

*"When Tomorrow Starts Without Me"*

When tomorrow starts without me  
And I'm not here to see  
If the sun should rise and find your eyes  
Are filled with tears for me

I wish so much you wouldn't cry  
The way you did today  
While thinking of the many things  
We didn't get to say

I know how much you love me  
As much as I love you  
And each time you think of me  
I know you'll miss me too

But when tomorrow starts without me  
Please try to understand  
That an angel came and called my name  
And took me by the hand

And said my place was ready  
In Heaven far above  
And that I'd have to leave behind  
All those I dearly love

But when I walked through  
Heaven's gate I felt so much at home  
When God looked down and smiled at me  
From His great golden throne

He said this is eternity  
And all I promised you  
Today your life on earth is past  
But here it starts anew

I promise no tomorrow  
For today will always last  
And since each day's the same way  
There's no longing for the past  
So when tomorrow starts without me  
Don't think we're far apart  
For every time you think of me  
I'm right here in your heart.

By: David M. Romano

*Pallbearers*  
Family and Friends

*Flower Bearers*  
Family and Friends



*In Gratitude*

The family of Ida Mae Ruff would like to express a heartfelt thank you for the kind expressions of sympathy for the many phone calls, visits, food, cards and love shown to us during our time of bereavement. Special thanks to Center Well Home Health, MSA Hospice, Dr. Alan Paysinger and Staff.



**HOMEGOING SERVICES**  
*Celebrating The Life Of*



**OCTOBER 30, 1931 - JANUARY 20, 2023**  
*Monday, January 30, 2023 11:00 A.M.*

**Fred B. Pratt Memorial Chapel**  
**601 South Street**  
**Newberry, South Carolina 29108**

**Reverend Frederick Smith, Officiating**

# The Obituary

## *Mrs. Ida Mae Ruff*

Mrs. Ida Mae Ruff was born in Newberry, South Carolina to the late Anthony C. Wright. She departed this earthly life on Friday, January 20, 2023 in the comfort of her home.

Ida attended the public schools of Newberry County and was a graduate of Drayton Street School. She later moved to Philadelphia for a better life. She returned to school and became a Nurse Practitioner and worked until she retired.

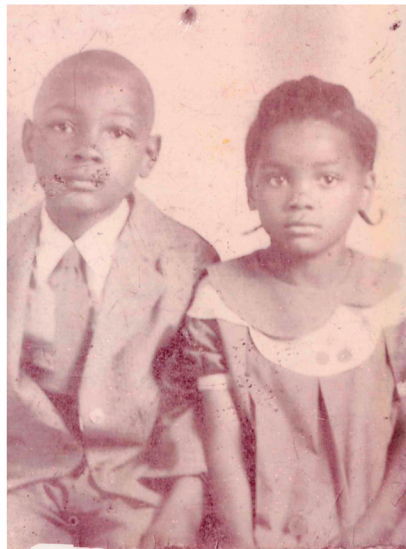
Ida loved to play cards and entertain. She was a great cook and baker. She loved to prepare a variety of delicious foods for her guests. She also loved to sew, crochet and knit and would celebrate pregnancies crocheting beautiful blankets.

Ida will be most remembered for her independence and sassy personality. She was a straight shooter and enjoyed making wise jabs. She got a kick out of people engaging in her banter.

At 91, her memory was impeccable. She never forgot holidays or birthdays, continued to discuss episodes of the Young and the Restless, and kept everyone abreast of family matters.

Ida was predeceased by her husband, the late Charles E. Ruff.

Left to cherish precious memories are three sons, Henry "Sonny" Hart of Mountville, SC, Therman "Rick" Hart of Temple, TX and Shelton Goodwin (Pam) of Memphis, TN; one step-daughter, Maggie Conway of Mountville, SC; brother, Raymond Wright of Columbia, SC, eight grandchildren, Sonya, Valerie, Lawone, Marcus, Brian, Neesie, Anthony and Pearl, thirteen great-grandchildren; devoted nieces, Gloria Lindsay and Nedra Cannon; life-long friends, Robert and Loudell Levenson, Arnetta Imes and Mercedes Davis of Philadelphia, PA, special neighbors, Genice and Robert Thompson, Shirley and Jimmy Suber and Linda and James Boyd, a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and other relatives.



### *"Afterglow"*

I'd like the memory of me  
 To be a happy one.  
 I'd like to leave an afterglow  
 of smiles when life is done.  
 I'd like to leave an echo  
 Whispering softly down the ways, of  
 happy times and laughing times and  
 bright and sunny days.  
 I'd like the tears of those who grieve to  
 dry before the sun,  
 Of happy memories  
 that I leave  
 When my life is done.

# The Order of Service

**Monday, January 30, 2023 at 11:00 A.M.**

**Reverend Fred Smith, Officiating**

Prelude	
Processional	Clergy and Family
Final Viewing	Family and Friends
Hymn	"Precious Lord"
Scripture Readings	
Old Testament	Psalm 23
New Testament	Philippians 3:20-21
Prayer	
Remarks	Mr. Jimmy Suber, Community  Mr. Robert Levenson, Family
Selection	
Words of Comfort	Reverend Frederick Smith
Recessional	
Committal and Benediction	Graveside
Interment	Hannah AME Church Newberry, South Carolina