

*In Loving
Memory of
Josie D. Brown*



Sunrise: August 28, 1926

Sunset: August 17, 2017

Thursday, August 24, 2017 - 11:00 a.m.

HOPE REFORMED CHURCH

308 Burgess Place
Clifton, New Jersey

Reflections of Life

Josie Drakeford Brown was born August 28, 1926, in Kershaw County, South Carolina. She was the only daughter of the late Belton Drakeford and Ellen Alexander Drakeford. Josie moved to Paterson, New Jersey in the 1950s. She moved to Laurel, Maryland with her youngest daughter in 2006. Josie entered into eternal rest on August 17, 2017.

After attending South Carolina State College for two years, Josie became a teacher and taught in a one room school house in Kershaw County, South Carolina. She loved mentioning the old days when she had to light the old stove so the classroom would be warm before her students came to class. After she moved to Paterson, New Jersey she worked at Universal Corp. for many years. While raising two very small children, Josie decided to return to college to complete her bachelor's degree. While attending William Paterson College, she was hired by the Paterson Board of Education as a teacher's associate and was assigned to public school 28. In 1976, Josie completed her Bachelor of Arts degree in early childhood education and received her teaching certification. She was reassigned to public school 24 where she taught 2nd and 3rd grade and was named teacher of the year in 1986. She retired from teaching in 1992.

Josie loved learning and instilled that in her children. She was an avid reader and would read several newspapers a day. She also enjoyed word find puzzles. Josie taught Sunday school and vacation bible school. She was an active participant in her seniors group when she resided in Paterson, and enjoyed the various seniors' trips and outings. During her retirement, she also served as a literacy volunteer.

During Josie's lifetime, she was an active member of several churches and participated in a number of religious clubs and organizations. She grew up attending Bingham Chapel AME Zion Church in Dekalb, South Carolina. During her residence in Paterson, New Jersey, she was a member of Faith Chapel Reformed Church and New AME Zion Church. When she moved to Laurel, Maryland, she joined Mt Zion United Methodist Church.

Josie was preceded in death by her first husband, Roscoe Cunningham; her beloved second husband and father of her children, Robert Brown; her parents, Belton and Ellen Drakeford; three brothers, Randolph Drakeford, Coleman Drakeford and Curtis Drakeford.

Josie is survived by three daughters, Dr. Deborah Brown, Robinette Brown, and Rosita Brown Card; brother, Oliver Drakeford; son-in-law, Moses Card; daughter-in-law, Cynthia Coppola Brown; sisters-in-law, Georgianna Drakeford and Juanita Drakeford; grandchildren, Sheryl Brown and Rev. Tyrone Brown; three great grandchildren, Sequoria Brown, Andrea Brown, and Jasmine Brown; granddaughter-in-law and caregiver, Damaris Brown; her tiny companion poodle, Brandy; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.









Order of Service

Processional

Greeting

Saxophone Selection “Precious Lord”
Daughter, Robinette Brown

Scripture Reading

Old Testament.....Psalm 23

New TestamentJohn 14:1-8

Prayer of Comfort.....Pastor Eric Farrar

Selection.....Linzie Tynes

Poem Sequoria Brown

Church Acknowledgements, Cards & Remarks

Reflections of Life

Selection.....Linzie Tynes

Eulogy Rev. Tyrone Brown

Benediction

Closing Hymn “We’ll Understand It Better By and By”

Recessional

Interment

George Washington Memorial Park
Paramus, New Jersey

God's Garden

God looked around His garden
and found an empty place.
Then He looked down upon the earth
and saw your tired face.
He placed His arms around you
and lifted you to rest.
God's garden must be beautiful,
for He only takes the best.
He saw the road was getting rough
and the hills were hard to climb,
so He closed your eyelids
and whispered "Peace be Thine."
It broke our hearts to lose you
but you did not go alone,
a part of us went with you
the day God called you home.

Acknowledgement

The family wishes to acknowledge with deep appreciation the many expressions of love, concern and kindness shown to them during this hour of bereavement. May God Bless and Keep You!

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