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Obituary; 2000-01-09; Barnswell, Gray Deen

Hopewell Baptist Church

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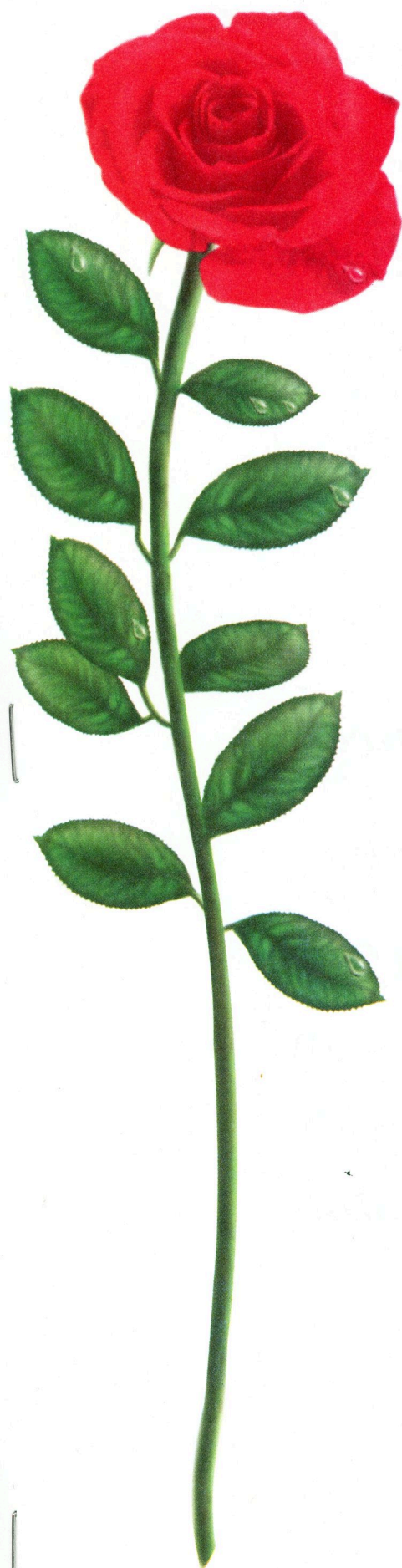


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GrayDeen Barnswell
Sunrise: December 11, 1936
Sunset: January 9, 2000

I'M FREE

*Don't grieve for me. For now I'm free I'm following the path
God has laid you see. I took His hand when I heard His 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 the peace at the
close of the day... If my parting has left a void. Then fill it with
remembered joys. 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 to brief.

*Don't lengthen it now with undo grief. Lift up your
heart and peace to thee- God wanted me now: He set me free.*

Friday, January 14, 2000

Wake: 12noon

Funeral: 1:00pm.

at the

Hopewell Baptist Church

1307 Fillmore Avenue

Buffalo, New York 14211

Dennis Lee, Jr., Pastor

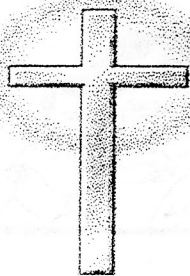
Officiating

Obituary

Gray Deen (Smith) Barnswell was born December 11, 1936
in Chattanooga, Tennessee to the late Arianna Smith.
Gray Deen departed this life on Sunday, January 9, 2000
at the Sisters Of Charity Hospital.

At an early age Gray Deen accepted Jesus Christ as her
personal savior. She moved to Buffalo, N.Y. in 1957, where she
later joined the Hopewell Baptist Church under the
leadership of Rev. John F.D. Lylos. Graydeen was
a faithful member of the church. She served on the
Deaconess Board for several years under our present
Pastor, Dennis Lee, Jr.
until her sudden departure. She was also a member of the Eastern
Stars, Charity Chapter #31.

She leaves to cherish her memory a loving husband,
Sylvester Barnswell, Jr., one daughter, Towanna Barnswell of Atl., Ga.
Four sons, David Blackwell of Chatt., Tenn.,
Larry (Tracy) Barnswell of Florida,
Reginald Barnswell of Atl., Ga., Larmar Barnswell of Buffalo, N.Y.
One sister Patricia Ann Smith of Chatt., Tenn.,
Mother-in-law Burma Barnswell, Sister-in-law- Mary
Stevens of Det., Michigan, Brother-in-law Richard
(Vera) Barnswell of Pa. Four aunts, Lillie Williams of Buffalo, Elnora
(Nicolas) Rivers, Corine (Charlie) Boston, Florine (Michael) Boston
all of Chattanooga, Tennessee, One uncle Ronald Ashley of Chatt., Tenn.
Seven grandchildren, Sharna, Brittany of Chatt., Tenn
.Tianna, Teri, Ebony, Reginald of Atl, Ga
and .Sade' of Florida. 2 great grandchildren,
Dominique and Nyah of Chatt., Tenn.
And a large circle of devoted family members and
loving friends.



Momma

My life is filled with so much pain, that right now it seems as if I can't go on now that you've left.

I feel like I've been cheated somehow. I need more time with you Momma, Why did you leave?

"Momma Why?"

Now all I have left are my memories of the years of love you've given me. You gave me so much, but asked for so little in return.

Momma, you taught me how to be a woman of true kindness. And as you always told us

"Do Good and Good will follow you".

Momma, this is a promise we'll live by.

Momma if I could be one ounce of the woman you were, I'll be someone special.

You were my mother, my best friend, my life. You made me complete. I loved you more than life itself.

Momma, I know you were tired and you wanted to go home and rest, so say hello to Grandma, Aunt Cindy

Jodean and Big Mommy, and when my time comes, meet me at Heaven's Door.

Goodbye, Momma, I love you more than you could ever have known!

Your Baby Girl

Towanna



Order of Service

Opening Hymn.....Hopewell Choir

Scripture Readings:

Old Testament: Ecclesiastes 12:1-7

New Testament: John 14:1-7



Prayer Of Comfort

Selection.....Hopewell Choir

"Going to the Yonder"

Obituary.....Deaconess Ann Hooks

Resolutions/a few cards

Selection.....Barnswell Family

"Jesus is Love"

Selection.....Hopewell Family

"Amazing Grace"

Eulogy.....Pastor Lee

Recessional

Interment:

Acacia Park & Resthaven

North Tonawanda Creek Road

1/2 mile east of Niagara Falls Blvd.

North Tonawanda, N.Y. 14120

Pallbearers

Johnnie Bonner Jr.

Michael Bonner

Ernest Gibson

Joseph Gibson

Carl Hill

Alfred Jordan

Flowerbearers

Family and Friends

Acknowledgements

Perhaps you sent a lovely card,
or sat quietly in a chair.

Perhaps you sent a floral piece,
If so we saw it there.

Perhaps you spoke the kindest words.

As any friend could say;

Perhaps you were not there at all,

Just thought of us that day.

Whatever you did to console our hearts,

We thank you so much

whatever the part.

Deacon Sylvester Barnswell

and Family

Arrangements entrusted to
H. Alfred Lewis Mortuary
968 Jefferson Street
Buffalo, New York 14204
(716) 884-0901

Dinner will be served in the Fellowship Hall
immediately following Interment"