

CELEBRATING THE LIFE
OF

Alberta Cheatham



Sunrise: October 2, 1942

Sunset: January 17, 2018

Service:

Wednesday, January 24, 2018 - 11:00 a.m.

ST. MARK AME CHURCH

487 Springdale Avenue • East Orange, New Jersey

Rev. Kenneth Mitchum, Pastor

Rosalyn McClure, Organist

Obituary

Alberta (Johnson) Cheatham, the oldest child of James Frank, Sr. and Addie Collette Johnson, was born on October 2, 1942 at Newark City Hospital in Newark, N.J. Her siblings include James Frank, Jr. Carol Ann, Beverly Jean, and Gerald Lee Johnson.

Alberta was raised in East Orange and attended local schools in the city. While attending East Orange High School, she became an avid member of the Junior Achievement Organization where she assembled jewelry and other crafts for the organization to sell to various companies for the benefit of the community. “Bert”, as many of her friends affectionately called her, was a diligent, well organized, reliable, punctual and very neat person. Bert participated in many school activities and brought home good grades. She set high standards for her siblings to follow.

She just loved serving others when she realized that she wanted to work with patients. She became a Candy Stripper where she volunteered her time to assist the East Orange Hospital staff and patients any way that she could. These types of service activities along with her outgoing personality, infectious smile and the love for helping others most definitely helped Alberta to decide that she wanted to become a Nurse. After graduating from East Orange High School, she graduated from Essex County School of Nursing and received her Licensed Practical Nurse diploma with plans to become a Registered Nurse. Alberta’s first job as a Nurse was at East Orange General Hospital. She later was employed by Mountainside Hospital in Montclair.

Alberta was married to Lawrence Cheatham. Of that union, Darren, their son was born (deceased). They resided in Montclair before moving to Dover, N.J. Alberta was a dedicated wife and mother and loved all that marriage entailed.

The love of God was instilled in Alberta from the beginning by her parents. She was baptized at St. Mark’s A.M.E. church and was a devoted choir member. She later became a member of First Presbyterian & Trinity Church of South Orange, N.J. She loved her church. When she was no longer physically able attend, she spoke of how much she loved and missed it. She also missed those whom she had developed close bonds. Many parishioners demonstrated their Christian discipleship by helping her so much early on.

Alberta loved the arts, children, cooking, family gatherings and fashion. Alberta loved fine clothing. If you gave her a gift of clothing, she would know in a heartbeat where it could have come from. So, buyers had to beware.

She leaves to celebrate her life: her four siblings James Frank Johnson Jr, his wife Marion and four children, Dr. Sherri Wilson, Toni Renee, Tracy Hardy, Efrin Wayne Keys, and Carol Sangale-Orage and her two children, James Sangale and Emmanuel Sangale Orage, and Beverly Jean Porter and her two children, Brittiny and Brendon Porter, Gerald Lee Johnson and his son Brandon, a grandson Lawrence and two great grandchildren, also our beloved Aunt Elector Geathers and host of dear nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Order of Service

Officiating – Rev. Kenneth Mitchem, Pastor
St. Mark AME Church

- Processional.....“Going up Yonder”
- Opening Hymn “Blessed Assurance”
- Prayer of ComfortEvangelist Shirley Johnson
- Musical Selection “Lord’s Prayer”- St. Mark Choir
- Scripture Readings
Old Testament - Psalm 23..... Carol Sangale Orage
New Testament-John 14:1-6.....Carol Sangale Orage
- Reflections.....Dr. Sherri Y. Wilson
Tracy R. Hardy
Toni Renee Johnson
- Resolutions/Acknowledgements.....Church Clerk
- Reading of Obituary Rev. Diane Scruggs
- Musical Selection “How Great Thou Art”
- EulogyRev. Kenneth Mitchem, Pastor
- Words of Comfort.....Rev. Valencia B. Norman, Pastor
First Presbyterian & Trinity Church of South Orange, NJ
- Musical Selection..... “I’ll Fly Away”
- Recessional

INTERMENT

Graceland Memorial Cemetery
1900 Galloping Hill Road, Kenilworth, NJ 07033

*Repast following the interment at
St. Mark’s AME Church
587 Springdale Ave., East Orange, NJ*

HONORARY PALLBEARERS

James Sangale, Emmanuel Sangale-Orage, Jason Hooper and Henry Hester



I Am Free

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free,
I'm following paths God made for me
I took his hand, I heard him call
Then turned, and bid farewell to all
I could not stay another day
To laugh, to love, to sing, to play
Tasks left undone must stay that way
I found my peace ... at close of day
And if my parting left a void,
Then fill it with remembered joy
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,
Ah yes, these things I too will miss.
Be not burdened... deep with sorrow,
I wish you sunshine of tomorrow
My life's been full, I've 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 hearts and peace to thee
God wanted me now ---He set me free.
Author unknown

Acknowledgement

Our family acknowledges with sincere appreciation the many kind deeds and comforting expressions of sympathy extended to us in this time of our sorrow. Your prayers, visits, telephone calls and other acts of thoughtfulness will be greatly remembered. We pray that blessings will continuously be bestowed upon you.

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

