



Mrs. Bertha C. Foote

September 19, 1925 - February 22, 2026

Bertha C. Foote departed this life on February 22, 2026, leaving behind an extraordinary legacy that spanned one hundred years. Born on September 19, 1925, in Denton, Maryland. Bertha bore witness to a century of remarkable transformations, from the Civil Rights Movement and the election of the first Black president to revolutionary technological advancements, and the COVID-19 pandemic.

Bertha C. Foote was the beloved daughter of William Henry Woodlin and Blanche Viola Sewell Woodlin, and the eleventh of thirteen siblings: William, John, Sarah, Hester, Roy, Charles, Vergie, Mary, Roxie, Mabel, Samuel, and Perry, all of whom preceded her in death. The family relocated to a farm in Dover, Delaware, where Bertha experienced both the hardships and joys of rural life. After the untimely loss of her mother, Bertha and her siblings were raised by their father. She recounted waking up before dawn to tend to farm animals before walking to school, playing in haystacks and breaking ice from the creek to make homemade ice cream. She completed her education through seventh grade; but was unable to pursue high school studies because the nearest Black high school was located too far from her residence.

In 1940, at just fifteen years old, Bertha moved to Baltimore City, Maryland, to live with her brother John. When John left to serve in WWII, Bertha remained in Baltimore on her own, demonstrating remarkable independence and

determination. She found employment as a nanny's aide and was able to secure her own room. Bertha pursued her education by attending night classes at Booker T. Washington High School, ultimately earning her diploma. Through her perseverance and connections, she found work at a sewing factory, where she excelled as a master seamstress. Bertha's talent and dedication were evident in the beautiful clothing she made and altered for her family. She was admired for her impeccable fashion sense and timeless beauty.

Looking back on Bertha's journey, you can't help but feel the warmth she brought to her family. In 1950, she welcomed her son, Jeardon, whom she shared with, Albert Keith. Later, fate introduced her to Milton Foote, a military officer, and together their affection grew into a bond that would last a lifetime. In 1957, they celebrated the birth of their daughter, Darlene. In June 1958, Bertha and Milton married and their enduring partnership lasted six decades until Milton's passing in 2019.

Bertha was the original "Domestic Diva" she was an exceptional housemaker who loved to decorate and create beautiful spaces.

When she lived in the Gilmore Homes Housing Community, people would come to "tour" her apartment because of its immaculate décor.

When Bertha and Milton acquired their dream home at 2422 Harlem Avenue, she continued to delight in decorating, especially during the holidays. Her innovative touches, such as unique faux Fabergé eggs for Easter, reflected her personality and artistry.

Bertha loved entertaining her friends and family, and ensured her home always overflowed with warmth, delicious food, and welcoming energy. You never needed an invitation and there was always food in the fridge. She was

an outstanding cook and was known for her big lavish parties with enough food to feed an army. As the matriarch of the family, Bertha passed down family traditions through cherished recipes and lovingly taught her children and grandchildren the secrets of her kitchen.

Bertha's passion extended beyond her family, as she advocated for voter rights and encouraged political engagement. She understood the importance of civic responsibility and consistently participated in every election, ensuring she never failed to cast her ballot. She was featured in a 1960's AFRO Newspaper article for her activism. Bertha also fostered a love of learning, completing college courses in Early Childhood Education at Baltimore City Community College and serving as a Group Supervisor at the Hymen Blumberg Day Care Center before her retirement. Her nurturing spirit touched many lives, especially those of the children she cared for.

Bertha was a remarkably intelligent visionary, truly ahead of her time. She forged her own path, bringing energy and boldness to everything she did. Practical, direct, and full of spirit, Bertha's vibrant personality matched her generous heart. She shared wisdom from her lived experiences and insights she gained from overcoming adversity. Her remarkable journey was shaped by love, determination, and a dedication to uplifting those around her. As we honor Bertha's memory, we celebrate the lasting impact of her life, her warmth, and her unwavering spirit.

Bertha's legacy lives on in her children, Darlene Jackson and Jeardon Keith, Sr. (Ruby); her grandchildren, JaNai Streat (Jonathan), Jeardon Byron Keith Jr. (Tamira), Jennifer Jackson, and Christina Jackson; her great-granddaughter, Aubrey Joi Streat; her niece, Emma Woodall, Sister-in-laws, Helen Williams, Barbara Barnes, Cornelia Agent, her great niece, Natasha Branham; and a host of cousins, nieces, nephews, and beloved friends.

Cemetery Details

Garrison Forest Veterans

11501 Garrison Forest Road
Owings Mills, MD

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 12. 4:00 PM - 6:30 PM (est)

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

Wake Service

MAR 13. 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM (est)

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

Celebration of life with live streaming

MAR 13. 11:00 AM (est)

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Tribute Wall



“ *March Funeral Homes created a Webcast in memory of Mrs. Bertha C. Foote*



March Funeral Homes - March 13 at 10:56 AM

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“ *Andre and Warren Underwood planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs. Bertha C. Foote.*

Andre and Warren Underwood - March 09 at 11:35 AM

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“ *Andre and Warren Underwood purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Mrs. Bertha C. Foote.*



Andre and Warren Underwood - March 09 at 11:35 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 - February 24 at 04:37 PM