



Happy Grandparents' Day!



### *With Sincere Gratitude*

The family wishes to express its sincere gratitude to friends and family who have been so kind and thoughtful. Your prayers and expressions of kindness will always be remembered. May God bless each of you.

### *Special Note of Appreciation to:*

The family would like to extend a special note of appreciation to:

-Cousin Anastacia Fisher, who took Naomi into her home and showed her sisterly love, attentiveness, and patience without ceasing.

-Nurse Baffour, who went far beyond his hospice nurse duties and cared for Naomi's physical health, spiritual health, and dignity in death with quiet compassion, tenderness, and love.

-Chaplin Milly Ingram, who showered Naomi with care, continually kept her in prayer, and has made herself available at all times as a source of spiritual support for the family.



# *The Celebration of Life and Homegoing of* *Naomi Garrison* **CLARK**



*Sunrise*  
August 24, 1958

*Sunset*  
May 21, 2021

Saturday, May 29, 2021  
11:00 A.M.

**One Word Community Church**  
14627 Jefferson Davis Hwy  
Woodbridge, VA 22191  
703-490-8805





# Obituary

**Naomi Garrison Clark** was born on August 24, 1958. She was the second of three children born to Rev. Benjamin and Mrs. Uldine Garrison of Brooklyn, NY.

Naomi spent her childhood and adolescent years in Brooklyn, NY, where she attended New York City public schools. She graduated from John Dewey High School in Brooklyn in 1976, before enrolling in Anderson College in Anderson, Indiana. During her time at Anderson, she met Mitchell Bettis. Naomi and Mitchell were married on August 9, 1980. Miriam Naomi U Bettis and Austin Mitchell Garrison Bettis were born to this union. Naomi earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in Early Childhood Education in 1982.

Naomi expressed an early commitment to Christian discipleship and maintained that commitment her entire life. Her dedication to God was evident by her words of encouragement, sharing of scripture, prayer, and song.

Naomi had a beautiful singing voice that she used throughout her life. Whether singing with the Fruit of the Spirit college group, harmonizing with the Brownsville Trio, participating in and/or leading worship at the church, or recording a short song for her incoming voicemail greeting, she never missed the opportunity to make a joyful noise. Singing "He Shall Give His Angels Charge Over Thee..." to her grandchildren was one of her greatest joys.

In addition to her love of music, Naomi had a passion for working with children. To this end, she was employed as a school bus driver, teacher's assistant, hospital childcare worker, and pre-school teacher. She offered tutoring services and volunteered as Sunday school teacher at various points in her life. One of her most rewarding experiences was her employment with The Salvation Army as a house mom. During that time she served more than 100 children.

Naomi had a loving, caring, and quirky personality that she displayed daily. A self-described foodie, she always carried a personal shaker of hot cayenne pepper in her purse just in case something she was eating wasn't quite spicy enough. Her loving and caring spirit shined through in her love of animals, her enjoyment of long conversations with friends and family, and her ability to make people feel welcomed.

Naomi passed away peacefully on Friday, May 21, 2021 in Triangle, Virginia. She leaves to mourn two children, Miriam Naomi U Bettis and Austin Mitchell Garrison Bettis (Ashleigh); two siblings, Dr. Lorraine Alyce Garrison Boyd, and Dr. S'rah Alliyah Yisrael; one Aunt, Mary Garrison Wright; cousins Dr. Roslyn E. Bacon, Leslie Arlette Boyce, Dalmar R. E. James II, Daria K. James, Alan Wright, Robert Wright, Yolanda Brookins, Roberta Fisher, John Garrison, Augusta Garrison, and Anastacia Fisher, who also stepped into the role of devoted caregiver towards the end of Naomi's life; nieces and nephews Carl Toure Boyd, Benjamin Christopher Garrison Logan, Malcolm Garrison Boyd, Danielle Monique Stephen, and Jewel Marie Stephen; grandchildren Amayah Hope Bettis, Amari Benjamin Bettis, and Haddie Joy Bettis; a host of extended family, friends, and colleagues.

# Order of Service



## Musical Prelude and Slideshow

**Processional**  
Pastor and Family

**Invocation**  
Pastor Johnny Clements

**Song of Praise**  
What a Friend We Have in Jesus

**Old Testament Scripture**  
Psalms 91: 11-12  
Amayah Bettis

**New Testament Scripture**  
1 Thessalonians 4: 13-18  
Minister Ronnie Moore

**Special Tribute**  
Fruit of the Spirit

**Obituary Reading**  
Benjamin Logan

**Special Tribute**  
Dr. Roslyn Bacon

**Eulogy**  
Rev. Clifton McDowell

**Song of Praise**  
I'll Fly Away

**Word of Encouragement**  
Pastor Mildred Ingram

**Reflections of Life**  
Family & Congregation (2 minute limit)

**Benediction**  
Pastor Johnny Clements

**Recessional**

