

CELEBRATING THE LIFE of

Pallbearers

Douglas Murphy Sr.
Recardo Brown
Ayanna Walthall Murphy

Lanceford Manley
Richard Mason
Ezekiel Murphy

Honorary Pallbearers

Leighton Clarke
Douglas Murphy Jr.
Darryl Frierson Jr.

Danita Petit

Acknowledgements

PERHAPS YOU SENT A LOVELY CARD, OR SAT QUIETLY IN A CHAIR.
PERHAPS YOU SENT A FLORAL PIECE, IF SO, WE SAW IT THERE.
PERHAPS YOU WERE NOT THERE AT ALL, JUST THOUGHT OF US
THAT DAY. WHATEVER YOU DID TO CONSOLE OUR HEARTS, WE
THANK YOU SO MUCH, WHATEVER THE PART

Burial

Memorial Gardens of Columbia
9501 Wilson Boulevard
Columbia, SC 29203



Reita Murphy

Sunrise

December 28, 1935

Sunset

June 29, 2023

Homegoing Celebration

Bostick-Tompkins Funeral Home
2930 Colonial Drive
Columbia, SC 29203

Public Viewing

July 6, 2023

4pm-6pm

Funeral Service

July 7, 2023

10am

Obituary

Born to Ranford Farmer and Elder Mard Bennett, Reita (Bennett) Murphy made her debut on earth on December 28, 1935 in Black River Hospital, St. Elizabeth, Jamaica, W.I.

Reita's journey of life began at Mount Osborn All Age School. Upon graduating from Mount Osborn, she went to Kingston and began her career in cleaning.

Reita met her husband, Hopeton Murphy at Greenwich Town Fishing Beach in Kingston, Jamaica in 1965. They solidified their union at St. Catherine Church on March 2, 1980.

With their 3 sons, they migrated to White Plains, New York on March 9, 1982 and thereafter moved to Cabot Avenue in Elmsford, New York.

While in the U.S., Reita started her career as an elder caregiver and personal companion with various agencies including Dolan Consulting Systems Elder Care Services.

A patron of the church, Reita devoted her life to service and worship of the Lord. She served as a Deaconess to her long time church, First Seventh-Day Adventist Church on Juniper Hill Road in White Plains, New York.

Reita was a resident of New York for several years with her family until she and Hopeton returned to Jamaica to enjoy their retirement. Around 2015, they returned to the states to join their son, Douglas Murphy and his family in Columbia, South Carolina.

Reita joins her husband Hopeton Murphy and son Dennis Brown, and leaves behind two sons, Leighton Clarke and Douglas Murphy Sr.; one sister, Cisciline Forest; grandchildren, Recardo Brown, Anekia Brown, Denise Brown, Moesha Brown, Athena Clarke, Tyler Clarke, Kayla Clarke, Danita Petit, Darryl Frierson Jr., Ayanna Walthall Murphy, Douglas Murphy Jr. and Ezekiel Murphy; eight great-grandchildren, and a host of nieces, nephews and cousins.

Psalm 73:26-28

“My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.”

“Indeed those who are far from you will perish; you put an end to those who are false to you.”

“But for me it is good to be near God; I have made the Lord God my refuge, to tell of all your works.”

Don't Cry For Me

Don't cry for me, I will be okay.

Heaven is my home now, and this is where I'll stay.

Don't cry for me, I'm where I belong.

I want you to be happy and try to stay strong.

Don't cry for me, it was just my time.

But, I will see you someday, on the other side.

Don't cry for me, I am not alone.

Our family is with me to welcome me home.

Don't cry for me, for I have no fear.

All my pain is gone, and Jesus took my tears.

Don't cry for me, this is not the end.

I'll be waiting for you, when we meet again.

Heavenly Yours, Mommy



Messages to Heaven

"To the greatest and strongest woman I have ever known. You're with your husband and your first born now. I will be forever thankful for everything you have done for me throughout your life. Life of ass whoopins, but it brought out the best in me. You also knew that if anyone was going to be able to weather the storm with you, it would be me and that is why we finished it together."

Love Your baby boy Dougie, Danita, DJ, Ayanna, Junior and Zeke

"Ma Reita, you rocked this world with all of your smiles and flips and made it to see 87 glorious years on this earth. You are reunited with your Hopeton now and I know you are happy to hear him call you Ms. P again. Although you made a point to tell me how proud of me you were every chance you got whenever you saw me, I don't think you ever realized how much I admired you and was proud of all that you did for the community. Growing up in your household was nothing short of amusing yet venturous for us kids. But, through it all, you provided structure and firmness. Your belief in God and giving back to the community is what contributed to me becoming the woman I am today and I am forever thankful to have been blessed to have known you and be raised by you. I will forever love you and will continue your legacy of giving."

Love Danita, Kiyana, Imani, Zariyah, and Alex Jr.

"Grandma, we had a lot of good times from babysitting me as a young child to you and grandpa being with me on Brickyard. You've taught me many lessons. From you coaching me on how to make stew chicken, curry goat and rice and peas to cooking for me during my undergraduate years. We are a lot alike; brash, outspoken and loving. You never failed to tell me how proud you were of your granddaughter, the attorney. You will be missed. Give grandpa and Uncle Dennis a hug and kiss for me"

Love your granddaughter, Ayanna

"Most of our childhood memories were in your home. So many moments of our life will forever be cherished. Your food, your laughter, the Jamaican proverbs you'd always say, and your wise (but witty) advice. Though we greatly miss you, we are comforted knowing that you are resting in eternal peace in the arms of God."

Love Anekia and Denise

"My loving grandmother, how dearly you will be missed. From your gracious smile, to watching you do front flips. Nothing in life teaches you how to prepare for losses like this. Instead, life taught me to optimize. So I thank you Lord for an amazing grandmother and all the memories and moments we shared."

Love Jr.

Order of Services

The Processional.....Pastor Dr. Keith Woodard

Prayer of Comfort.....Elder Kelvin Paxton

Officiant Remarks.....Pastor Dr. Keith Woodard

Congregational Hymn.....Ephesus Music Director

Scripture Reading:

Old Testament.....Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

Elder Adrian Green

New Testament.....John 14:1-6

Elder Derren Hughes

Reflections and Slideshow...Family & Friends

Reading of Obituary.....Elorise Rose

Psalms 73:26-28.....Jacole Milles

Don't Cry For Me.....Anekia & Denise Brown

Messages to Heaven.....Ayanna Walthall-Murphy

Acknowledgements.....Ayanna Walthall-Murphy

Music of Consolation.....Ephesus Music Director

Words of Comfort.....Pastor Dr. Keith Woodard

Benediction.....Elder Kelvin Paxton

The Recessional.....Platform Ministers

