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Obituary; 2004-06-02; Allen, Geneva May

Bethel A.M.E. Church

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Acknowledgement

The family of Geneva May Allen wishes to convey our heartfelt thank you for the prayers, expressions of sympathy, and contributions extended to our family during our time of sorrow.



I'll Fly Away

1. Some glad morning when this life is over, I'll fly away.
To a home on God's celestial shore, I'll fly away.

Chorus

I'll fly away, oh glory, I'll fly away.

When I die, Hallelujah, by and by, I'll fly away.

2. When the shadows of this life have gone, I'll fly away.
Like a bird from prison bars has flown, I'll fly away.

Chorus

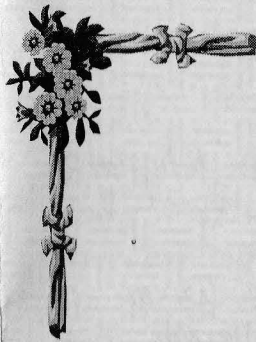
3. Just a few more weary days and then, I'll fly away.
To a land where joy shall never end, I'll fly away.

Chorus



Auspices

H. Alfred Lewis Mortuary, Inc.
968 Jefferson Avenue
Buffalo, New York



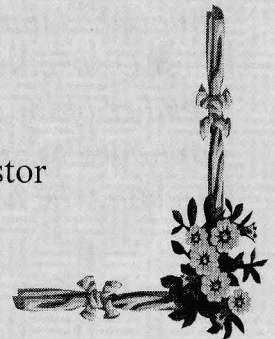
Homegoing Service For *Geneva May Allen*



Wednesday, June 2nd, 2004
12:00 Noon

BETHEL AME CHURCH
1525 Michigan Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14209

Reverend Richard A. Stenhouse, Pastor
Officiating



Obituary

Geneva M. Allen, the daughter of the late Briscoe Johnson and Mary Alice Coleman Johnson was born on August 22, 1905 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The sixth of nine children, Geneva attended Allegheny High school. Upon graduation, She passed the teacher certification exam, which lead her to a short career as an elementary school teacher in Charlottesville, Virginia.

She went home to glory at Sisters of Charity Hospital on May 28, 2004 after a short illness. She was the widow of Lloyd B. Allen, and a loving homemaker. The matriarch to a grand family, Geneva was devoted to God her family and her church.

At an early age, Geneva began her commitments in the young people's department of missionaries. As a young adult she continued her work with the Women's Missionary Society in Pittsburgh at Calvary AME Church, co-founding a shelter for homeless and unwed mothers. An accomplished pianist, she also played for the Gospel Choir.

Moving to Buffalo in 1948, she immediately became active at Bethel AME Church. As her passion for mission work grew, she helped organize the Missionary Society, of which she was president for over 25 years. Geneva M. Allen was honored as the first Life Member in the W.N.Y. Conference First District in 1997. She was the last surviving charter member of the Bethel AME Federal Credit Union. She continued to demonstrate her love for music and praise by directing the Evening Choir.

Geneva was active outside of her church home. Using her God given leadership talents, she served a term as vice-president of the Council of Churches (Network of Christian Communities). Later, she was state secretary of the Church Women United, of which she was a devoted member for many years. She was a past president of the Book Lovers Club, volunteered as a "Gray Lady" at the Lutheran Church Home, and Hickory Street Community Center.

Full of energy and life, Mrs. Allen's servant heart continued loving. During her golden years in her 90's, she volunteered as a reading tutor at the Harriet Tubman Early Childhood Center No. 12, a Buffalo Public School.

Geneva M. Allen leaves behind her beloved sister, Florence H. Estridge; her daughter, Mary Ellen Foote; 7 granddaughters, Sharon DuBard (Raymond), Geneva Foote Makanjuola, Beverly Foote Rogers, Marilyn Foote-Kragbé, Lorraine Ogden (Aundry), Norma Foote, Leslie Bolden (John), and 1 grandson, Lonnie Foote (Frances). There are 21 great-grandchildren, 17 great great grandchildren, a nephew, a great-niece, and host of loving friends.

"To God Be The Glory"





Homegoing Services

for

Geneva M. Allen



Prelude Alfred Jarred

Open Sympathy

Hymn *Jesus, Jesus, Jesus* #187

Prayer of Comfort Reverend Annie Wilson

Moment of Reflection through Scripture & Song:

Scripture Old Testament: Psalm 27

Hymn *Blessed Assurance* #450

Scripture New Testament: Mathew 5:13-16

Selection *When Peace, Like A River* #448

Bethel Choir

Resolutions

Poem Marilyn Foote-Kragbé

Acknowledgements

Obituary Sharon L. DuBard

Hymn *Precious Lord* #393

Eulogy Reverend Beverly J. Abram

Recessional *I'll Fly Away*
We Are Often Tossed and Driven #394

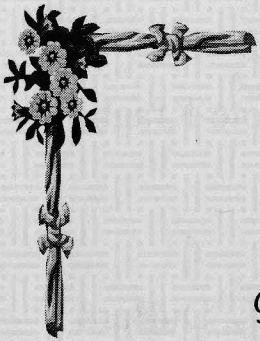


Interment

Forest Lawn Cemetery

Buffalo, New York





Geneva May Allen
by Marilyn Foote-Kragbé
May 28, 2004

*Geneva May Allen was the matriarch,
The unwavering spirit and surrogate.
She continuously prayed for all of us.
The faithful intercessor until the last date.*

*Lord knew of her many burdens.
She returned them to His command,
Resourceful, vibrant, and dedicated
She courageously straightened her shoulders
Seeking those moments she could lovingly lend a hand.*

*Her love was steadfast, strong, and forgiving.
God had blessed her with a servant's heart.
Her primary ministry was her family and community
As she reached out and cared for the needy.
While she sang songs of praises, the soprano parts.*

*"Grandma, and Grannie" many have named her.
She had opened her arms to all, big and small.
Walked through numerous doors of opportunities
Graciously living God's plan for her fulfilling life.
Starting at a young age until her homeward call.*

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our afflictions so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. For as we share abundantly in Christ's sufferings, so through Christ we share abundantly in comfort too. If we are afflicted, it is for your comfort and salvation; and if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we suffer. Our hope for you is unshaken; for we know that as you share in our sufferings, you will also share in our comfort.

2 Corinthians 1:3 - 7



Pall Bearers

Lake Kearney
Ronald C. Johnson
John Bolden

Raymond A DuBard
L.C. David Rogers
Tatchy Kragbé