

Drew R. E. Wallen
Minister Emeritus

THE FIRST CHURCH OF NAZARETH, U.L.C.
St. Thomas, US Virgin Islands

Leylon Sneed Hale
Commitment to the Sea

Comfort from God's word- "For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal." 2 Cor. 4:17,18

It is in the nature of humanity's "light affliction" that we spend our time on earth exploring our powers and our limitations. Everyone's life is spent giving and taking, teaching and learning, loving and forgiving. Each person's passing is a lesson in the ultimate human limitation; a reminder to live each day as though it were our last. Throughout her lengthy life, Leylon Sneed Hale was a rock and inspiration to those around her- a prime exemplar of how to live and give in times of prosperity and of adversity. Her temporal reward took the form of a loving family and friends, her eternal reward will reflect the full weight of her glorious humanity. **Committal Statement-** Inasmuch as Almighty God has chosen to relieve our beloved sister Leylon Sneed Hale of human tribulations, and commend her soul to eternal glory. We commit her mortal residue to the loving sea, from which all arose, to which all will return.

"Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was, and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it." Eccl. 12:7

Remember

Remember me when I am gone away,
Gone far away into the silent land;
When you can no more hold me by the hand,
Nor I half turn to go yet turning stay.
Remember me when no more day by day
You tell me of our future that you planned:
Only remember me; you understand
It will be late to counsel then or pray,
Yet if you should forget me for a while
And afterwards remember, do not grieve:
For if the darkness and corruption leave
A vestige of the thoughts that once I had,
Better by far you should forget and smile
Than that you should remember and be sad.

- Christina Georgina Rossetti

Eternal God, creator and preserver of all life, look with favor upon the world you have created and upon your servant Leylon Sneed Hale whose spirit we commend to you this day. Bring comfort and joy to all who knew her, and guidance to all of us that we may create a world of quality and benefit for those around us. Now and forever, AMEN.