



Catherine L. Beard

August 10, 1925 - July 12, 2020

Catherine Leothia Beard was born on August 10, 1925 to the late Samuel and Matilda Beard in Baltimore, Maryland.

Her parents were her inspiration for success and instilled in her a thirst for knowledge and the love of life. She had one sister, Bernice Beard Thompson, a lifelong friend and confidante. As a child, Catherine was baptized and joined Fulton Baptist Church. She remained a member for the rest of her life.

Growing up she enjoyed playing with her friends and her favorite game was “playing school.” Catherine would always take the role of the teacher, which allowed her to give assignments and tell the other children what to do. In this game, the teacher always had the last word. When she wasn’t “playing school” in Baltimore, she enjoyed time with her cousins in Virginia. Throughout her life, she reveled in many delightful summers in South Hill, Virginia.

Catherine owes much to the Baltimore City school system having graduated from Frederick Douglass Senior High school in 1942. When Catherine graduated from high school, World War II was in progress and there were new opportunities for women in the workforce, but Catherine focused on her childhood dream of becoming a teacher and continued her education by enrolling at Morgan College (now Morgan State University). Fortune smiled on Catherine when after the first semester in college, her superb grades permitted her to receive a full scholarship. She graduated from Morgan College with a Bachelor’s degree in history.

At that time, the state of Maryland did not permit people of color to attend graduate schools, so Catherine pursued graduate education at New York University (NYU), where she earned a Master’s degree in English education in 1961. Catherine delighted in education, so she continued her graduate studies and spent summers taking courses at the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA).

While she was enrolled in graduate courses during weekends and summers, Catherine

was actively teaching in Baltimore City Public Schools. Of the schools where she taught, two were Calverton Junior High School and Northwestern Senior High School. In these two schools she met many talented teachers and students. Some of her colleagues became close friends, and she had the pleasure of teaching for over 30 years.

Catherine was a proud member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority - Alpha Zeta Chapter. When she was able to attend, she delightfully attended sorority functions, proudly wearing blue and white. She was also a member of University Women's Club.

Catherine spent her final years surrounded by family while being cared for by her niece, Celestine.

Catherine went home to be with the Lord on July 12, 2020. She was preceded in death by her sister, Bernice Beard Thompson and her brother-in-law Lester Thompson. She leaves to mourn: Her loving niece, Celestine Tatum, cherished cousins Magdalene Nock (George Nock) and Annie Lee, three great-nieces: Robyn Terrell (Lester Terrell), Angela Tatum, Alicia Tatum, one great-nephew Maurice Thompson, and a host of other relatives and friends.

Cemetery

Events

Woodlawn Cemetery

MD,

JUL Wake 11:30AM - 12:00PM

21

March Funeral Homes - West Baltimore
4300 Wabash Avenue, Baltimore, MD, US, 21215

JUL Service 12:00PM

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March Funeral Homes - West Baltimore
4300 Wabash Avenue, Baltimore, MD, US, 21215

JUL Viewing 02:00PM - 04:00PM

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4300 Wabash Avenue, Baltimore, MD, US, 21215

Comments



“ To View the Webcast of the Funeral for Catherine L. Beard, Please Click the Link below.



March Funeral Homes - July 21, 2020 at 11:50 AM



“ Victory in Jesus Baptist Church and Victory Day School are truly sorry to hear about the passing of our friend and teacher, Ms. Catherine Beard. It's was a blessing to share the wisdom that she passed on to us and the people that she met. We are are also proud of the work that Sister Beard did for the Kingdom of God. Her life and the love that she shared with those throughout her life time was just wonderful. We are also thankful for the care that Tina, Angela, and the other family member gave to your aunt and relative. God will reward you for your thoughtfulness and unlimited love that you shown for Mrs. Beard. If there is anything that we can do, please don't hesitate to contact us. Good Night Ms. Beard, we will see you in the Morning!

With Love and prayers.

Pastor Randolph and Uelah Taylor
victory Day School
Victory in Jesus Baptist Church

Pastor Randolph Taylor, Sr. - July 21, 2020 at 01:30 PM



“ My heartfelt sympathy and prayers are with you in the loss of Ms. Beard I remember her as a congenial and loving person. I pray memories will help to comfort you. I also pray God will surround you with His love and His peace will be the source of your comfort and strength.

Deaconess Mary Jackson
Fulton Baptist Church

Mary Jackson - July 21, 2020 at 11:52 AM



“ We the March Family and Staff wish to extend our deepest and heartfelt sympathy in the passing of your loved one. Our prayers go out to you and your family in your time of loss. We know and understand that you have received many expressions of love and we will continue to lift you up in prayer. May the memories you cherish of brighter and happier days help to ease your sorrow and comfort you always.

March Funeral Homes - July 20, 2020 at 09:12 AM