

## *I'm Free*

*Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free  
I'm following the path God laid for me.  
I took his hand when I heard Him 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've found that peace at the close of the day.  
If my parting has left a void  
Then fill it with remembered joy.  
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss  
Ah 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 too brief  
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.  
Lift up your heart and share with me  
God wanted me now, He set me free!*



## *Acknowledgement*

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, SILVENA 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.



*In Loving Memory of*



*Silvena Thomas*

SUNRISE: JANUARY 24, 1927 ~ SUNSET: OCTOBER 14, 2024

## *Funeral Service*

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2024 AT 11:00 A.M.

**ANTIOCH BAPTIST CHURCH**

515 West 125th Street • New York, New York 10027

## *Interment*

**MT. HOLINESS MEMORIAL PARK**

Butler, New Jersey

## *Order of Service*

### *ORGAN PRELUDE*

*Apostle Emmanuel Coleman*

### *SELECTION*

*Apostle Emmanuel Coleman*

*“I Won’t Complain”  
“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”*

### *SELECTION*

*Juanita Wright*

*“Precious Lord”*

### *REFLECTIONS*

*Friends and Family (2 minutes please)*

### *SELECTION*

*Juanita Wright*

*“Amazing Grace”  
“Old Rugged Cross”*

### *SCRIPTURE READING*

*Rev. Dr. Shon T. Adkins*

*Psalm 23*

### *EULOGY*

*Rev. Dr. Shon T. Adkins*

### *RECESSIONAL*

## *Obituary*

We gather at the Well to bear witness to the elevation of the beloved spirit we called **SILVENA**.

**SILVENA SYLVIA THOMAS** left this earthly life on Monday, October 14, 2024 at the age of 97.

Born in the St. Catherine parish of Jamaica, West Indies to parents Edwin Thomas and Matilda Brown; Silvena grew-up in the Swamp Lane community of Bog Walk Township. She was the youngest daughter and had 8 siblings: George, Helma, Uriel “Boy Right”, Estella “Moma”, Isaiah “Son”, Lucille, Wilfred “Lynn”, and Velus “Connie”.

In grade school, Silvena enjoyed her studies and excelled at sports.

Silvena was a sought after professional seamstress. She made pants, shirts, socks, caps, curtains, bed sheets for many in St. Catherine. She also enjoyed crocheting and knitting blankets.

Silvena was blessed with: four children, “2 boys and 2 girls.” Her first child was George, followed by Murlene, Jennifer (deceased), Noel; six grand children, Janet (deceased), Valerie, Charmaine, AJ, Jaime (deceased), Darien; four great grand children, Wayne (deceased), April, Armani, Larry Jr., Morgan, May, and Christopher.

In 1966, Silvena headed to New York City, NY where she immersed herself in the culture of Harlem. She began employment at Saint Clare’s Hospital; where she worked hard, was always early, and never missed a day of work. Soon after, she was promoted to Nurse’s Aide. Throughout her employment, Silvena was a union member of Local 1199 and was noted for her punctuality, work ethic, kindness, and determination.

Silvena worked 25 years at Saint Clare’s Hospital and retired in 1992. She filled her days with family, local political activities, and membership in Antioch Baptist Church. She loved Antioch and was well known and respected by its members. Around 2006, she relocated to Georgia and re-ignited her passion for family, crocheting, knitting, road trips, gardening, and dance.

We all remember Silvena for how she stayed in contact with family and friends. And if it was your birthday, Silvena would call and sing “Happy birthday to you...”.

We miss you.  
We love you.  
We will always remember you.