

*Celebrating the Life &  
Legacy of*

*Arlene G. Davis*

**Sunrise: July 5, 1940 - Sunset: August 16, 2017**



**Service:**

Saturday, August 26, 2017 - 11:00 a.m.

**ZION BAPTIST CHURCH**

459 Avon Avenue • Newark, New Jersey



## Obituary



It was 77 years ago that the Almighty God graced the earth with his daughter and servant **Arlene Davis**. She was born on July 5, 1940, the day after Independence Day and many believe that is where she obtained her independent spirit. She was born to Alice Jones and John Carr in Long Branch, New Jersey where she was raised and educated. She graduated from Long Branch High School and went on to become a phlebologist. Arlene had a slight change of heart and decided to continue her education at Jersey City State College and received a B.A. in Sociology.

While completing her education, she raised two extraordinary children her pride and joy, Sheryl and John. Arlene had a great respect for education and the pursuit of learning and instilled that respect in her children. Sheryl and John were her crowning glory and she voraciously protected them and loved them unconditionally. She raised her children in a Christ centered home and was unwavering in her efforts to instill Christian values and in that effort, she was very successful.

Her desire to impart this faith in God stemmed from her own upbringing in a Christian home by the woman that raised her Sadie Jewell, and that upbringing was an intricate part of her life until her last days. She knew how to call on the name of Jesus even in her most devastating moments. Her faith was unshakable.

The years will show her developing into a woman of excellence, compassion, and integrity. She was able to become a woman of God that demonstrated the fruits of the spirit and live a Christ centered life. Arlene had a very caring spirit and never sought recognition or the limelight. She often unselfishly gave to others and various organizations asking only not to be acknowledged. She often said "Only God needs to know my heart and my deeds."

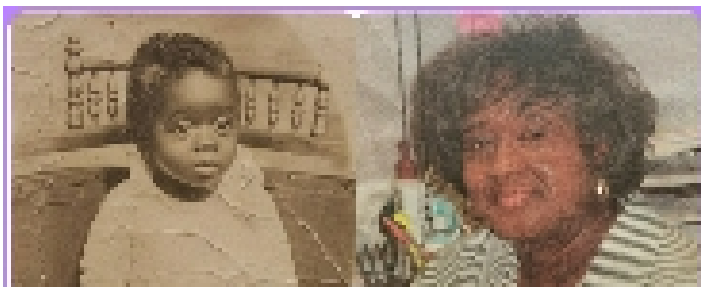
Her passion to assist others would lead to twenty-five years of employment with the Essex County Division of Welfare as a social worker. Arlene was known as an advocate for her clients, always encouraging, supporting and treating them with respect.

Her love for people and God led her to join Zion Baptist Church where she became a deaconess and an astute bible student. She loved bible study and her church's teaching ministry. Her pastor states that she had a hunger and passion for the truth and that is only revealed in the Word of God.

Arlene leaves a legacy of faith, endurance, perseverance, and compassion but the greatest gifts she leaves is her unconditional love for her family and friends.

She leaves to cherish her memory, her beloved son John K. Davis, her sisters Jean Burke, Deloris Tilghman, her nieces: Shlaina Smith, Charmaine Tilghman, her nephews Keith Jones, Andre Tilghman, and Kymir Williamson, her goddaughters: Carol Clark and Doris Lee, and godson Vernon S. Bush and a host of relatives and friends.

Arlene is preceded in death by her daughter Sheryl A. Davis, her sister Doris Jones, her brother Milton Davis.



# Order of Service

Organ Prelude

Processional.....Clergy and Family

Opening Hymn #288...“We’ll understand it Better By and By”

Scripture Reading

Old Testament..... Lamentations 3:22-32

New Testament..... I Corinthians 15:51-57

Prayer of Comfort..... Rev. Dr. Jamillah Mantilla

Selection.....Combine Choir

Poems or Readings from the Family Members

Selection

Acknowledgements & Reflections

Reading of the Obituary.....Doris Lee

Selection..... Reverend Deborah Cooper

Eulogy.....Reverend Wilton Gyant, Sr., Pastor

Final Remarks.....Reverend John K. Davis

Final Viewing

## **INTERMENT**

White Ridge Cemetery  
Eatontown, New Jersey

# Mom

I am so grateful that God blessed me with almost fifty-one years of your glorious presence. You showed me so many dimensions of the Eternal Father's love through your life and testimony. You showed me the art of forgiveness, the art of loving unconditionally and the art of endurance. You wiped my tears, loved me through pain, accepted all my flaws and idiosyncrasies with the warm touch of a mother's love. You were my biggest cheerleader, you wanted me to win and face the world on my own terms. You equipped me with enough Godly tools to get me out of any situation. You constantly remind me to trust in God and wait for the manifestation of his glory. Many say you spoiled me, but the definition of spoiling is to treat with excessive indulgence or to make unfit for use, however you did the opposite. You empowered me with the ability to me to love myself, treat others with love and respect, and to never compromise my Christian standards or values. Someone once said, "You go high while they go low." You didn't just say that you mirrored that mantra through your daily walk. I saw how you could navigate through life's most challenging situations with elegance, passion, and grace. I saw how you walked through misfortune, accusations, and misunderstandings but you kept walking and allowed the grace of God to navigating each step. The grace of God was with you through every tragedy and triumph, and you didn't succumb to fear and doubt, you kept your eyes on the author and finisher of your faith Jesus. You were a reservoir of wisdom, wit, and knowledge and I'm going to miss the steady access I had to these treasures. I stand amazed that one person can love her children so unselfishly and passionately. You have raised the bar.

You used to tell me not to cry at your funeral, because you done everything for me while I was on this earth, so don't concern yourself at my death and that you gave me my roses while I was alive. I take comfort in knowing that you felt that way, but this time I may have to be willfully disobedient. I can't stop crying, they tell me that time heals the pain, but I don't agree, this is a job for the Almighty God. Only the power of God can help me, so I'll do what you trained me to do Trust in the Lord with all my heart and strength and lean not to my own understanding. Thank you for being my friend, my mother, my cheerleader and my hero. I will always bless God for your life, love, and legacy, I will love you forever.

Your loving son  
John

## 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, We 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  
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