

*A Celebration of the Life  
of*

*Sunrise  
March 8, 1931*

*Sunset  
September 22, 2017*



*Mrs. Gladys G. Sanders*

“No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love Him”

(I Corinthians 2: 9 )

*Services*

*Saturday, September 30, 2017 - 11:00 a.m.*

**ABYSSINIAN BAPTIST CHURCH**

224 West Kinney Street • Newark, New Jersey

*Reverend Rakeem S. Thomas, Officiating*

## *Obituary*

**Mrs. Gladys Grace Gilford Sanders**, daughter of Brady and Estelle Bells Gilford, began her earthly journey on March 8, 1931 in Newark, New Jersey. In the blessed quietness of the early morning hours on Friday, September 22, 2017, she peacefully transitioned to her heavenly home.

Gladys was the youngest of three children. Can't you just imagine Sister Renee and Brother Fred spoiling, bossing, teaching and loving a little baby sister? The Guilford children enjoyed their childhood, growing up in the church and learning to be respectful, courteous and kind to all.

After attending Charlton Street School and Cleveland School, Gladys graduated from Southside High School in 1949. Soon after that she met the love of her life, Clareth Sanders, a fine looking gentleman from Winston-Salem, North Carolina. They married in 1950 and had sixty-seven wonderful years together. They were blessed with four loving children: Terry, Darryle, Rhonda and Stacie.

Mrs. Sanders worked at the East Orange Veterans Hospital for four years and later worked for the East Orange Board of Education for 15 years as a Teacher's Assistant for all grades at Vernon L. Davis and Park Avenue School and many others in the district. However, if you knew Gladys, then you would know that she saw her main job as that of wife, mother and homemaker. She dutifully and happily attended to her "Reece's needs and nurtured, supported, advised and loved her children. They in turn, loved their "Glee, Sweet Thing, Ma, and Gleedus" as they affectionately called her. Having been baptized at the age of eight at Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, Gladys put the same level of interest and support in her church as she did her family. She had been a member of EJ Chorus and was encouraging and fond of the former Pastor Thompkins and her present Pastor, Rev. Rakeem S. Thomas. To God be the Glory for seventy-eight years being a dedicated servant of the Lord at Mount Pleasant!

Sadly, Gladys became ill in 2015 and had several hospital and nursing home stays. She got her wish to be able to come home and be with her family. They lovingly took care of all her needs and kept her company. She exhibited her faith and her lack of fear when she said to them, “I want to go home” and “I’m getting out of here!” Outspoken and expressive to the end!

This wonderful wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, church member and friend, should not be remembered for the end of life’s infirmities that befell her, but for her bubbling, vivacious personality, her love for talking and meeting people, the excitement of going shopping, her sense of style and fashion, wearing lovely suits and beautiful hats, preferably her favorite color lavender, traveling to the islands, serving in the church, enjoying being a member of the Red Hatters Senior Citizens Club, and creating lasting memories for her husband, and children of happy times spent at 43 Ross Street. These are the memories that are to be cherished and remembered and kept close to the heart by all.

She was predeceased by her parents and her sister and brother.

Celebrating her life are her dear husband Clareth Sanders, her beloved children Terry, Darryle (Rita), Rhonda and Stacie Sanders, three grandchildren Darrielle Sanders, Tennille Thompson (Kevin), and Rasheed Simmons, four great-grandchildren Kevin, Kaylen and Kameron Thompson, and Kyrie Edmonds, sister-in-law Lois Gaymon (Robert), brother-in-law James Ridgeway, and a host of nieces and nephews, a cousin, Charles Gilford, a special son Ronnie Simms, God children Remy Foluke-Wilson and Andrew Ford, a close friend, Cleo Ford, and a host of other relatives, friends and church family.

“ and her children shall rise up and call her blessed.”

Until we meet again.....

Lovingly submitted,

The Family

# Order of Service

Musical Prelude

Processional.....Clergy and Family

Congregational Hymn.....“Blessed Assurance”

Prayer of Comfort.....Rev. Lester Wormley.  
Pastor, Liberty Baptist Church

Scripture Readings  
Old Testament  
New Testament

Selection.....Stella Clark

Acknowledgements / Resolutions.....Martha Washington, Deaconess

Reflections (2 mins. please)

Tennille Thompson, Granddaughter - Cleo Ford, Close Friend

Stacie Sanders, Daughter

Joan King, Mount Pleasant Member - Bishop Rudy V. Carlton,

Jehovah Jireh Praise

And Worship Center

The Obituary.....Darrielle Sanders, Granddaughter

Selection.....Joshua Nelson

Eulogy..... Pastor Rakeem S. Thomas  
Pastor, Mount Pleasant Baptist Church

Recessional

***Interment***  
*Glendale Cemetery,*  
*Bloomfield, NJ*

The repast will be held at Mount Pleasant Educational Center  
100 Montgomery St. Newark, NJ









# *A Stairway To Heaven*

*Drifting on wings of an angel, the stairway to Heaven unfolds,  
The steps leading up to a city, the pathways transparent of gold.*

*At the base of the ascending staircase, a lamb sits at the door,  
Surrounded by lilies and lions, Grace has transcended the roars.*

*The Lamb offers peace in His presence, your fears*

*He'll caress like a dove,*

*The soft gentle fleece of His body, will cover you up in His love.*

*Then soft as the wings of an angel, He'll carry your cares to the door,*

*The Lamb knows the steps of the staircase;*

*He's traveled this pathway before.*

*The bright shining lights at the entrance, glowing like elegant gems,  
Reflect the love of His shepherd, as he beckons His Lamb to come in.*

*All of your burdens and heartaches,  
which the Lamb has offered to bear,*

*He lays at the feet of the Shepherd,  
whose love has invited them there.*

*Then drifting on wings of an angel, the stairway to Heaven descends,*

*The powerful peace of the Lion,  
Waiting soft in the heart of the Lamb.*

## *Acknowledgements*

*The family of the late **Gladys G. Sanders** wishes to express  
their sincere appreciation for the acts of kindness  
and love shown to them during their time of sorrow.*

*Professional Services Provided By:*

*Perry Funeral Home, Inc.*

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Newark, New Jersey  
(973) 824-9201

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