

A Celebration of Life
Helen Eteng

Sunrise
October 15, 1922

Sunset
April 10, 2020



Wednesday, April 22, 2020

Eternity Funeral Services, LLC
129 Engle Street • Englewood, New Jersey 07631

Obituary

Helen Eteng was born October 15, 1922 in Red Springs, North Carolina. She was the eldest daughter but the third of 6 children. Her father was named Newman Lennon and mother Mary Lennon. Both parents were teachers though not long after slavery. Her father rose to a lofty position of a school principal. Mary Lennon, her mother was a strong influence in her life. Her deep religiousness was inculcated in Helen. Her belief in God and religion shaped and navigated Helen throughout her life. This was to the point that I and my brother always say if anybody is going to heaven it would be she. She had 5 other siblings' Wadsworth, Hutaff and Odell Lennon being her brothers. She had 2 sisters Clarence and Elizor.

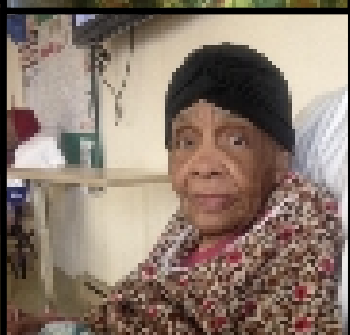
Helen was very good academically which brought her to school in New York City for college at the age of 15. World War II, marriage to a great man Hameed Eteng and children truncated her college dream for a while. She ultimately resumed the college journey at the age of 50 graduating with a degree.

She birthed 3 children, Fatimah, Tewfik and Rideoan. She was fawning, loving and a caring wife and mother who sent all 3 children to college. She was lucky to marry a very great man who shared her view of life. She was married for 50 years until Hameed's death in 1995. She was a machine operator in a book bindery where she rose to union delegate. In this position she vigorously fought for the right of her members with abandon.

She is characterized by tremendous physical strength, prodigious love of family and an undying sense of religion and God, which underwrote her whole existence.

She further leaves 6 grandchildren, George and Derek McPhatter, Shariff Eteng, Serena, Joline and Rashida Eteng. She was fortunate enough to live to see 5 great grandchildren, Hunter and Ariaah Allen, Logan Ragin, Ayana and Kyrie McPhatter.

She did not go gently into that good good night she fought for the dying of the light.



Do not stand at my grave and weep
I am not there. I do not sleep.
I am a thousand winds that blow.
I am the diamond glints on snow.
I am the sunlight on ripened grain.
I am the gentle autumn rain.
When you awaken in the morning's hush
I am the swift uplifting rush
Of quiet birds in circled flight.
I am the soft stars that shine at night.
Do not stand at my grave and cry;
I am not there. I did not die.

Mary Elizabeth Frye

Acknowledgement

*The family acknowledges with deep appreciation all acts of kindness extended to them during this bereavement hour.
God bless you for all your thoughtfulness and concern.*

Professional Services Entrusted To:

Eternity Funeral Services, LLC

Aree Booker, Executive Director

Licensed Funeral Director in New York & New Jersey

NY Lic. # 00367 NJ Lic. # 4346

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