

*In Loving Memory of*



*Mary Frances Henderson*

*Sunrise: November 7, 1924*

*Sunset: August 13, 2017*

Service

*Friday, August 25, 2017 - 10:00 a.m.*

**UNITY FUNERAL CHAPELS, INC.**

2352 8th Avenue • New York, NY 10027

*Rev. Dr. Sidney Hargrave, Officiating*

*Rev. Tyrone Richardson, Organist*

# *The Life Of* *Mary Frances Henderson*

Born to Pallie Mae Bonner and Laney Bonner on November 7, 1924, in Montgomery County, North Carolina. Mary Frances Bonner received her early education at the Laurinburg Institute, a historic African American preparatory school in Laurinburg, North Carolina. Afterwards, she attended Winston State Teacher's College for two years. Shortly after that, she moved to New York City, where she would spend the rest of her life.

On January 24, 1943, Frances, as she was known to family and close friends, married John Wesley Cress. She would later marry twice more, William Henry Copney in 1961 and Wilbert Lee Henderson in 1979. Wilbert passed away on February 10, 2002. She had two sons, Richard Cagle of San Francisco, born in 1945, and Kevin Cress of New York City, born in 1955. Her sons were raised by her mother, Pallie Mae Cagle and her maternal aunt, Rosa Watlington, both of Pinehurst, North Carolina.

In her early days in New York, she worked as a domestic. Later she began working in a facility that made parts for televisions. Most of her working life, however, was spent at the United States Post Office, where she worked first as a mail handler and then as a supervisor until she retired in 1987.

Frances was a fun-loving woman and loved to party. That remained true until her later years when she started to become withdrawn. This withdrawal coincided with the onset of alzheimer's disease.

# *Order of Service*

*Processional*

*Selection*

*Scripture Readings*

*Prayer*

*Selection*

*Acknowledgements*

*Remarks*

*Obituary*

*Selection*

*Eulogy*

*Committal*

*Recessional*

*Interment*

*Rosedale Cemetery  
Linden, New Jersey*

# *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!*

## *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.*

---

**2352 8th Avenue • Manhattan, NY • (212) 666-8300**

**1406 Pitkin Avenue • Brooklyn, NY • (718) 774-1023**

**1018 Prospect Avenue • Bronx, NY • (718) 542-3833**

*Clifford V. James, President & CEO*

[www.unityfuneralchapels.com](http://www.unityfuneralchapels.com)

[email: unityfc@aol.com](mailto:unityfc@aol.com)



*"Your Loved Ones Deserve The Best - Unity"*

