

Ivy Beyond the Wall &  
✧  
A Service of Resurrection  
Celebrating the Life of



**Mercedes L. Rowe**  
(April 13, 1926 - February 1, 2015)

Wednesday, February 11, 2015, 11:00 a.m.  
Presbyterian Church of New Rochelle

## A Life Richly Lived

**M**ercedes L. Rowe, daughter of David and Delena Walker, was born April 13, 1926 in New York City, New York. She departed this life to be with the Lord on February 1, 2015.

She was a devoted and supportive family woman. She married Richard Lloyd Rowe, Sr. to whom she was married for over 60 years. The Rowe's had three children together Delena, Patricia (pre-deceased) and Richard. They shared a rich community and church life over the years particularly with the Presbyterian Church of New Rochelle. Mercedes was an elder and deacon at the church, serving in a wide range of capacities.

Mercedes was a retired teacher and librarian in the New York school system. She was educated in the public school system and received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Teaching from City College in New York, and her Master in Library Science in Queens College in New York. She was a committed and active member of the Eta Omega Omega chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated in the Bronx, New York. She loved spending time with her loving children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. She was a woman of class who enjoyed talking, laughing, and reading. You could always feel love radiating from her heart when in her presence.

She leaves to cherish her memories her children Delena Pugh and Richard; brother, David Walker; brother-in-law, Sydney Smith; (Melba) sister-in-law Georgeanna Smith; grandchildren, Kasimu (Laurencia), Mercedes, Ronald, William Calvin (Nicole), Shalia (Twan) and Tricia (Josh); great grandchildren, Chianti, Kina, Kamisha, Charnae, Khalil, Nasir, Melena, Kamani, Calvin Lloyd, Jisele, Lauren, Elijah, and Josh, Jr.; niece, RONALDA Stover (James); and grandniece, Megan. Mercedes had so many dear friends among whom were her friends from childhood Eloise Coleman, Beverly Brown, and Joyce Howard, and her travelling companion Lucille Thomas.

Ivy Beyond the Wall  
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.



Witness to the Resurrection

**Prelude**

**Opening Sentences and a Prayer of Invocation:** Pastor Buchanan

**Hymn #467** "How Great Thou Art"  
(verses 1, 3, 4)

**Scripture Readings:** (Insert) Psalm 23 (Unison)  
1 Corinthians 15:51-58

**Prayer** Eloise Coleman, Childhood Friend

**Reflections:** Sydney Smith, Brother-in-law  
Greta Facey, friend & member of PCNR

**Acknowledgements** Audrey McKenzie, friend and member of PCNR

**Hymn #304** "Jesus Loves Me"

**Words of Comfort** Pastor Buchanan

**Hymn #369** "I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"

**Benediction**

In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? John 14:2

## Celebration of the Life of Mercedes Rowe

By W. Calvin Anderson Feb. 3, 2015

With the bearing of Psalms 143:8  
God...Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love,  
for I put my trust in you.  
Show me the way I should go,  
for to you I lift up my soul...

With some of the sentiments of the great poet,  
Edna St. Vincent Millay...

We are not resigned to let go of the spices of your humor;  
Your keen wit, earnest wisdom...the music of your laughter.  
We'll not lean the other way from sweet reflections of your "snuggled moments" with comments  
in church or in crowds.

We never will release the vertical sunrays in your smile and your way of  
encouraging-the-practical in our daily struggle or how  
you made special salutations for birthdays and how priceless now your voice was in song.  
We'll not release to put away your hereditary loving eyes and careful ears for all of us  
scanning voices for bright or overcast days.

Life with you had a sweet and tender style; you had strong shoulders with bearing from family paths  
on 135<sup>th</sup> Street Harlem to the North Bronx and to New Rochelle. Father's side  
from Dinwiddie County, Virginia, Mother's Creek Indian, the Boroughs family bringing a flavored  
and a mighty presence.

You brought the muse and the music of your family to us.

We are not resigned to forget the lifetime you spent in church.  
The thousands of books flowing through your hands that you used; the world travels showing what  
progressive parents, women, mother's do. We will not forget your service  
and your dedication to your sorority AKA and to Mrs. Wilson who mentored you for that.

Because we really had you, Mercedes Rowe

when we were  
"gifted enough"  
to -- have had you.

Because we are certain that you would never leave us...even now:

We will ask of the God  
that you served each week  
of your life  
and the Jesus, the chief intercessor  
that you and Mr. Rowe gave your praises to,  
to bring us in the span of our lives  
your tender assurances  
and courage...  
and of course  
"word of your  
unfailing love,  
for we put our trust  
in you O God...Show us the way we should go,  
from here for to Him we lift up our souls."



Interment  
Kensico Cemetery  
2783 Lakeview Avenue  
Valhalla, New York 10595

Barney T. McClanahan Funeral Home, Inc.  
30 Winthrop Avenue  
New Rochelle, New York 10801  
914-632-8970

#### Acknowledgements

The family of Mercedes L. Rowe is deeply appreciative of all acts of love, deeds of thoughtfulness, and words of sympathy expressed, implied, or demonstrated to them during their time of bereavement.

Tamara Cashour, Music Director

Women's Association for preparing the reception in the Guild Room

Flower Bearers: Members of Alpha Kappa Alpha, Inc.