



Reverend Kathryn Ellavaine Robinson Yates

October 16, 1920 - May 28, 2021

Kathryn Ellavaine Robinson was born on October 16, 1920 in Wrens, Georgia, to Ollie Mae Robinson and Willie Lee Robinson. Kathryn was the eldest of five children. She had three sisters and one brother. Today, she has one surviving sister.

Her Dad Willie served in the Army and also fought in WWI. In 1938, Willie suffered a stroke so her Mom Ollie became an entrepreneur running her own soul food restaurant as well as doing domestic work for a nearby family.

At seventeen years of age, Kathryn graduated from Paine College H.S. in Augusta, Georgia, and decided to migrate to Newark, New Jersey, where her aunt and uncle resided. Kathryn worked as a domestic and nanny until she met her husband James Yates a year later. They had their first daughter Helena on July 11, 1942, and a second daughter Carol on October 30, 1947. When Carol was eight months, Kathryn's husband was killed on his job in a freak accident at the steel mill.

During this time, Kathryn and her family were living in Harlem, New York. She held jobs at Unique Art Factory, Federal Telephone & Radio and ITT Corp. where she did wiring and soldering for spaceships, etc.

Shortly after her husband's death, Kathryn and her girls moved to the Bronx,

New York. She traveled back and forth to Newark, New Jersey, from New York City for ten years until ITT furloughed employees. She then took in work as a domestic and nanny. It was during this time Kathryn started studying the Science of Mind and Metaphysics under the direction of Dr. Frederick J. Eikerenkoetter ~AKA~ Rev. Ike.

She eventually went back to school to learn typing, shorthand and business skills. Since she was such a fast and accurate typist, she was hired full-time as a Secretary for the Presbyterian Church.

During the year 1969, Kathryn took in her two granddaughters Sandra and Tonia whom she raised until they became adults.

She was a proud member of the Order of the Eastern Star, and enjoyed being a member of the Happy Hour Social Club which organized banquets, dances and raised money for the community.

Around 1985, she retired from the Presbyterian Church and went straight into another full-time position as Secretary for the United Palace Church. Rev. Ike eventually ordained Kathryn after she worked many years serving as a Practitioner. Kathryn worked in the church as both a Minister and Secretary until age eighty-three, and in May 2004, her granddaughters Sandra and Tonia moved her here to Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

Kathryn settled in at the Presbyterian Apartments where she soon became the Resident Pastor. She served as Resident Pastor for ten years.

Kathryn turned one-hundred years old on October 16, 2020. She continued to spread positivity and give love to everyone around her including strangers. She will be extremely missed by all who had the privilege to be in her presence.

On Friday, May 28, 2021, Kathryn transitioned from time to eternity. She leaves to mourn two children, Helena Smith of Wrens, Georgia, and Carol Ledford of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania; eight grandchildren, Sandra Gilbert (Terry), Tonia Kroboth (Robert), all of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, Jamie Smith (Keysia) of Tampa, Florida, Dara Savage of Burlington, New Jersey, Ayana Ledford (Brad Beighle) of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Makeeta Jones (Michael) of Burlington, New Jersey, Helena Smith of Landover Hills, Maryland, Clarissa Ledford of Marina del Rey, California; several great- and great-great-grandchildren; sister, Alene Walker of Wrens, Georgia; nieces, Joyce Buckle (Cartielyn) of Bronx, New York, Ardis Lawrence of East Point, Georgia, Cynthia Hall of College Park, Georgia; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives and friends.

Interment will be in Georgia.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS ARE ENCOURAGED TO CLICK ON THE SHARE A MEMORY TAB TO POST VIDEOS, SHARE MEMORIES, CONDOLENCES, REFLECTIONS OR SIMPLY YOUR NAME.

CLICK ON THE PHOTOS & VIDEOS ON-LINE STREAMING OF SERVICE TAB OR MEDIA TAB (MOBILE) AND TRIBUTE WEBCAST TO VIEW SERVICE.

Previous Events

Flower Delivery

JUN 3. 8:30 AM (ET)

Wallace Funeral Directors Inc.
106 Agnes St
Harrisburg, PA 17104
(717) 939-9950
wallacefuneraldirectors@gmail.com
<https://www.wallacefuneraldirectorsinc.com>

Viewing

JUN 3. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Wallace Funeral Directors Inc.
106 Agnes St
Harrisburg, PA 17104
(717) 939-9950
wallacefuneraldirectors@gmail.com
<https://www.wallacefuneraldirectorsinc.com>

Service

JUN 3. 11:00 AM (ET)

Wallace Funeral Directors Inc.
106 Agnes St
Harrisburg, PA 17104
(717) 939-9950
wallacefuneraldirectors@gmail.com
<https://www.wallacefuneraldirectorsinc.com>

Tribute Wall



“ Wallace Funeral Directors created a Webcast in memory of Reverend Kathryn Ellavaine Robinson Yates



Wallace Funeral Directors - June 01, 2021 at 06:02 PM

RD

“ My deepest condolences and prayers to Sandra, Tonia and the entire family. Your Grandmother Rev. Kathryn was truly a beloved and blessed woman who loved life and everything about it. She was a young at heart and always looked gorgeous. A true Queen and Angel, her celebration of life and home going today was full of love. May God cover you all during your time of sorrow.



Love,
Renee, Jay and Jordan Davis

Renee R. Davis - June 03, 2021 at 07:34 PM

TK

Reading this means so much, thank you.

Tonia Kroboth - June 08, 2021 at 12:34 PM

SS

“ Sending Condolences from the Stallings /Outlaw family we love you so so much and we are so sorry for your loss.

Shimi Stallings - June 03, 2021 at 10:56 AM

TK

Thank you, we appreciate your kind words, Love and Blessings to all of you.

Tonia Kroboth - June 08, 2021 at 12:39 PM

SG

“ *Sandra Gilbert lit a candle in memory of Reverend Kathryn Ellavaine Robinson Yates*



Sandra Gilbert - June 02, 2021 at 09:59 AM

PL

“ *Paulette Lucas purchased the Beautiful Whisper for the family of Reverend Kathryn Ellavaine Robinson Yates.*



Paulette Lucas - June 01, 2021 at 07:01 PM

RT

“ My love, peace and my prayers are with Rev. Yates and her family.

Rev. Yates and I have been friends and workers in ministry for about 50 years. We worked in ministry at both the Presbyterian Church, USA and in Rev. Ike's Ministry at the United Palace Cathedral.

Thousands of people have been blessed and prospered through the presence and power of God in her.

At our work location at 475 Riverside Drive, NYC, Rev. Yates and I would regularly have lunch and laughs together across the street in Riverside Park. It always was more laughs than lunch. We looked for opportunities to "cut the fool". When we were together, we would come up with craziness that even we couldn't believe - that's what made it so funny. When we returned to the office our bellies were hurting. Many times it was so hilarious that we were laughing until late into the evenings.

" The joy of the Lord was her strength." Laugh and the whole world will laugh with you.

Love you Rev. Kathryn.

Rev. Barbara Tilley

Rev. Barbara Tilley - June 01, 2021 at 06:06 PM

TK

Rev. Tilley, Grandma spoke often of the great times she shared with you. Thanks for being a dear friend.

Tonia Kroboth - June 08, 2021 at 12:50 PM

GB

“ So grateful that I had the opportunity to meet cousin Kathryn. Condolences, thoughts and prayers to the family and friends and church family. Love, Gloria Blount

Gloria Blount - June 01, 2021 at 02:02 PM

TK

Thanks so much, your prayers are felt.

Tonia Kroboth - June 08, 2021 at 12:52 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Reverend Kathryn Ellavaine Robinson Yates.*



May 31, 2021 at 08:10 PM



“ *Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Reverend Kathryn Ellavaine Robinson Yates.*



May 31, 2021 at 06:41 PM

LJ

“ *Love, Linda Yates-Johnson & Tony Johnson purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Reverend Kathryn Ellavaine Robinson Yates.*



Love, Linda Yates-Johnson & Tony Johnson - May 31, 2021 at 03:44 PM