

*In Loving Memory of*  
*Pastor Jona Strachan*

*Sunrise*  
*November 23, 1937*

*Sunset*  
*March 14, 2022*

*Service*

*Sunday, April 3, 2022 • 5:00 p.m.*

**Pentecostal Life Line Church of God**

118-14 Merrick Blvd • Queens, NY 11434

**Officiating Ministers:**

*Apostle D. Smith*

*Dr. H. Scott*

# Order of Service

Processional

Opening Hymn..... "O' Lord my God"

Prayer ..... Evangelist L. Logan

Scripture Readings

Psalm 90 :1-6 ..... Roesha Samuels (Grand-niece)

1st. Corinthians 15:50-58..... Michael Francis (Grand -nephew)

Prayer of Comfort ..... Minister S. Fraser

Selection..... Caralee Brown

Tributes (3-5 minutes)..... Pentecostal Lifeline Church - Pastor M. Burton  
Faith Christian Missionary - Pastor Gray  
Full Gospel Assembly - Dr. M. Watson  
Triumphant Church of God - Bishop B. Brown

Selection..... Marlene Curtis

Tributes (3-5 minutes)..... River of Life - Pastor Grubb  
Little Jerusalem - Bishop Mathison  
Soul Harvest - Pastor Shield  
Deeper Life - Dr. C. Hibbert

Selection..... Naumy James

Tributes (3-5 minutes)..... Queens Church of the First Born - Pastor Cox  
Bethesda - Deacon Logan  
St. Johns Living Faith - Bishop M. McInnis  
Pentecostal Deliverance Center - Pastor R. Hyman

Open Tributes (2 minutes)

Selection..... Combined Choir Pentecostal Lifeline

Obituary ..... Milton Francis

Eulogy ..... Apostle D. Smith

Final Viewing..... Funeral Director

*Interment*  
Pinelawn Memorial Park  
Farmingdale, New York

*Repast*  
Pentecostal Lifeline Church of God  
118-14 Merrick Blvd. • Queens, NY 11434

# Obituary

**Pastor Iona Artensa Strachan, nee Nesbeth**, born November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1937 in the parish of Portland, Jamaica, to Ida Passley and George Nesbeth, was educated at the Willow School in the parish of her birth, Portland.

At the young age of 24, Iona migrated from Jamaica to England in 1961, the year before Jamaica became an independent nation. Later that same year, she met and married the love of her life, Arthur A. Strachan in December of 1961. While living in England with her husband, they shared accommodation with Uncle William, aka Uncle Willie, her favorite brother-in-law, for a number of years. Iona's marriage adhered to the vow, 'till death do us part', which lasted for 49 years until the death of her beloved husband Bishop A.A. Strachan in 2010.

Going back to 1971, Arthur Strachan left England for the United States of America, and knowing the loving wife that she was, who will always be by his side through thick and thin, Iona Strachan followed shortly thereafter. When they arrived here in the US, they started a new life together as United States citizens, never forgetting the love of the Lord as their foundation on which their marriage was built. As a loving wife, Iona cared much for her husband 'Artie' until his last day on earth. That was really a match made in heaven back in 1961. Now they are united together.

He was the father of the household and she was the mother of the children that she never bore biologically. Mommy, in addition to caring for her children at home, some of whom have predeceased her, also cared for the children at church, and any other children with whom she would come in contact. If you are a child, and you visited her home, you would be warmly welcomed. Even if you are not classified as a child and you entered the Strachan's home, you feel very welcome, because the blessings of the Lord is always there to greet you through her.

Sister Strachan, as she was affectionately known by the church before she became the pastor, was a loving and kindhearted person to all. She would give away the clothes off her back to see you survive. At Christmas time, Sister Strachan would go shopping on Jamaica Avenue for the children of the church, ensuring that every child has something to wear for Christmas. Thanksgiving at the Strachan's house must not be overlooked, the dishes vary. There was so much food that one cannot imagine. She cooked the most delicious Jamaican dishes that you would lick your ten fingers after you are finish. There was oxtail, curry goat, jerk pork, and rice n peas, just to name a few.

As the husband of one of her many nieces, Sandra, I met Pastor Strachan when I first visited New York in the early 1990s. She welcomed me warmly in her home which reminded me of my late mom at the time. When I returned to Jamaica I told my wife about her aunt, whom she had not yet met, and she was very happy at what she heard. Like her husband did in 1971, 21 years ago I too migrated here to the United States without my family at the time, as I was preparing for them to get here, and guess who opened her house to me? Mother Strachan. The Strachan's treated me as a son until I was able to get on my feet in 2 months. I will never forget the words of Aunt Strachan saying to me several times when I get home from work frustrated when I first came here, 'Baby, never mind, that's how these children behave. You just do what you have to do and come home'.

Pastor Iona Strachan is survived by 2 sisters Merle and Louise (Jamaica); 2 brothers Franklyn and Leon; 3 children Arvil, Cassandra, and Jamel; Grandson Amir; Brother-in-Law William (England); 10 nieces Sylvia, Dor., Rose, Joy, Sandra, Beverly, Stacy, Tanya, Diane, and Jennifer; 4 nephews, Roy, Deron, Ian, and Dwight; Grandnieces Roesha, Kerry Ann, Camille, Marcine, and Angelica; Grandnephews Jason and Michael; 2 Great Grandnieces; 1 Great Grandnephew; Many cousins, and other numerous relatives that are too much to mention.

## *I'm Free*

*Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free  
I'm following the path God laid for me  
I took his hand when I heard Him call  
I turned my back and left it all.*

*I could not stay another day.*

*To laugh, to love, to work or play.  
Tasks left undone must stay that way,  
I found that peace at the close of day.*

*If my parting has left a void,  
Then fill it up with remembered joy.  
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,  
Oh, yes these things I too will miss.*

*Be not burdened with times of sorrow,  
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.*

*My life's been full, I 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 heart and share with me,  
God wanted me now, He set me free!*

### *Acknowledgements*

*The family 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!*

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Professional Services Provided By:

*Roy L. Gilmore's Funeral Home, Inc.*



Angela Gilmore-Manning, *President*

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# *How Great Thou Art*

*Oh Lord, my God*

*When I, in awesome wonder*

*Consider all the worlds Thy hands have made*

*I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder*

*Thy power throughout the universe displayed*

*Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee*

*How great Thou art, how great Thou art*

*Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee*

*How great Thou art, how great Thou art*

*And when I think that God, His Son not sparing*

*Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in*

*That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing*

*He bled and died to take away my sin*

*Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee*

*How great Thou art, how great Thou art*

*Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee*

*How great Thou art, how great Thou art*

*When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation*

*And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart*

*Then I shall bow, in humble adoration*

*And then proclaim, my God, how great Thou art*

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