



Aretha Holmes Fields

April 6, 1919 - May 1, 2020

Aretha Estelle Holmes Fields was the eighth child born on April 6, 1919, to the late Alice and Thomas Holmes in Richmond, Virginia. She was preceded in death by her husband James E. Fields; son Dr. James B. Stevens, Jr (Betty); five brothers and six sisters.

She was baptized and remained a faithful member of St. James Baptist Church until her health failed. She was a part of the music ministry and will be remembered for her beautiful singing voice.

Aretha was educated in the Henrico County school system and graduated from Virginia Randolph High School in 1943. She attended beauty school and practiced her craft for a few years. She enlisted into the United States Army and was stationed in Gordon, Georgia and served her country with honors. While in Georgia, she met James B. Stevens and from that union, her “favorite” son was born, James Benjamin Stevens, Jr.

Realizing she missed her home, Aretha returned to Virginia and enrolled in Hampton University. She later moved to Washington, DC and was employed by the Federal Government. She worked for several agencies during her time in the Government, and retired from Department of Energy as a Payroll Supervisor. Her family was always important to her and she routinely came home to Richmond to visit.

It was later in life that she moved to Rhode Island and married James E. Fields of Virginia. They soon returned to Washington, DC and lived happily until his passing.

In her spare time, she took upholstering classes and worked as an office manager in her son's dental practice. Missing home again, she returned to the family home on Doran Road in Richmond, VA where she lived first with her older sister, Alyce H. Adkins and then her younger sister Bessie H. Robinson. Unable to live on her own, she moved back north to Maryland to live with her son. In her later years, she required full time care and moved to an assisted living facility. She lived out her final years at a nursing center in Silver Spring, Maryland. She was called home to rest on May 1, 2020 after living 101 wonderful years.

Aretha leaves to cherish her memory one granddaughter, Kortney Marie Hammonds (Jermaine); one adored great-granddaughter, Autumn Marie Hammonds; two beloved sisters, Veora H. Waller and Esther H. Easter; daughter-in-law, Betty N. Stevens a host of many nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Cemetery Details

St. James Cemetery

Henrico, VA

Previous Events

Walk through Visitation

MAY 12. 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM (ET)

March Funeral Home -Laburnum Chapel
2110 E. Laburnum Ave.
Richmond, VA 23222

Celebration of Life

MAY 13. 1:30 PM (ET)

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Tribute Wall



“ *To View the Webcast of the Funeral for Aretha Holmes Fields, Please Click the Link below.*



March Funeral Homes - May 11, 2020 at 09:35 AM



“ *Aretha Holmes Fields*

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 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 - May 07, 2020 at 02:17 PM