

Celebration
of Life



Rosena Ann Dillard

Dillard

Sunrise

October 5, 1946

SUNSET

June 5, 2023

*"Let me sleep, for my soul is intoxicated with love and
Let me rest, for my spirit has had its bounty of days and nights"*

Thursday, June 15, 2023

Viewing: 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Service: 11:00 AM

Greater Centennial AME Church

312 S Eighth Ave • Mount Vernon, NY 10550

Rev. Kellie Wofford, Officiating

Minister Alson Farley, Musician

Obituary

Rosena Ann Dillard, beloved mother, grandmother, sister, and friend, passed away on June 5, 2023, after fighting a long and courageous battle with cancer at the age of 76. Rosena, affectionately known as Rosey, Rosebud, Nina, Blanchy, Blanchy Devereaux, was born on October 5, 1946, in the Bronx, New York, to her loving parents, Myrtle and Euzie Norris.

Rosena's journey in life was filled with diverse experiences and accomplishments. After graduating from Benjamin Franklin High School, she attended LGA College to pursue her passion for healthcare. Her early career was dedicated to caring for others, exemplifying compassion and kindness in her profession. Rosena's heart overflowed with love, and it was no surprise when she married her childhood sweetheart, Timothy Dillard. Together, they welcomed their cherished son, Anthony Wayne Dillard, into the world on April 4, 1968.

Seeking new challenges, Rosena willfully embarked on a career in advertising, as a traffic coordinator, discovering her natural talent for project management . With ambition, eagerness and an adventurous spirit she also obtained a beautician license from Wilfred's Academy. By expanding her skill set, she was able to touch so many lives through hairstyling.

Rosena's life was filled with a multitude of passions and interests. She found joy in traveling, exploring new cultures, and immersing herself in the beauty of the world. Her compassion naturally extended beyond her professional life, as she dedicated countless hours to volunteer work, selflessly giving back to her community.

When Rosena wasn't indulging in her love for the beach, stepping, seafood, keeping fit, or tending to her collection of beautiful plants, she could be found enjoying the simple pleasures of life. She had a knack for fashion, hairstyling, crocheting, and bike riding. These creative activities were a source of peace and contentment. Perhaps one of her most uniquely endearing traits was her enthusiasm for cleanliness, as she found genuine delight in sweeping, mopping, and waxing her floors.

Rosena had a remarkable ability to connect with people, holding a special place in her heart for friends. She valued their companionship and cherished the countless memories they shared together.

Rosena leaves behind a legacy of love and family. She will forever be remembered and deeply missed by her devoted son, Anthony Dillard, her loving daughter-in-law, Kenia Dillard, and her adored granddaughter, Chloe Rain. She is also survived by her brothers Robert, Gary, and Jerry, and her sisters Dorrian, Ginger, Valerie, and Rochelle. Rosena will be fondly remembered by her sister-in-laws, Robyn Mullins-Norris and Jacquelin Davis-Norris, as well as her nephews Damu Norris, Christian Davis Chris Green Jr., and her nieces Aiesha Norris, Sheikia Norris, Tiffany Jackson, Saroya Hurse, Sia Norris, Jennè Norris, Kiana T. Jerrell, and Karen Quinones-Smith and Madeline Campbell. She also leaves behind her great-nieces Alex Norris, Ashantii Dunlop, Jacoenia Steward, Rayanni Duhon, Love Jackson, Helene Hurse, and great-nephews Devon Norris, Dorian Duhon and Aubrey Hurse Jr.

In addition Rosena will be deeply missed by her cousins Al Lewis and wife Lucy Lewis, Bernard Harris, and a host of wonderful friends who have been touched by her warmth and kindness.

Rosena Ann Dillard's memory will forever be etched in our hearts. Her love, compassion, and zest for life will continue to inspire us. As we bid her farewell, let us celebrate the remarkable woman she was and be grateful for the beautiful impact she had on all who had the privilege of knowing her.

As her soul steps its way into eternal peace, may her legacy live on and be celebrated through the beautiful memories shared by her loved ones.



Order of Service

Processional Hymn “Blessed Assurance”

Scripture Readings:

Old Testament - Psalm 23

New Testament - John 14:1-6

Prayer of Comfort

Solo Minister Alson Farley

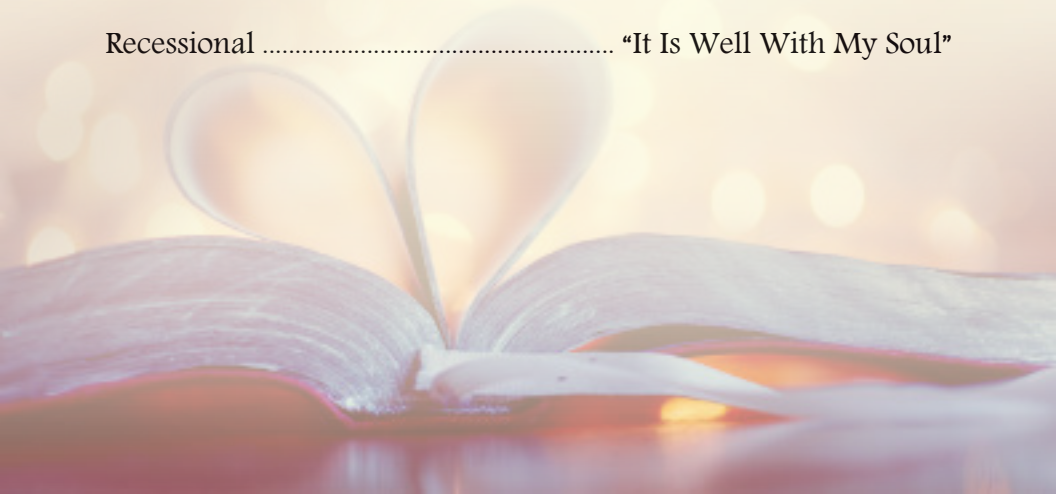
Acknowledgements Two minutes each please

Obituary To Be Read in Silence

Solo Minister Alson Farley

Words of Comfort Rev. Kellie Y. Wofford

Recessional “It Is Well With My Soul”

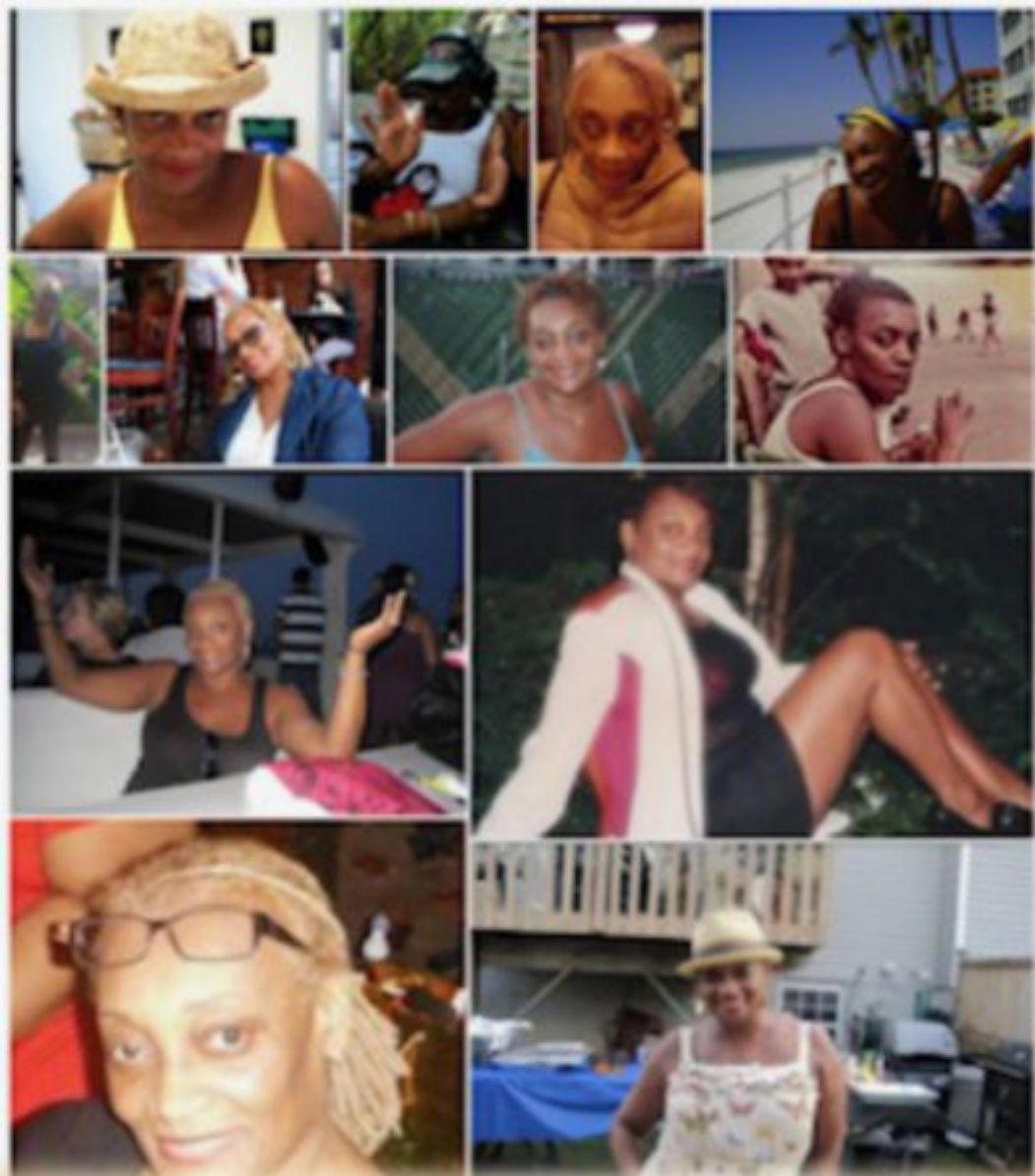


HIS EYE IS ON THE SPARROW

Why should I feel discouraged
And why should the shadows, shadows come
But why, why, why should my heart,
my heart feel lonely?
And long for heaven, heaven, home, yeah, yes
When, when Jesus, Jesus is my portion
A, a constant friend, constant friend is He
Oh, oh-oh, his eye is on, his eye is on the sparrow
Oh yes, I, I know He watches, oh, over me, yeah, hey
I sing (I sing)
I sing because (because)
I'm happy (happy)
Hallelujah
I sing (I sing)
I sing because (because)
I'm free, I'm free (free, free, free)
I know, I know His eye (His eye)
His eye is on (is on)
Is on the sparrow (sparrow)
Oh, yes, it is
I know (know)
I know (and I know)
He watches like the Lord over me

IT IS WELL WITH MY SOUL

When peace like a river attendeth my way
When sorrows like sea billows roll
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say
It is well, it is well with my soul
It is well (it is well)
With my soul (with my soul)
It is well, it is well with my soul
Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come
Let this blest assurance control
That Christ (yes, He has) has regarded my helpless estate
And has shed His own blood for my soul
It is well (it is well)
With my soul (with my soul)
It is well, it is well with my soul
My sin, oh the bliss of this glorious thought (a thought)
My sin, not in part, but the whole (every bit, every bit, all of it)
Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more (yes)
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul
It is well (it is well)
With my soul (with my soul)
It is well, it is well with my soul
Sing it as well
It is well (it is well)
With my soul (with my soul)
It is well, it is well with my soul
And Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll
The trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend
Even so, it is well with my soul
It is well (it is well)
With my soul (with my soul)
It is well, it is well with my soul
'Cause of You, Jesus, it is well
It is well (it is well)
With my soul (with my soul)
It is well, it is well with my soul



Precious Memories







I Did Not Die

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's 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 star that shines at night.
Do not stand at my grave and cry.
I am not there: I did not die.

-Melinda Sue Pacho

Acknowledgement

The family of **Rosena Ann Dillard** would like to express our deepest gratitude and appreciation to the many loved ones and friends for their prayers of love and healing, and the many expressions of kindness during this difficult time. Please continue to keep our family in prayer as we grieve our loved one.

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"Helping Families To Honor The Memories of Those They Love"