

Celebrating the Life

of

Rossa Hayes Avery

Sunrise
June 30, 1946

Sunset
October 20, 2009



Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd.....

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2009
3:00 P.M.

EBENEZER MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
2200 S. Alston Avenue
Durham, North Carolina 27707

Reverend Dr. Cornelius E. Battle, Pastor, *Officiating*

Rossa Hayes Avery

Mrs. Rossa Lane Hayes Avery, daughter of the late Robert Hayes and Jennie Wyche Hayes, was born on June 30, 1946 in Durham, North Carolina. She departed this life on Tuesday, October 20, 2009 at Duke University Hospital.

She received her formal education in the former Durham City School System, now Durham Public Schools. Rossa graduated from Hillside high School in 1964. While in high school, Rossa was voted "Most Popular". She was a member of the Student Council, treasurer of the Future Teachers of America Club, president of the New Homemakers Club and a member of the Dramatics Club. Her personality attracted everyone to her. She loved life and was very jovial. She never met a stranger.

Rossa was a very talented dancer and participated in Mr. G's "Swing School", a dramatization written and directed by the late John H. Gattis, a popular Hillside English teacher.

After graduating from high school, Mrs. Avery attended Durham Technical Institute, now Durham Technical Community College. She was employed by General Telephone Company, now Verizon. Rossa retired after forty years of service with the company.

Rossa gave her life to Christ at a very early age, and was a faithful worker at Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church. Her ministry was "helping hands" – providing food, clothes and shelter for those in need. She also served on the Usher Board.

Rossa was married to Ernest P. Avery, who preceded her in death on July 2, 1994. Her parents, two brothers, Jerry and Robert Hayes and a sister, Brenda McKinnon also preceded her in death.

Left to carry on her legacy of love, strength and friendship in her absence are her son, Stephen L. Avery; daughter, Sabrina R. McClain-Poole (David); three sisters, Valeria Hayes Nelson (Winslow), Genevieve Leake (William) of Eden and Beryl Hampton; a brother, Frederick W. Hayes; an aunt, Mary Carmichael; an uncle, Eugene Hayes; four cousins, Heather Hayes, Shelia Carmichael, Angelia C. Braswell and Opal Tatum; special nieces, Tameika Hampton, Kristy Evans, Ashley Leake; nephews, Carl Sumpter, Algernon Sumpter (Monica), Hammam Hampton and Damian Howell; special friend, James Coltrane; and a host of other relatives and family friends.

Order of Service

Organ Prelude

Processional

Selection *Oh, I Want to See Him* EMBC Mixed Choir

Scriptures Pastor Rachel Green

Old Testament – Psalm 23
New Testament – John 14:1-3

Prayer of Comfort Minister Carolyn Satterfield

Selection EMBC Mixed Choir

Acknowledgements Mrs. Bernice King

Obituary – (Read Silently)

Reflections

Hillside High School Class of 1964 Mr. James Sanders
Community Ms. Julia Fairley

Solo *I Won't Complain* Mrs. Gwendolyn H. Chambers

Eulogy Reverend Dr. Cornelius E. Battle

Selection EMBC Mixed Choir

Closing Prayer Reverend Dr. Cornelius E. Battle

Recessional

Interment

Beechwood Cemetery, Section E, Durham, NC 27707

Floral Bearers & Pall Bearers

Hillside High School Class of 1964

Ushers

Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church

The Family and Out-of-Town Guests will return to the church for dinner.

*Drivers in the Procession, Please Turn on Your Headlights and
Flashers for Safety.*



In Appreciation

We sincerely thank you for your love and kindness, your participation, calls, cards, flowers, gifts, food and prayers. Your thoughtfulness and concern shown during this loss of our loved one has been noted and greatly appreciated.

Services Entrusted To:
Fisher Funeral Parlor

3137 Fayetteville Street -- Durham, NC 27707 (919) 682-3276