



Bernice Thomas

April 13, 1929 - July 15, 2023

BERNICE THOMAS, daughter of Lee and Loice Watkins, was born in Ansonville, North Carolina, April 13, 1929. She received the call of God on July 15, 2023, and was united in heaven with her late husband Sam W. Thomas.

Bernice Thomas was raised in Ansonville, North Carolina. She received her formal education in the Anson County School System and joined the Pleasant Hill Baptist Church where she was baptized.

Bernice met the love of her life, Sam Thomas, in Anson County and they were married on December 28, 1946. Their marriage lasted nearly 70 years until Sam's transition in 2015. Of this union, seven children were born. The family lived in North Carolina where five of the children were born until they moved to Washington D.C. in 1953. The family then moved to Baltimore in 1954, where the youngest two children were born. Bernice continued church fellowship in Baltimore when she joined Nazarene Baptist Church in 1957. She later joined Calvary Baptist Church in 1969 and enjoyed singing on the church choir and participating in the Prime Age and Women's Ministry. Providing a Christian foundation for her family was of the utmost importance to her as she would faithfully take her children and grandchildren to church, even as toddlers.

Bernice started to work in 1955 at a diner. She would often tell the story of how she gave the little that she had in the collection plate at church, just as the widow in the Bible. She strongly believed her faithfulness aided her in gaining employment at London Fog in 1962, from which she retired in 1991 after nearly 30 years. She had many hobbies. She loved to sew, make clothes, model at church and family reunions, and read the comics “funny papers” from the newspaper. She also loved to garden, growing her own fresh vegetables such as cucumbers, tomatoes, green peppers, and squash. She was also an avid scratch baker making bread, cakes, pies, cookies, and candy. The love of baking led her to enroll in professional cake decorating classes at the Wilton Baking School.

Bernice was the family matriarch and was the glue that connected the family. She loved hosting family gatherings, including holiday dinners, birthday celebrations, and spending quality time with family. She was also the babysitter extraordinaire, providing care for many of her grandchildren and great grandchildren. She loved giving time to listen, sharing advice, and traveling to take care of sick family members.

Bernice was one of eight siblings, all of whom preceded her in death. She also had four children who preceded her in death: Leyoma “Tinkie” Thomas (Vernon), Minnie Lorraine “Rene” Akindojutimi (Wilson), Tysonia Thomas and Leon Thomas.

Bernice leaves to mourn: three children, Sherman Thomas Sr. (Carolyn) of Charlotte, North Carolina, Clementine Thomas and Anthony Thomas (Debra) both in Baltimore, Maryland; a sister-in-law, Margaret Covington of Winston-

Salem, North Carolina; two sons-in-law, Wilson Akindojutimi and Vernon Thomas both of Maryland; thirteen grandchildren, twelve great-grandchildren, twelve great-great-grandchildren, and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Previous Events

Public Viewing

JUL 21. 4:00 PM - 6:30 PM (ET)

March Funeral Home - West
4300 Wabash Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21215

Wake

JUL 22. 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Calvary Baptist Church
3911 Garrison Blvd.
Baltimore, MD

Funeral Service

JUL 22. 11:00 AM (ET)

Calvary Baptist Church
3911 Garrison Blvd.
Baltimore, MD

Tribute Wall



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Bernice Thomas.*



July 22, 2023 at 02:17 AM



“ *To the family of Ms. Bernice Thomas, you have my heartfelt sympathy. I never met your Mom but I met Mr. Anthony Thomas through my daughter several years ago when he hired her, (Mrs. Toni Winfield) to work in his State Farm Insurance office. May God keep you & your family in perfect peace with your minds stayed on Jesus Christ. Evang. Hill*

Evangelist Joann Hill - July 19, 2023 at 08:06 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 - July 17, 2023 at 02:07 PM