



Life Reflections

Naeemah Bey, affectionately known as “Bunny” and lovingly called “Mama Bey” by so many, was born on September 21, 1953 in Sumter, South Carolina, to the late Inez Davis-Reid and Charles Reid. She was called home surrounded by love, memory, and legacy.

Naeemah attended Lincoln High School in Sumter, SC. In 1972, she met the love of her life, Yusuf Rami Bey (Joseph Archer) at Shaw Air Force Base in Sumter, where their lifelong bond began. In 1976, they relocated to Jamaica, Queens, New York, along with her daughter Sitara. There, they were nationalized as Moorish Americans and completed their Moorish obligation ceremony on November 17, 1980. Their union was blessed with seven additional children, creating a family rooted in love, faith, and tradition.

Throughout her life, Naeemah worked many jobs, but her greatest title was proudly “Mom.” She was not only a mother to eight children, but a true mother to the community. Known throughout South Jamaica, Queens. Naeemah kept her doors open, provided safety for neighborhood children, and ensured no one left her home hungry. Her generosity, warmth, and strength touched countless lives.

Naeemah was a lifelong student of Moorish Science, numerology, and astrology. She was also a talented seamstress, lovingly making clothing for her family. She enjoyed music, dancing, and celebrating life with family and friends. As the matriarch of her family, she helped raise 19 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren, leaving an unmistakable imprint of love, wisdom and guidance.

In 2001, Naeemah returned to Sumter, SC, where she continued to live until she was reunited with her husband, beloved children, and other loved ones who preceded her in death.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband Yusuf Rami Bey; her daughter, Sitara Naeemah Bey; her son, JaJa Shahada Rami Bey; her grandson, Charles Sinclair Jones; and her sisters, Ann Reid, Betty Reid, and Shirley Ann Reid.

She leaves to cherish her memory five daughters: Nana Ayana Bey, Zuhura Maliki Bey, Dafina Amirh Bey, Tia Titi Bey, and El-morra Bey; one son, Yusef Naeem Rami Bey; nineteen grandchildren: Khalil M. Rami Bey, Kiara Naeemah Bey-Wilson, Ishan Bey-Speights, Jahshon A. Bey, Jamek J. Brown, Tymirh N. Bey-Foster, Jeffrey U. Costello, Jazz Watkins-Bey, Shahada Bey-Foster, Jamorra J. Brown, Jahniah Durant-Bey, Tinasia A. Vaughn, Jahmirh Bey, Makhiyah Bey-Lane, Jamiyah N. Brown, Jordyn Bey, Sef Bey, Sincere Bey, and Yahshem Bey; eleven great-grandchildren, Khalil Bey Jr., Aiden Bryant, Austin Bryant, Zaire Bey, Ta'Lyn Felder, Sitara N. Bey, Jayceon Clyburn, Jazuri Bey, Tymirh Z. Bey-Foster, Sin'Jahya Bey; one sister, May Proctor; three brothers, Charles (Gene) Reid, Sam Reid, and Bernard “Scooby Doo” Reid; her aunt, Barbara Walker, and a host of nieces, nephews, extended family, and dear friends.

Naeemah’s life was filled with love, service, laughter, and strength. Her legacy will live on through the many lives she touched and the family she held so dear.



Naeemah Bay

September 21, 1953 - April 10, 2026

Death is no enemy of man, it is a friend who when the work of life is done, just cuts the cord that binds the human boat to earth, that it may sail on smoother seas.

No language can describe a mother's worth and yours was tried and true. But she was not called hence until her tasks were done.

The calls of death are always for the best, for were solving problems there as well as here; and one is sure to find her self where she can solve her problems best.

It is selfishness that makes one wish to call again to earth departed souls

