



## Dr. Beatrice Motley Cole

February 16, 1928 - January 27, 2020

### Legacy of Life

Dr. Beatrice Viola Tyler Motley Cole, B.A., B.Th., M.Div., Ed.D., Ph.D.

“I AM A LIVING TESTIMONY” was the daily affirmation of Beatrice Motley Cole.

The life she lived was exemplary of her affirmation. She strived daily to be the expressed example of Holy Living.

Dr. Beatrice Motley Cole, transitioned from this life after a brief illness on Monday, January 27, 2020 at the proud age of 91 years. She bid her children good-bye and then reached to the heavens and announced her readiness to enter into her rest.

Beatrice Viola Tyler was born in Newport News, VA on February 16, 1928 to Guiser Alexander and Lola Armstead Tyler. She would be the first daughter and third child of her parent's six children. She is a widow of Joseph Motley, Sr. for 16 years and Cooper G. Cole for 32 years. A mother of 14 children of which she gave birth to eight and reared four from their childhood. Twelve of the children have attended and or earned college degrees.

She was a graduate of Huntington High School, Newport News, VA and later earned a certificate from Smith Madden Business College and Richard Bland College. She was employed as a secretary to the President at Southern Aid Life Insurance Company, Richmond, VA and retired after 26 years from Defense General Supply Center, Richmond, VA. In the community, she served as Vice Chairman on the Board of Social Services, Charles City, VA.

She matriculated through Richmond Virginia Seminary where she earned her Bachelor's degree in Theology, Religious Education and a Master of Divinity Degree. She earned a doctoral degree in Christian Education and a Ph.D. in Biblical Studies from University of Family Bible Seminary, Baltimore, MD. Other notable educational accomplishments were a certificate in Adult Education (Virginia State University) and Christian Education (Virginia Union University). She developed the Missionary Auxiliary and Awareness Institute (MAAI) which was a training initiative for Missionaries in the Historic First Jurisdiction of the Churches of God in Christ of Virginia. She also created a curriculum for the New Beginnings Bible Institute and in her latter days she earned certification through the State of Virginia Department of Education for a Bible College, After School Program and G.E.D. program.

She became a member of First Baptist Church, Newport News, VA at an early age and remained until she married and moved to Richmond at age 21. She joined State Temple COGIC under the pastorship of Bishop David C. Love which later became Community COGIC. At the time of her transition she was a loyal member at New Beginnings Ministry under the pastorship of her son, Elder Alexander Motley Sr. where she served as Church Mother. Through the years, she also faithfully served in many offices on the local, district, state, and national platforms. Those positions include organist, choir director, local and state minister of music serving over a span of 60 years. In the teaching ministry, Dr. Cole has been District Sunday School Superintendent, District Missionary, Curriculum Specialist of the State Women's Department COGIC,

instructor for the C.H. Mason Bible College, member of the Examining Board, State Women's Department and a State Mother Adjutant. Through Church of God in Christ International of which she was a Charter member for 63 years, she was awarded the "National Woman of Achievement" award by the 1996 National District Missionary Unit.

She was a loving Mother with a gentle spirit and having a loving kind word for everyone she encountered. With her family, as quiet as it was kept, she was a hidden comedian. Her gift of healing became her ministry in addition to prophetic writings. As a musician, teacher, and writer, she mentored others in the same capacity to maturity. She was very fashionable and a connoisseur of quality clothing and head appeal! No matter what the situation or challenge, she would depend and trust in the power of God to guide her through it while praising him all the way. After a solemn peaceful request, God granted her the desire of her heart to go home and she readied herself by repeatedly requesting that we put on her shoes.

Dr. Beatrice Motley Cole was preceded in death by her two loving husbands, Joseph Motley, Sr. and Cooper G. Cole, her parents and six siblings. She leaves cherished memories to her children; Gary Cole (Fay), Joseph Motley, Jr., Larry Cole (Naomi), Michael Motley, Sr. (Billie), Pamela Motley McMullen (Wilbur), Deborah Motley Boldin, Sheila Fowlkes, Carrie Lloyd, Alexander Motley, Sr. (Sandra), Wayne Motley, Sr. (Cassandra), Sabra Green (Frank), Monica Thomas (Allan), Ervin Cole (Kristin), Carol Cole Vergara (Rafael), 42 grandchildren, 22 great grandchildren, and six great-great grandchildren. In addition, her spiritual daughters Sister Della Wilson, District Missionary Linda Hawkins and Evangelist Missionary Barbara Olds, god-daughters and god-sons, mentees and a host of relatives and friends, among them her longtime friends LaVerne Gwathney and Hilda Burnett.

# Cemetery Details

## Roselawn Memory Gardens

13389 Mountain Road  
Glen Allen, VA 23059

# Previous Events

## viewing

JAN 31. 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM (ET)

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

## Family Hour

JAN 31. 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

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

## Celebration of Life

FEB 1. 11:00 AM (ET)

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



# Tribute Wall



“ *Dr. Beatrice Motley Cole*

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ *Carol, Ervin and family. I'm so sorry for your loss. I will always cherish the childhood memories of growing up around your family. May God continue to comfort you and your family*

*Love,  
Jenaya Perkinson Baker*

**Jenaya Baker** - March 15, 2021 at 07:54 PM



“ *Your presence will be greatly missed each year at St. John's United Holy Church serving on our Womens Day Committee. God have a better place for you in Heaven.  
Love in Christ - Sis. Gloria Turnage*

**Gloria Turnage** - February 15, 2020 at 02:42 PM



“ *My sincerest condolences to the family of Dr. Cole.*

*May God's peace and comfort be with you during this time of grief.*

*"Those we love don't go away, they walk beside us every day... unseen, unheard, but always near, still loved, still missed and very dear."*



**Danielle Flanagan, Nashville, TN** - February 03, 2020 at 10:13 AM

LA

“ To Wayne and family my deepest condolences. The times I met your mom, what a blessing to be able to share a hug with her, be in her presence and hear her words of wisdom. I could tell she was a special woman. I know she'll be dearly missed. You have my prayerful support and may God provide spiritual comfort to the family during this time of grief with the loving thought of her having lived with distinction in God's eyes. Lloyd A.

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**lloyd b arnold** - February 01, 2020 at 07:38 AM

“ Our hearts are heavy with grief and sadness but overflowing with unconditional love for such a remarkable and unforgettable woman. Mother Bea’s quiet and unassuming strength has provided assertive courage for many. Her faith and love of family are qualities for emulation. I am forever grateful for her unwaivering encouragement, never-ending prayers and her unconditional acceptance and love for me and my family. Mother Bea, you are not lost to us; rather, you will live within our hearts for an eternity. As the keepers of your spirit, we are charged with speaking your name often and lovingly for that is the only way for your spirit to stay alive for an eternity and for our future to know the grace and beauty of Dr. Beatrice Motley Cole.

#### WHEN GREAT TREES FALL

*When great trees fall, rocks on distant hills shudder, lions hunker down in tall grasses, and even elephants lumber after safety.*

*When great trees fall in forests, small things recoil into silence, their senses eroded beyond fear.*

*When great souls die, the air around us becomes light, rare, sterile. We breathe, briefly. Our eyes, briefly, see with a hurtful clarity. Our memory, suddenly sharpened, examines, gnaws on kind words unsaid, promised walks never taken.*

*Great souls die and our reality, bound to them, takes leave of us. Our souls, dependent upon their nurture, now shrink, wizened. Our minds, formed and informed by their radiance, fall away. We are not so much maddened as reduced to the unutterable ignorance of dark, cold caves.*

*And when great souls die, after a period peace blooms, slowly and always irregularly. Spaces fill with a kind of soothing electric vibration. Our senses, restored, never to be the same,*

*whisper to us. They existed. They existed. We can be. Be and be better. For they existed.*  
~Maya Angelou

*Being deeply loved by someone gives you strength, while loving someone deeply gives you courage.* ~Lao Tzu

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**Pauline J. Elder-Morris** - February 01, 2020 at 07:21 AM

VJ

“ *To Wayne Motley and Family  
So sorry for your loss...It was nice to meet your mom on several tennis occasions....You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers....*  
*Valerie Jones (New Jersey)*

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**Valerie Jones** - January 31, 2020 at 07:25 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Dr. Beatrice Motley Cole.*



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January 31, 2020 at 02:33 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. Beatrice Motley Cole.*



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January 31, 2020 at 02:12 PM

DW

“ *Dora, Denise and Xavier Washington purchased the Sweet Tenderness for the family of Dr. Beatrice Motley Cole.*



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**Dora, Denise and Xavier Washington** - January 31, 2020 at 12:36 PM



“ *Enduring Grace was purchased for the family of Dr. Beatrice Motley Cole.*



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January 31, 2020 at 10:12 AM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Dr. Beatrice Motley Cole.*



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January 31, 2020 at 10:06 AM

VP

“ *A beautiful women of God, my prayers and love to the family.*

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**Vanessa Phillips** - January 31, 2020 at 08:54 AM

YI

“ Your sister Taty, brother in law, niece & nephews in MIA purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Dr. Beatrice Motley Cole.



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**Your sister Taty, brother in law, niece & nephews in MIA** -  
January 31, 2020 at 07:34 AM

PL

“ Our hearts and prayers go out to the family during this difficult time. May the memories of your loved one bring you comfort and the love of God bring you peace.

*Patricia Lewis*  
*First Bethel Baptist Church*

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**Patricia Lewis** - January 31, 2020 at 07:03 AM

JB

“ Johnnie & Patricia Brown sent a virtual gift in memory of Dr. Beatrice Motley Cole



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**Johnnie & Patricia Brown** - January 31, 2020 at 06:59 AM

JM

“ James Motley lit a candle in memory of Dr. Beatrice Motley Cole



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**James Motley** - January 30, 2020 at 04:37 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Dr. Beatrice Motley Cole.*



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January 30, 2020 at 11:06 AM



“ *Linda Fleming lit a candle in memory of Dr. Beatrice Motley Cole*



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**Linda Fleming** - January 30, 2020 at 10:41 AM



*Our condolences to the family during this time. Praying for peace, comfort and strength. God Bless.*

*Love, Clyde and Linda Fleming*

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**Linda Fleming** - January 30, 2020 at 10:42 AM



“ *JACQUELINE lit a candle in memory of Dr. Beatrice Motley Cole*



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**JACQUELINE** - January 30, 2020 at 09:58 AM



*Prayers and Condolences to you all at this difficult time. Jackie Pemberton First Bethel Baptist Church*

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**JACQUELINE** - January 30, 2020 at 09:59 AM

DW

“ *Billie and Family. I would like to express my condolences to you and your family in the loss of your love one. May God console you in this difficult time. He will never leave you. You will always be in my Prayers*



*Wongus*

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**Deborah Wongus** - January 30, 2020 at 09:32 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. Beatrice Motley Cole.*



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January 29, 2020 at 08:36 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.*

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**March Funeral Homes** - January 29, 2020 at 04:44 PM