

In Loving Memory of

Cynthia McGriff



Sunrise: May 27, 1958

Sunset: July 5, 2017

Service

Thursday, July 13, 2017 - 9:00 a.m.

BERNARD DOWD FUNERAL HOME

165-02 Hillside Avenue • Jamaica, New York

Rev. Dr. Sedgwick Easley, Officiating

Obituary

Cynthia (Merritt) McGriff daughter of the late William and Jesse Fay St Omer was born on May 27th 1958 in NY, NY. Cynthia was preceded in death by her father, William, her mother, Fay and nephew, Delon Hines.

Cynthia attended St. Monica's Catholic School, Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, graduating from Jamaica High School. Cynthia worked as a care giver for 36 years, working for various agencies until she began working for herself caring for adults and children (sometimes both at the same time).

On August 26th 1977, she was united in marriage to Darrell McGriff. Through this union they had a daughter, Tawanda who Cynthia loved wholeheartedly. Cynthia was a devoted wife and mother.

Cynthia's goal as a young girl was to be a mother. Cynthia was the matriarch of her family. She assisted her sister in raising her nieces and nephew as if they were her own. Cynthia took in and raised Cassandra Scott as her own daughter at the age of 10.

Cynthia was a prayer warrior who believed anything was possible as long as you kept your faith in God. She was everyone's confidant, protector, nurturer, mother, and best friend. Cynthia had the kind of strength that would give you strength.

Cynthia's favorite pastime was watching musicals, classical movies and tv shows. She could make a meal out of anything and with anything. Cynthia enjoyed holidays and made sure she had decorations for each one.

Cynthia found eternal peace on July 5th, 2017. She left to carry her legacy: her husband, Darrell McGriff; sisters, Nora St Omer, Elizabeth (Sissy) Chavours, and Renee (Rita) Hartwell; daughters, Tawanda McGriff (Stanley Fuller) and Cassandra Scott; grandchildren, Sheajuan Brownlow, Shakyai Brownlow (Towanna), Edward Khalil Fountain, Elan Fountain, Camari Woodard, Izaha Jackson, Jamere Jackson, and Stephen Falana; great grandson, Savion Brownlow; nieces, Rasheedah Muwwakkil, Maryam Muwwakkil, and Khadijah Muwwakkil; nephews, William Muwwakkil, and Erik Hines (Crystal); sister-in-law, Deborah McGriff (Orlando); brothers-in-law, Larry Johnson (Kim), Glenn Davis (Sylvia), Kenny Johnson (Laurie), and Dwayne Johnson (Maureen); uncles, Robert McGriff (Aquilla), Nathaniel McGriff (Stephanie), Larry Austin, Stanley McGriff, and Walter Moore (Marge); her special girls, Gina Wren, Sanora Boykin, Lateisha Scott, Shadena Johnson and Shantell Lester; extended family, The Fuller's, the Beverly's, the Rice's, the Jamison's, the Blue's, the Nelson's, the Green's, and a host of family and friends.

Sorrowfully submitted by Cynth's family

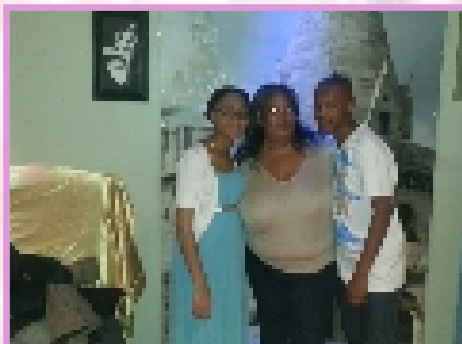
Order of Service

Prelude	“Precious Lord” Mahalia Jackson
Processional	“Jesus Promised Me A Home” Jennifer Hudson
Scripture - Psalms 23	Kara Jamison
Scripture - Revelations 21:1-7	Nora St Omer
Prayer of Comfort	Tajhala Miller
Solo.....	“Walk Around Heaven/Precious Jesus” Shonta Walker
Reflections.....	Renee Hartwell Khadijah Muwwakkil Towanna Julien
A Letter.....	from Tawanda
Acknowledgments	Kara Jamison
Obituary Reading.....	Cassandra Scott
Solo	“Don't Cry For Me” Shonta Walker
Eulogy	Rev. Dr. Sedgwick Easley
Recessional.....	“Stay Gold” Stevie Wonder





Precious Memories



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

Legacy of Love

Unknown Author

*A wife, a mother, a grandmother too.
This is the legacy I leave to you.
You taught us love and how to fight.
You gave us strength, you gave us might.
A stronger person would be hard to find.
And in your heart, you were so kind.
You fought for us all in one way or another.
Not just as a wife not just as a mother.
For all of us you gave your best.
Now the time has come for you to rest.
So go in peace, you've earned your sleep.
Your love in our hearts, we'll eternally keep.*

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. We would also like to specially thank Arretus and Crystal Blue and family, Richie Rhue, and Calvin Nelson for their assistance in our time of bereavement.

