

In Loving Memory Of



Dorothy Harris Aiken

SUNRISE: JUNE 22, 1935 - SUNSET: DECEMBER 30, 2023



Homegoing Celebration

Saturday, January 13, 2024 • 11:00 A.M.

BENTA'S FUNERAL HOME

630 St. Nicholas Avenue • New York, NY 10030

REVEREND ALVIN YOUNG, Minister

REVEREND VICTOR YOUNG, Master of Ceremony

Interment

FAIR LAWN MEMORIAL CEMETERY

Fair Lawn, New Jersey

Order of Service

WELCOME.....REVEREND VICTOR YOUNG
BETHLEHEM CHURCH OF GOD HOLINESS

INVOCATION.....REVEREND ALVIN YOUNG
BETHLEHEM CHURCH OF GOD HOLINESS

SOLO.....ANTWON ROBINSON
FAMILY FRIEND

READING OF THE OBITUARY.....ANGELICA FISH
FAMILY FRIEND

SLIDESHOW.....REMEMBERING DOROTHY

EULOGY & SERMON.....REVEREND ALVIN YOUNG

VIDEO.....MOMUMENTARY

CLOSING PRAYER.....REVEREND ALVIN YOUNG

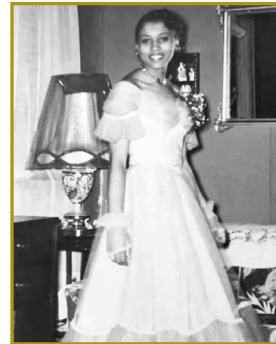
FINAL VIEWING

RECESSIONAL

Repast

SYLVIA'S RESTAURANT
328 Malcolm X Blvd

Following the Interment, the family will be hosting a reception to bring friends and family together to celebrate Dorothy. Please join us at Sylvia's from 2:30pm to 6pm to share hugs, love and memories while we break bread over some of Dorothy's favorite soul food dishes.





Obituary

DOROTHY HARRIS AIKEN entered eternal life on Saturday, December 30, 2023. Her spirit is carried on by family and friends from every walk of life.

Dorothy was born on June 22, 1935 in Raymond, Georgia to the late Ophelia (Ferrell) and late Roosevelt Harris. She lived with her family in the Atlanta suburb of College Park before moving to New York City as a young child during the Great Migration. While growing up in Manhattan, she attended P.S. 46, Stitt Junior High School and graduated from Washington Irving High School. During her high school years, Dorothy also ran track for the Police Athletic League (PAL) and won many medals.

After high school, Dorothy held various occupations and briefly attended a nursing program at Bronx Hospital before getting married in October 1954. This union created five beautiful children and lasted 28 years. She was an incredibly loving, nurturing mother who dedicated her life to ensuring her children were kind, compassionate people. She took pride in creating her “Sweet Family” by giving sweet nicknames to all of her children and grandchildren. Dorothy spent most of her adult life as a resident of Westchester County, NY. She was a lover of gospel music, The Nutcracker, ice cream and chocolate. Her home was always open to friends and family who would gather to celebrate Thanksgiving, Christmas and other special occasions. She was a “top chef” and made the most delicious fried chicken, collard greens, macaroni and cheese, sweet potato pie and banana pudding. For Dorothy, cooking was a labor of love - and everyone who visited her home left with their bellies and hearts full.

For most of her life, Dorothy was a faithful member of Bethlehem Church of God Holiness in New York City. She loved to sing and was a member of the Church’s Choir. She was also the Founder of the Social, Cultural, Educational program (S.C.E.) - a creative youth church group whose activities included leadership training, educational conferences, cultural trips, and performing plays and musical concerts that Dorothy wrote and directed at the Church.

Since her work with children was so important to her, Dorothy earned her Master’s Degree in Human Services from Lincoln University in Pennsylvania in 1985. After graduating, she worked for the NYC Board of Education as a Substance Abuse Prevention Counselor in District 9 in the Bronx. She had a gift for helping young children and made a difference in the lives of thousands of families during her more than 25 years of service. In 2016, Dorothy officially retired from P.S. 28 Mount Hope Centennial School at the age of 81.

Dorothy is survived by her children Adrienne “Sweety,” William Jr. “Chip” (Karen), Candice “Candy”, Nicole “Sugar” and Sharla “Cookie” (Dwane); grandchildren Cory “Punchy” (Jessica), Amber “Peachy,” Harris “Chipper,” Maiya Nicole “Angel Cake” and Brielle “My Baby”; sister Evelyn and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, family and friends too numerous to list but not forgotten. Dorothy is now reunited in eternal life with her mother, father and siblings Elizabeth, Robert Lewis, and Shirley. Dorothy - also known as Mom, MiMom and Mimi - was dearly loved, will truly be missed and will always be remembered as “the lady with the flower in her hair.”





We Love You

Love. Hugs. Smiles. Faith. Compassionate. Teacher. Strong. Fighter. Those are just a few of the words to describe you.

You showed us what love is and made our lives full of joy. You loved us more than a bushel and a peck. We are so blessed to have been a part of your family.

You were so kind hearted and loving while also having the best sense of humor! Family was everything to you and we still feel your love around us today. Love you forever and always.

We are forever grateful for your care, and creating a loving environment around you that was infectious.

You always carried yourself with class and grace, in the face of good times and bad. Thank you for guiding us through life, hand in hand. Your lessons in love will remain with us all forever.

You were the cutest and sweetest. So loving, so beautiful, and gave us the best hugs and kisses. We will love you forever and ever.

You may have passed on, but your memories will always live on within us.

Thank you for loving us unconditionally and giving us the strength and confidence to be who we are - fly with the ancestors.

*Love,
Your Children and Grandchildren*

Acknowledgments

Our family wishes to extend our profound and sincere gratitude for the outpouring of love, support, and prayers during this difficult time. Through our cherished memories, **DOROTHY** will live on in our hearts forever. May we continue to celebrate her life by living freely and with gratitude every single day that we have the ability to take a breath.

Arrangements Entrusted to:


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