Aldena Gladden

October 22, 1925 - May 27, 2015

Swing low, sweet chariot, coming for to carry me home.

On May 27, 2015 Aldena (Nee Powell) Gladden, a most elegant and gracious women, affectionately known as Dean, went home to be with the Lord.

She was born on October 22, 1925 to the late Lena (Nee Boyd) and the late Joe Powell in Mecklenburg County, Virginia. Her mother passed away about two weeks after her birth and she was raised by her loving maternal grandparents. Tiny (Nee Hendricks) and Jeff Boyd. At an early age she accepted Christ as her personal Lord and Savior, was baptized in a river and attended Good Hope and Holly Grove Churches. She was educated in the public schools in Virginia and remained a life-long learner even after relocating to Baltimore, Maryland. In Baltimore, as the first grandchild, she was surrounded by the love of her adoring aunts and uncles, Rebecca, Aline, William, Reuben and Percy. Aldena loved to sing and for many years she sang with several choirs at Mount Pleasant Church and Ministries under the leadership of Pastor Clifford M. Johnson , Jr She was also an amateur gardener, a profile reader, an avid sports fan, and an unpaid political analyst. Aldena's humor , wit and wisdom endeared her to family, friends and neighbors. She was gifted with making everyone feel wanted and special; considered by many the “Mother Theresa” of Rutland Avenue.

As the wife to Thelmon and a mother to eight children and many others, Aldena spent countless hours in the kitchen. She was an undisciplined cook, followed no recipes, more “hit and Miss” and therefore when something was exceptionally good, she could not determine what made it so. However, her signature dishes included; homemade ice cream, anything with dumplings (chicken, blackberries, and apples); puddings (corn bread, and banana); turkey and dressing. Due to much multitasking while cooking, food often burned, especially at Christmastime. Her children loved celebrating Christmas and without fail she knew how make it both magical and spiritual . Preparing beds with fresh linen on Christmas Eve is a tradition they treasure and maintain to this day.

Although having a large family kept her busy, she enjoyed going places and conversing on a variety of subjects with relatives, neighbors, strangers, and friends, particularly her two friends from childhood, the late Irene Tanner and Evelyn Bracey. A highlight of her travels was vacationing Europe with her daughter Phylethia.Swing low, sweet chariot, coming for to carry me home.

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Evelyn Bracey. A highlight of her travels was vacationing Europe with her daughter Phylethia.

She was preceded in death by her husband Thelmon Gladden, her daughter Phylethia (Nee Gladden) Lee, Two brothers: James Powell and willie Lee Powell, and step – mother, Vernice Overby and her son Rick Overby.

Left to cherish her memory children; Elmo Gladden (Gloria), Jo Anne G. Montgomery (Aaron), Shirley L. Gladden, Lena Gladden, Sarah Gladden Thaniel (Thomas), Alfred P. Gladden, Loretta Gladden-Reddy; Step-son Glenn R. Chappell (Denise) Eleven grandchildren: Carl (Tanya), Anesha, Bridgette (Kevin), Percellis (Koketa) Antoine, tiffany, Shawn (Nghi), Karrin (Bryan), Katrina, Chaz and martin; and step-grands: Karron (Thomas), Glenn, Jr. Shanna (Michael), Ayana ,Maia and Moses (Crystal) seventeen great-grandchildren: Erica, Breauna Kiarah, Darius, Darien, Dante', Christopher, Jordan, Berdella, Akala, Antoine, Jr. Breon, Christian, Kenyi, Ximar, Appollo and Lorenzo, Four brothers: Fred Powell, Elbert Powell, Sr. (Normandy), Valton Powell and Les Powell. Four sisters: Elvia Powell, Gladys Lewis, (Robert), Margaret Powell and Linda overby; and three sisters-in-laws: Vera Gladden, Jessie Gladden and Gertrude Gladden; goddaughters, Peggy and Anita; and a host of other relatives, neighbors and friends.

Having faith that all things work together for the good to those that love God, we must now accept that you fought a good fight, you finished your course, you kept the faith and there is a crown awaiting you. God be with you. We will miss you.

Lovingly Submitted,
the Gladden Family

Cemetery Details

Cedar Hill

5829 Ritchie Highway
Brooklyn, MD 21230

Previous Events

viewing

JUN **3**. 8:30 AM - 8:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Homes - East Baltimore
1101 East North Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21202
(410) 727-3300
info@marchfh.com

Family Hour

JUN **3**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Homes - East Baltimore
1101 East North Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21202
(410) 727-3300
info@marchfh.com

Wake

JUN **4**. 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Mt Pleasant Church and Mininstries
6000 Radecke Acvenue
Balto, MD 21206

Service

JUN **4**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Mt Pleasant Church and Mininstries
6000 Radecke Acvenue
Balto, MD 21206

Tribute Wall

Aldena Gladden

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM

AN

To Sarah and Family, Sorry to hear about the passing of your mother. May God continue to bless you and your family.

Anzenita Allen

Anzenita - August 06, 2015 at 09:24 AM

LH

My deepest condolence to the Gladden family (Shirley and Lena) whom I went to school with. May you all find comfort in knowing that soon our enemy death will be a thing of the past. 1 Corinthian 15: 26

Loretta Harris - June 26, 2015 at 08:41 AM

MC

To the Gladden family I offer sincere condolences to you in the passing of Mother Gladden. May God comfort and keep you all.

Sis. Marie Cornish

Marie Cornish - June 13, 2015 at 04:45 AM

ME

To Loretta, Sarah and the Gladden family. From my family to yours our hearts and minds will be keeping you all in praying. Your mother was one of legends of the East Baltimore legends of women. God needed another angel to join the others.

Melinda - June 05, 2015 at 04:53 PM

I WANT MY NANNY BACK

Breauna Murchison - June 04, 2015 at 09:16 PM

JC

To the Gladden Family:

This poem was shared in the homegoing of my beloved grandmother for which I reflect from time to time to cherish my fond memories of her before she crossed over to Glory.....

GOD saw the road was getting rough, the hills were hard to climb,

HE gently closed those loving eyes, and whispered, "Peace Be Thine".

The weary hours, the days of pain, the sleepless nights are past,

The ever-patient worn-out frame has found sweet rest at last.

GOD gave us the strength to bear it, and courage to face the blow,

But what it meant to lose you, no one will ever know.

Your memory is a keepsafe from whence we shall never part,

Though GOD has you in HIS keeping, we shall always have you in our hearts.

- Author Unknown

May GOD Peace and Comfort Always Bring Your Family Fond Memories too!

Bro John Clinkscales

John Clinkscales - June 04, 2015 at 07:07 PM

JC

Chief Gladden & Family,

May GOD grant you HIS peace and comfort in the loss of your beloved Mother. Know that your loss is GOD's gain! The LORD is close to those whose hearts are breaking. Cast all your cares upon HIM, for HE cares for you! Let not your heart be troubled. Weeping may endureth for a night, but joy cometh in the morning. Our thoughts and prayers are with you in the home going celebration of Mother Aldena Gladden.

John & Phyllis Clinkscales

All that I am or hope to be, I owe to my Angel Mother - Abraham Lincoln

John Clinkscales - June 04, 2015 at 06:21 PM

MS

To the Gladden Family

"May these words comfort you on the loss of your mother. I will always remember her sweet smile and beautiful nature. May God keep you in his embrace at this difficult time."

From: Maria Shields and Janice Taylor

Maria Shields - June 04, 2015 at 05:19 PM

YL

Your Administrative Team, Detroit Public Library purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Aldena Gladden.

Your Administrative Team, Detroit Public Library - June 03, 2015 at 02:23 PM

PR

Peace and Blessings to the Family and the Soul of Mrs. Gladden. Thank you for the impact you had on me and others from our East Baltimore Community directly and thru your Family particularly Brother Alfred Gladden also known as The Barber. There is much gratitude to be acknowledged from the longevity of this wonderful life alone. Much Love Pete Ross and Family

Pete Ross - June 03, 2015 at 12:31 PM

AB

The the Gladden family

You have my heartfelt sympathy in the passing of your mother.

Andre D Biggers

Andre D Biggers - June 02, 2015 at 06:34 PM

TM

Dear Gladden Family,

I have heard so many wonderful stories about your mother from Jo Anne.She was truly one of those blessed and good people who are full of so much grace and dignity.

May your hearts soon be filled with wonderful memories of joyful times together as you celebrate a life well lived. -

With warm and heartfelt sympathy,

Trinee Moore
Detroit Public Library

In the words of Emily Dickerson

“Unable are the loved to die. For love is immortality.”

Trinee Moore - June 02, 2015 at 02:04 PM

Our prayers are with you during this time. May God bless and keep you.

Floyd Brice - June 01, 2015 at 12:44 PM

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 - May 29, 2015 at 04:19 PM