

If Tears Could Build A Stairway

*If tears could build a stairway
And memories were a lane
We would walk right up to Heaven
And bring you back again.
No farewell words were spoken,
No time to say goodbye,
You were gone before we knew it
And only God knows why.
Our hearts still ache in sadness
And secret tears still flow,
What it meant to lose you no one can ever know.
But now we know that you want us
To mourn for you no more,
To remember all the happy times,
Life still has much in store.
Since you'll never be forgotten
We pledge to you today
A hallowed place within our hearts
Is where you'll always stay.*

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, **IRMA** 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:


BENTA'S
Funeral Home, Inc.
630 St. Nicholas Avenue
New York, NY 10030
Phone: (212) 281-8850
Fax: (212) 234-3600

In Loving Memory of



Irma Jean Henderson

SUNRISE: OCTOBER 31, 1936 - SUNSET: NOVEMBER 3, 2023

Funeral Service

Thursday, November 16, 2023 • 1:00 P.M.

BENTA'S FUNERAL HOME, INC.

630 Saint Nicholas Avenue • New York, NY 10030

PASTOR JAY GOODING, Officiating
ALSON FARLEY, Minister of Music

Interment

Friday, November 17, 2023

FAIR LAWN MEMORIAL CEMETERY
Fair Lawn, New Jersey

Order of Service

ORGAN PRELUDE ALSON FARLEY

INVOCATION PASTOR JAY GOODING

MUSICAL SELECTION “PRECIOUS LORD, TAKE MY HAND”

SCRIPTURE READING

OLD TESTAMENT: PSALM 39:4-7 JAMES BROWN

NEW TESTAMENT: 1 CORINTHIANS 15:51-58 SANYA HOWITT

PRAYER OF COMFORT PASTOR JAY GOODING

MUSICAL SELECTION “GOING UP YONDER”

REFLECTIONS FAMILY & FRIENDS
(TWO MINUTES PLEASE)

OBITUARY READING VENAIR HEYWARD

MUSICAL SELECTION “JESUS PROMISED ME A HOME OVER THERE”

EULOGY PASTOR JAY GOODING

COMMITTAL & BLESSING PASTOR JAY GOODING

FINAL VIEWING FUNERAL DIRECTOR

RECESSIONAL

Obituary

IRMA JEAN HENDERSON was born in Columbus, Mississippi to James Gray and Elsie Gray on October 31st, 1936. She was the last of eight children.

Irma attended Union Academy High School in 1957. Then she came to New York where she lived at the YMCA. Irma then attended The College of New Rochelle where she pursued studies to be a registered nurse and OBS technician. She worked at Harlem Hospital until her retirement in 1991 as an OBS technician delivering babies, a job that she truly enjoyed.

Irma met Tommie Lewis Henderson in 1952 and married. From that union, produced two girls, Cassandra Bailey and Yvette Heyward. Irma was a wonderful mother who was always there when her daughters needed her.

Irma enjoyed her great grandchildren Kamiyah and Ky’Aire. She loved reading to them, and cooking their favorite meals chicken and pork chops. Her granddaughter Kendra, who was her buddy, had nicknames for each other like “girlfriend”.

Irma had many friends. She lived to help others by running errands for her friends to ensure they were well taken care of. Irma also was a well-loved member of the community of Dewitt-Clinton where she lived up until the time of her passing.

Sadly, on Friday, November 3, 2023 at the age of 87, Irma passed away. She was predeceased by two sisters: Bertha Brown and Lilian Simms; and five brothers: James Gray Jr., William H. Gray, Willie Gray, Bobby Gray and Tommie Gray.

Irma touched so many lives in her community, and will be missed by all who knew and loved her. She leaves to mourn: her loving daughter Cassandra Bailey, granddaughter Kendra Bailey, great grandchildren: Ky’Aire Canty and Kamiyah Beckman; seven nephews: James Brown, Bobby Gray, Joe Gray, Michael Gray, Reginal Gray, Tyrell Gray and Tyrone Gray; niece Ann Hall aka Suga babe; sons-in-law: Lamont Heyward and Charlie Bailey; sisters-in-law: Wilene Gray and Christine Gray; and a host of other relatives and friends.