. Her seams they say, you could see a mile away and would cut your fingers because of how sharp they were.

Gwendolyn made sure all her children were well taught within every aspect of their lives whether it may be how to cook or how to handle household chores. She was an excellent cook and this was no secret, you would always hear people talking about her sweet potato pudding and her home cooked meals. Miss mama was one of Hillside’s dearest mothers, she would always have a pot of gungo or chicken soup on her stove every Saturday. She was always a praying woman, she ensured her grandchildren went to church and you would often hear her praying calling each person by name, praying for her children, grandchildren, friends near and far including the entire hillside community.

As her children got older and decided to leave home, Mamas role as grandma began. She soon packed up herself and Papa to move to Stewart Field St. Thomas, where she would help to take care of her grand and great grandchildren.

After some years Mama got the opportunity to migrate to New York where she would be closer to some of her kids, and her grandchildren, she would even take care of the little ones. Living in the states often made Gwendolyn nostalgic, she would tell her grandkids about her life in Cuba and in Jamaica. Sometimes she would teach us a few words in Spanish which we would often forget. She would teach her grandkids the running of the kitchen for example how to make chicken foot soup, plantain flitters and her famous potato pudding. There was never a dull moment with mama because she would give us jokes with that spicy

mouth of hers. She would light up the room anywhere she went. Her constant loving presence shaped us as a family.

Mama was truly a precious angel to us and we will always hold onto the love she left with us. Miss mama wasn't only a sister, a mother, wife, grandmother and friend. She was a fighter, a believer, a teacher and a guide. She was a perfectionist, an umpire, a comforter and a mentor. The reason she touched so many lives and affected so many people was due to her dynamic sense of being. In the same breath, she would praise and holler at you (I'm sure we can all recall times when mama would holler at us for one thing or another). I've always thought of mama as immortal. We looked up to our grandparents with a sense of awe as they represent so much history and so many memories.

We have no doubt that she loved us as much as humanly possible, no matter what she was doing, she spent one on one time with each of us. It is rare for a grandparent grandchildren relationship to be so essential and so long lasting, but then mama was that exceptional kind of person every single day.

Before her passing my grandmother had more energy and interest in life more than anyone I have ever known, she would encourage her family to be good and live good. Gwendolyn was a wife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother, aunt, friend and confidant. She enjoyed going to church when she could, and was a blessing to those who came across her in whatever way.

While at Kaplan Comfort Home in Newburgh, NY, after giving us 95 wonderful years, she was called to rest on June 10, 2017 at 2am.

Gwendolyn was pre-deceased by her husband Nathaniel Stewart, sons Bundy and Horace, and daughter Zelda. God, faith and family were her most treasured possessions. So, it is only fitting that we join here today to give her the farewell she deserves.

Gwendolyn leaves to cherish her memory, children Dellyman, Salma, Adrian, Aubrey, Overley, Veletia and Verine, 33 grandchildren and 33 great grandchildren, nieces and nephews, cousins, other relatives and lots of friends.

It is said that those who touch our lives inspire us and love us. And they do so for a lifetime. Today we honor and celebrate her life and her love. Our lives are more colorful because she was a part of it. We have the opportunity today to remember and share her treasured stories and know that it was all of us- her family and friends- who helped mama live a long and happy life.

Order of Service

- Opening Hymn “How Great Thou Art”
- Opening Prayer Pastor A.R. Hibbert
- First Scripture Reading Psalm 90
Camealle Chambers (granddaughter)
- Selection Marcia Phipps (friend)
- Second Scripture Reading 1 Thessalonians 4:1-18
Charlton Ellis Jr. (grandson)
- Selection Joy Fellowship Christian Ministries
- Tributes Open
- Eulogy Arianna Harris & Ann-Sheree Rogers
(granddaughters)
- Hymn “My Hope is Built on Nothing Less”
- Sermon Pastor Gloria Johnson
- Prayer for the Family Pastor Gloria Johnson
- Final Viewing Eternity Funeral Services Director

Repast

After the service, please join the family for repast and fellowship at the Primrose Cricket Club located at 3838 White Plains Road Bronx, New York 10467.

Interment

***Saturday, July 15, 2017
Spring Cemetery
St. Thomas, Jamaica***

How Great Thou Art

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds thy hands have made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed:

Refrain

*Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee:
How great thou art! How great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee:
How great thou art! How great thou art!*

When through the woods and forest glades I wander
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees,
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur,
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze:

Refrain

And when I think that God, his Son not sparing,
Sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin.

Refrain

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,
And there proclaim, My God, how great thou art!

My Hope Is Built On Nothing Less

My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus' blood and righteousness.
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain:

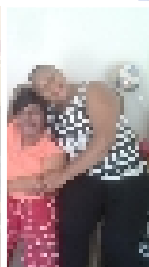
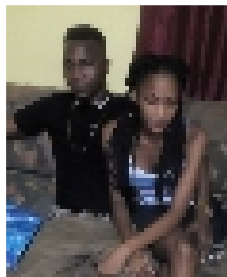
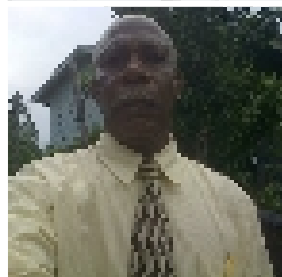
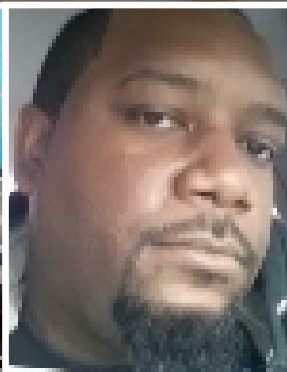
On Christ the solid rock I stand,
all other ground is sinking sand;
all other ground is sinking sand.

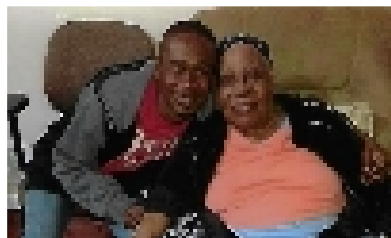
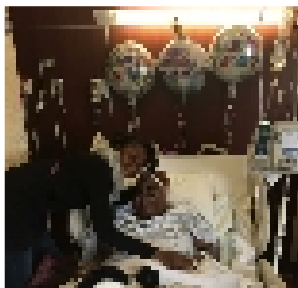
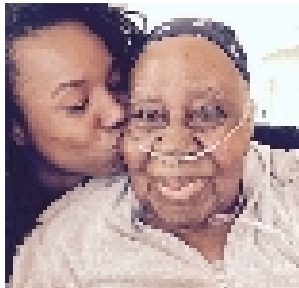
When Darkness veils his lovely face,
I rest on his unchanging grace.
In every high and stormy gale,
my anchor holds within the veil.
(Refrain)

His oath, his covenant, his blood
supports me in the whelming flood.
When all around my soul gives way,
he then is all my hope and stay.
(Refrain)

When he shall come with trumpet
sound,
O may I then in him be found!
Dressed in his righteousness alone,
faultless to stand before the throne!
(Refrain)









Acknowledgement

The family of Gwendolyn Powell-Stewart acknowledges with great appreciation all acts of kindness, sympathy and love extended to us during this time of bereavement.

Eternity 
Funeral Services

Eternity Funeral Services, LLC

Karrie O. Harvey-Edwards
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