



Bernice L Thompson

June 5, 1927 - August 23, 2015

BERNICE LANDORA BEARD, daughter of the late Samuel Beard and Matilda Harris-Beard, was born on June 5, 1927. Bernice, nicknamed Bunny, was the youngest of the couple's two children. After vigorously battling illness, she was called to her heavenly home on Sunday, August 23, 2015.

Throughout Bunny's youth, she spent many summers enjoying her grandfather's farm in South Hill, Virginia. While visiting, she was always engaged in fun activities with her cousins. She and her cousins also cultivated the farm, completing many tasks.

Bernice attended Baltimore City Public Schools, and graduated from Frederick Douglas High School in February 1945. Her graduation was accelerated a semester, due to her excellent academic record. While in high school, she became acquainted with Catherine Manning (Bailey), and they maintained a close friendship throughout her life.

After graduating from high school, she met and married Lester Thompson. They were blessed with two children, Maurice and Celestine (Tina). Lester and Bernice were together for 67 years of marriage, until God called Lester home six months prior.

Bernice began working as a teenager, and held clerical jobs within several

Federal agencies, including the Social Security Administration and the Internal Revenue Service. She ultimately retired from the United States Postal Service.

Bernice was always rooted in the Christian faith. She joined Fulton Baptist Church at the age of 12. She was dedicated to the church, and served as the Financial Secretary, and as a member of the Flower Circle. After retirement, she spent most of her free time involved in church affairs, and learning more about God. She enjoyed teaching biblical principles and regularly rehearsing speeches with her grandchildren, for their Sunday School recitations and church plays. After 59 years of service at Fulton Baptist Church, she found her new church home at First St. Stephens Baptist Church, under the leadership of Rev. Dr. Aggie L. Brown, Jr. At First St. Stephens, she took several bible classes, and grew spiritually. The congregation affectionately called her "Mother Thompson," and she enjoyed their fellowship. Throughout her 17 years at First St. Stephens, she supported many church activities, and enjoyed attending services regularly until her illness.

Bernice was a witty, funny, protective, compassionate, and loving wife, mother, grandmother, and friend. She would give her all to help someone in need. She cherished time with family and friends, and appreciated being at all milestones in her family's lives. Bunny was extremely tech savvy, and liked to play various computer games. She liked to travel and take trips with her family. She was a woman full of character and strength. She always stood up fearlessly, for what was right. It would be difficult, if not impossible, to get things past her.

Bernice, "Bunny," was preceded in death by her son, Lester Maurice Thompson, and she leaves to mourn: her devoted daughter, Celestine (Tina) Thompson Tatum; one sister Catherine Beard; one sister-in-law, Mildred Johnson; five grandchildren, Darnell Tatum, Robyn Tatum Terrell (Lester), Maurice L. Thomopson (spouse Tanishia), Angela Tatum and Alicia Tatum

(Lesha), eleven great-grandchildren; Melanie Jazmyn, Ashley, Tony, Darnell Jr., Triniti, Danielle, Gabrielle, Celestine, Ryan and Alejandro (Alex); five great-great grandchildren; Jayden, Ayanna, Kamari, King, and Austin; god-daughters, Wanda Bailey and Cynthia Bailey Curtis; life-long friend, Catherine Bailey, and a host of cousins,, other relatives and friends.

Cemetery Details

Arbutus Memorial Park Cemetery

1101 Sulphur Spring Road
Baltimore, MD 21227

Previous Events

Public Viewing

AUG 28. 8:30 AM - 8:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Homes - West Baltimore
4300 Wabash Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21215
(410) 542-2400
info@marchfh.com

Family Hour

AUG 28. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Homes - West Baltimore
4300 Wabash Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21215
(410) 542-2400
info@marchfh.com

Wake

AUG 29. 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

1st St. Stephens Baptist Church
4663 Pimlico Road
Baltimore, MD

Service

AUG 29. 11:00 AM (ET)

1st St. Stephens Baptist Church
4663 Pimlico Road
Baltimore, MD

Tribute Wall



“ *Bernice L Thompson*

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ *Even though I walk through the darkest valley I fear no evil for you are with me your rod and your staff they comfort me. you prepare a table before me you anoint my head with oil. and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord My whole life long. Rest in Peace Mother Thompson.*

Norma Bailey - August 28, 2015 at 04:48 PM



“ *Mother Thompson always had a smile on her face. She never complained. Her pleasant personality was so engaging. Her love of GOD/JESUS was ever so obvious. May you, Tina and grands find comfort in knowing she loved you so much. Tha Lord is her Shepherd, she wants nothing from earth anymore. Love you, Minister Cozi.*

Minister Cozette Davis - August 27, 2015 at 11:10 PM



“ *Very sorry for your loss, may the Bible give you much comfort. Acts24:15, tell of a promise God holds out for all of us who have lost their dear love ones in death.*

gaylee baker - August 26, 2015 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 - August 24, 2015 at 04:45 PM