

*Celebration of Life*  
*Erma B. Sturdivant*

*July 30, 1922 - December 9, 2017*



*Service*

*Friday, December 15, 2017 - 10:00 a.m.*

**SOLID ROCK BAPTIST CHURCH**  
644 Chancellor Avenue • Irvington, New Jersey  
*Pastor Reginald Pitts, Officiating*



## *Obituary*

*God has smiled on me. He has set me free. He's been good to me. I will bless the Lord at all times. His praise shall continually be in my mouth. Psalms 34:1*

**Erma B. Sturdivant** of East Orange, NJ passed away on Saturday, December 9, 2017 at Virtua Memorial Hospital Mount Holly, NJ at the age of 95.

Erma was born on July 30, 1922 in Lewiston, NC to George G. and Eleanor Boone Bazemore.

Erma's mother passed away at a early age and she went to live with her aunts Molly Boone and Emma Best in New Bern, NC where she was raised. The aunts were smart, strong religious women and they passed that on to her. Erma graduated from West Street High in New Bern, NC. She later attended and graduated from Paynes business and secretarial school in Raleigh, NC where she got her certificate in Stenotypy.

Erma married the Love of her life David Sturdivant in 1944. They were happily married for 30 years. The couple relocated to Newark, NJ soon after they got married. They lived there for many years.

Erma loved life, to travel, cook and entertain. Most of all she loved her church. She was a founding member of the Solid Rock Baptist Church and took great pride in being a part of the church family. She was a member of the Willing Workers Ministry and an avid attendee of Sunday school and bible study.

In later years Erma moved to East Orange. She worked as a housekeeper for Mr. and Mrs. LaBoule who

always provided great financial advise and guidance to her until she retired in her late 80's.

Erma was predeceased by her husband David Sturdivant and parents George and Eleanor Bazemore and special friend sister Betty Alston.

Erma is survived by: Special sisters, Verdell Pocohontas Barrett, Philadelphia, PA, Genetta Dudley, Greeley, Co, Godchild Calvin (Anita) Patterson, Winston Salem NC, special daughter Annette Lawson, Newark, NJ, Debra (Jerome) Montford Mount Holly, NJ, Valarie Best, Hilton (Karen) Best. New Brunswick, NJ, Andre (Cassandra) Barrett, Philadelphia, PA, Mary Barrett, Philadelphia, PA, and a host of nieces and nephews and friends.

Special thanks to Solid Rock Baptist Church Family and Pastor Reginald Pitts, and her Park Ave Apartments family who cared and looked out for her.



# *Order of Service*

Processional

Selection

Scripture Reading

Old Testament

New Testament

Prayer of Comfort

Selection

Remarks

(Two minutes each please)

Acknowledgements

Obituary

Selection

Eulogy

Pastor Reginald Pitts

Recessional

## **INTERMENT**

Fairmount Cemetery

Newark, New Jersey

*Please join the family for the repast at the  
Dining Hall of Solid Rock Baptist Church after committal.*



# Beyond the Sunset

Should you go first and I remain to walk the road alone, I'll live in memories garden dear, with happy days we've known In spring I'll wait for roses red, when faded, the lilacs blue. In early fall when brown leaves fall, I'll catch a glimpse of you.

Should you go first and I remain, for battle to be fought each thing you've touched along the way will be a hallowed spot. I'll hear your voice, I'll see your smile though blindly I may grope, The memory of your helping hand will buoy me on with hope.

Should you go first and I remain, one thing I'll have you do: Walk slowly down that long long path, for soon one day I'll follow you. I want to know each step you take, so I may take the same. For someday down that lonely road you'll hear me call your name.

## Pallbearers

Jerome Montford	Hilton Best
Stanley Wilder	Markus Best
Michael Swift	Gregory Redd

## 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  
973-926-6400

**COTTON-PARKER FUNERAL HOME**  
37 Clinton Avenue  
Jersey City, NJ  
201-433-1000

