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### Funeral, Cosby, 2013-09-14

Friendship Missionary Baptist Church

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*Celebration of Life*

A portrait of a Black woman, Ruth Watson Cosby, wearing a large, wide-brimmed straw hat and a dark, patterned top. She is smiling slightly. To her right is a large, colorful floral arrangement featuring blue, pink, and green paper roses. The text "Ruth Watson Cosby" is written in a large, white, cursive font across the bottom of the image.

*Ruth  
Watson Cosby*

*"A Teacher Touches Lives Forever"*



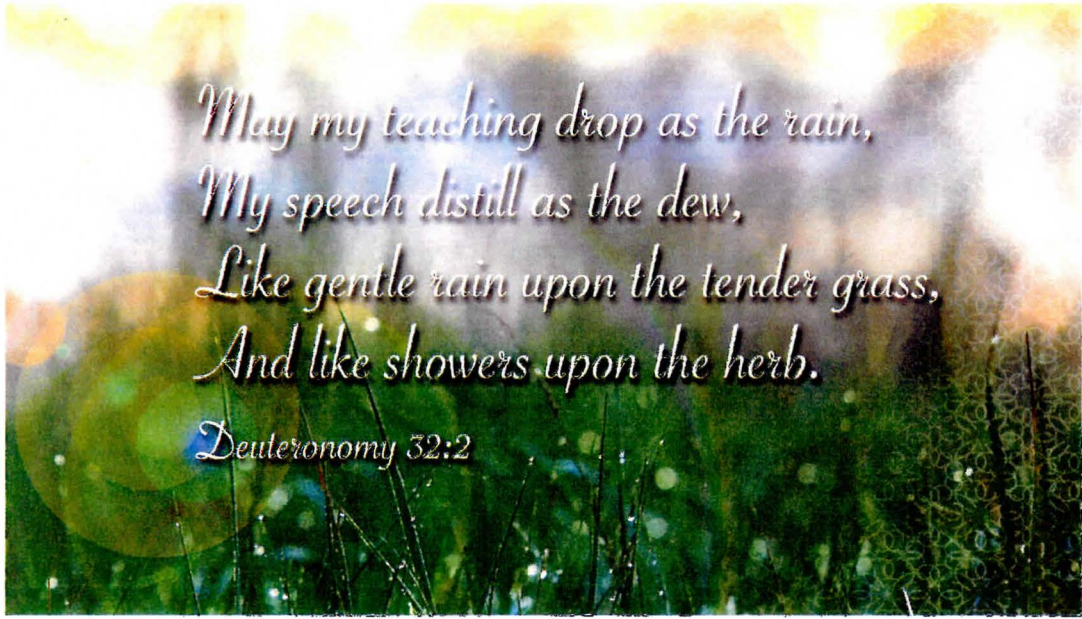
*“Fear Not, But God”*



*“If your gift is  
serving others,  
serve them  
well. If you are  
a teacher, teach  
them well.”*

*Romans 12:7*





*May my teaching drop as the rain,  
My speech distill as the dew,  
Like gentle rain upon the tender grass,  
And like showers upon the herb.*

*Deuteronomy 32:2*

Under the mentorship of Principal Carol Mitchell at School #59, Ruth was appointed Assistant Principal of the school and held that position from 1989 to 2000. She spearheaded the committee to rename the school Dr. Charles R. Drew Science Magnet School, honoring the great African American surgeon, physician and pioneer in blood transfusion research. Advancing even further in her successful career, in 2000 Ruth was appointed Principal of the Waterfront Elementary School where she served until her retirement in 2001.

Ruth's gentle nature and her ability to encourage others enriched the lives of both her students and her fellow staff members. She inspired a spirit of excellence that encouraged others to give their best and do their best on a daily basis.

Ruth shared the joy of life with Mr. Bruce Cosby, her husband of 27 years. The two were united in holy matrimony on August 6, 1986 and enjoyed traveling together. One of her fondest memories was of their trip to London, England. In her free time, Ruth also enjoyed bowling, collecting African art, and sewing. She was noted for her delicious pineapple upside-down cake.

The indelible footprints that Ruth's legacy leaves on the hearts, minds and destinies of so many are cherished and celebrated by her beloved husband, Bruce Cosby; one sister, Alice Watson-Atwood; her mother-in-law, Alberta Pearsall; three brothers-in-law: Michael Cosby (Freda), Gregory Cosby and Stanley Cosby; sister-in-law Cassandra Ann Cosby, and a host of nieces, nephews, other beloved relatives and dear friends. She was preceded in death by her loving parents Walter and Rebecca Watson and five brothers: Walter Watson, Jr., Willie Watson, Isaac Watson, Elijah Watson and Clyde Earl Watson.





## *Letter from Heaven*

*There are some things  
I would like to say,  
but first of all to let you know  
that I arrived okay.  
I'm writing this from Heaven;  
here I dwell with God above.  
Here there's no more tears of sadness,  
here is just eternal love.  
Please don't be unhappy  
just because I'm out of sight.  
Remember I am with you  
every morning, noon and night.*

*The day I had to leave you,  
when my life on earth was through,  
God picked me up and hugged me  
and said "I welcome you.  
It's good to have you back -  
you were missed while you were gone.  
As for your family and friends,  
they'll be here later on.  
I need you here badly -  
you're part of my master plan.  
There's so much that we have to do  
to help our mortal man."*

*God gave me a list of things  
that He wished for me to do,  
and first and foremost on the list  
was watching over you.  
So when you lie in bed at night,  
the day's chores put to flight,  
God and I are closest to you  
in the middle of the night.  
When you think of my life on earth  
and all those happy years,  
because you're only humans,  
they are bound to bring some tears.*

# Order of Service

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2013**

## **FRIENDSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH**

402 Clinton Street · Buffalo, New York 14204

Reverend Alan Core

*Pastor, First Centennial Missionary Baptist Church*

*Officiating, Eulogist*

*Visitation 11 AM*

Musical Prelude ..... Mr. Robert Bowman  
*Minister of Music*

Family Processional and Viewing

Receiving of Guests

*Celebration of Life*

Processional ..... Clergy

Parting Glimpse ..... The Family

Sealing of the Bier ..... Thomas T. Edwards Funeral Home

Scripture Readings ..... Elder Warren Adams

Old Testament *Job 14:14*

New Testament

Prayer of Comfort ..... Reverend Harry Ward

*Pastor, Grace Baptist Church*

Selection *Jesus will Rise* ..... Friendship Missionary Baptist Church Choir

Acknowledgement of Condolences ..... Marion Young

*Church Secretary*

Reading of the Obituary ..... Charlene Atwood

*Niece*

Expressions from Family and Friends

Solo *Jesus Keep me Near Cross* ..... Mrs. Karen Saxon  
*(Please Limit Remarks to Two Minutes)*

Eulogy ..... Reverend Alan Core

Invitation to Discipleship

Closing Prayer

Benediction

Recessional ..... "Take Me to the King" ..... Mrs. Karen Saxon

*Interment*

Forest Lawn Cemetery

Rosewood West Atrium Mausoleum

1411 Delaware Avenue · Buffalo, New York 14209

*- Roman 12:1  
pet - God view Service as a satisfaction*

# *Ruth Watson Cosby*

*February 9, 1949 ~ September 9, 2013*

***"Often He sends no summons before Him, but floats unseen on the breeze.  
Death comes on hushed footsteps to all."***

It was on September 9, 2013 in Buffalo General Hospital that our Lord saw fit to grant peace and eternal rest to Ruth Watson Cosby. Ruth was born in Buffalo, New York on February 9, 1949 and was the youngest of seven children born to Walter and Rebecca (Ware) Watson.

Ruth was baptized at an early age and credited the late Bessie Robinson of Bethel A.M.E. Church for laying the foundation of her passion for Sunday School. Ruth accepted Christ under the leadership of Reverend Edward D. McNeely of Friendship Missionary Baptist Church where she remained a faithful member until her passing. At Friendship, she served on Usher Board Number 1 and was the Sunday School ***Teacher of Teachers*** for the Christian Education Board for many years.

Ruth graduated from Buffalo Public Schools #53 and East High School. A brilliant young woman, Ruth was always on the Honor Roll and, while at East High School, was a member of Omicron Alpha. She was especially fond of participating on the Drill Team under the leadership of Sandra Woodley. She continued her educational journey at Buffalo State College (now the State University of New York College at Buffalo) where she earned Bachelor and Master of Science degrees in Education. In addition to attending the New York State Education Department Principal's Academy, she became certified in School Administration and Supervision.

Ruth's work experience began in 1970 at age 21 after she graduated from an Accelerated Education Program at Buffalo State College where she completed the Bachelor of Science program in three years. She began her teaching career at Buffalo Public School #59 where she held the position of Classroom Teacher of first grade students. She excelled in this capacity and was appointed to and served as Program Coordinator from 1985 through 1989. Ruth not only taught her students the required core curriculum, but she also infused every aspect of their education with her vast knowledge of African American History. Every lesson and every project was an opportunity for her students to learn more about their heritage, and each year she directed a Kwanzaa play that gained notoriety throughout the community.



*Do not be afraid to cry,  
it does relieve the pain.  
Remember - there would be no flowers  
unless there was some rain.  
I wish that I could tell you  
all that God has in His plan,  
but if I were to tell you,  
you wouldn't understand.  
There are so many rocky roads ahead  
and many hills to climb,  
but together we can do it  
by taking one day at a time.*

*It was always my philosophy,  
and I'd like it for you too,  
that you give unto the Lord,  
and the Lord will give to you.  
If you can help somebody  
who's in sorrow or in pain,  
then you can say to God  
"My day was not in vain."  
Now I am contented  
that my life was all worthwhile,  
knowing as I passed along the way  
I made somebody smile.*

*So if you meet somebody  
who is sad and feeling low,  
just lend a hand and pick them up  
as on your way you go.  
When walking down the street  
and you've got me on your mind,  
I'm walking in your footsteps,  
only half a step behind.  
And when it's time for you to go  
from that body to be free,  
Remember - you're not going ...  
You're coming home to me.*

*~ Author Unknown ~*



# Acknowledgements



## PALLBEARERS

Jeffery Brown  
Gregory Cosby  
Terry Jackson

Darren Evans  
Jeffery Brooks  
William Fuller

## CARE OF OUR LOVED ONE ENTRUSTED TO

THOMAS T. EDWARDS FUNERAL HOME, INC.  
995 Genesee Street · Buffalo, New York 14211  
(716) 894-4888 · [www.thomastedwardsfuneralhome.com](http://www.thomastedwardsfuneralhome.com)  
*Mr. Darrell M. Saxon II*  
*Manager, Funeral Director*

## THANK YOU

*The family of the late Ruth Watson Cosby would like to express their sincere thanks and appreciation for all expressions of kindness shown to them during their time of sorrow. You may have called, come by, sent a card or flowers, or perhaps you said a prayer.  
We want you to know that your thoughtfulness shall never be forgotten.*

*Immediately Following Entombment,  
Repast Will Be Held in the  
Friendship Missionary Baptist Church Fellowship Hall  
(On the Lower Level of the Church)*

*Image by Design*

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