

Celebrating The Life of
Selena Wilson Johnson Brown

Sunrise: July 24, 1922 - Sunset: October 14, 2017



Friday, October 20, 2017 - 11:00 a.m.

CARNIE P. BRAGG FUNERAL HOME

256 Rosa Parks Blvd.

Paterson, New Jersey

Rev. Pamela Powell, Officiating



Reflections of Life

To those I love and those that love me, when I am gone, release me, let me go...

Selena Brown departed this life peacefully on October 14, 2017. Born in Orange, VA on July 24, 1922 to Travis Johnson and Ophelia Grant Johnson, Selena was the fifth of nine children. She attended public school in Orange through the eighth grade. Later, she relocated to Fairfax, VA to work as a domestic. Several sisters migrated to Paterson, NJ for work opportunities, in 1946 Selena followed. She found employment at the Alexander Hamilton Hotel. Selena married William Brown and welcomed a beautiful baby girl, daughter Loretta (Teddi) in 1951. After several years working at the hotel, Selena found a domestic assignment with the Rosenthal Family, which would last over twenty years.

Never one to complain or fuss, Selena gladly welcomed several family members into her home if ever there was a need. Even when she wanted to say “no” Selena always found a way to make situations work because she just couldn’t see someone go without or in need. She was strong and compassionate, enjoyed traveling and going to church. Calvary Baptist Church, her church home, was where she thrived. Selena loved to attend her club meetings and Sunday services. For over 60 years, she devoted her life to service. She was affiliated with the Golden Keys, Progressive Women’s Club, Flower Club and she was lifetime member of the NAACP, Paterson Branch. Trustee Deaconess Selena Brown served proudly, with an abundance of dignity and was honored by Calvary and the City of Paterson for her devotion. When her two MOST favorite people in the world arrived, grandchildren Sean and Gayle, she made sure they were baptized at Calvary, attend Sunday school and services, Vacation Bible School and daycare and camp. In the latter part of her life, she was able to hug, kiss and enjoy her next two MOST favorite people, great-grandsons, Max and Casey. In the last years of her life, great-granddaughter, Paris Hannon, bathed her, clothed her, fed her, played cards with her and comforted her with her presence. She will be so deeply missed, her quick wit and genuine qualities will live on forever.

Selena was preceded in death by her husband, daughter, siblings George Johnson, Maude Love, Annie Johnson, Gertrude Walker, Marion Johnson, Fannie Pearl Johnson and William Travis Johnson, and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and lifelong friends.

She is survived by: grandson, Sean Brown; granddaughter Gayle Brown; great-granddaughter, Paris Hannon; great-grandsons Julius Maxwell and Gunther Casey Brown; grand-daughter-in-law, Lisa Salley Brown; beloved nieces Selena Walker, Dolores Miles, Roberta Walker, Sybil Harris, Mabel Easton, Alice Robinson, Barbara Johnson and so, so many Virginia relatives that another program would need to be printed to express her love to each of them.

Order of Service

Organ Prelude..... Provided by Carnie Bragg

Processional

Invocation and the Lord's Prayer

Hymn of Comfort..... "Goin' Up Yonder"

Scripture Readings..... Jeannette Lyde

Old Testament..... Psalm 23

The Lord is my Shepherd I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the path of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou prepares a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

New Testament..... John 14:27

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

Expressions of Sympathy and ComfortLinda Smith

Obituary.....Ethel Lee Hall

Message of ComfortRev. Pamela Powell

Closing Selection....."Blessed Assurance"

Recessional

Interment

Fairlawn Memorial Cemetery and Mausoleum
Fair Lawn, New Jersey

*Repass following Interment
Calvary Baptist Church Fellowship Hall*



Acknowledgement

The family of the late **Selena W. Brown** wishes to acknowledge with deep appreciation the many expressions of love, concern and kindness shown to their family during this hour of bereavement.

May God Bless and Keep You!

Professional Services Provided By

CARNE P. BRAGG FUNERAL HOMES, INC.

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