



Bertha M. Pinder

July 19, 1924 - December 13, 2022

BERTHA MAE PINDER, first black president of the Women's Civic League and retired Social Security manager, noted for her love of music and `gracious manner, died Tuesday, December 13, 2022, of congestive heart failure at Charter Senior Living at Woodholme Crossing in Pikesville. The long-time resident of Windsor Hills was 98.

Born Bertha Mae Taylor in Rienzi, Mississippi, she was the daughter of John Will Taylor and his wife, Mary. The family moved to Midland, Pennsylvania in 1924.

Mrs. Pinder discovered her love of music as a child and sang in the church choir, the school choir, and attended neighboring Beaver Valley School of the Arts for vocal training. She was a 1942 graduate of Lincoln High School. A year later, Mrs. Pinder contributed to the war effort by working as an inspector of airplane propellers at the Curtiss-Wright Corporation. During this time, she met George Pinder. They married and moved to Baltimore (Mr. Pinder's hometown) in 1944.

Mrs. Pinder began carving out a career. In 1955, she began working at the

Social Security Administration as a GS3 clerk where she worked with earnings reports. Shortly thereafter, Mrs. Pinder qualified as a supervisor, one of few African Americans in a supervisory position. She made her career with the Social Security Administration for 30 years and received numerous awards and recognitions.

Mrs. Pinder became a devoted member of the Church of the Holy Trinity. She served as a member of the vestry, president of the Women's group and a 50-year member of the church choir.

After retiring, Mrs. Pinder continued to pursue her musical calling by attending the Peabody Conservatory of Music. Her talent led to many requests to sing at weddings and memorial services.

Mrs. Pinder lent her leadership skills and interest in civic activities to the Women's Civic League, joining the organization's Northwest group in early the 1990s. Established in 1911, the Women's Civic League's mission is to improve life for the citizens of Baltimore. In 2001 she became the first woman of color to be elected president of the league. She held the position until 2013. During her tenure as president, Mrs. Pinder became dear friends with the Honorable William Donald Schaeffer who was an avid supporter of the league. It was with his association that the league attracted several new members.

Mrs. Pinder enjoyed and lived the words of the Women's Civic League's adopted song, "Let There Be Peace on Earth" ... and let it begin with me, the song continues. Mrs. Pinder valued diversity and often said that there was only one race - the human race.

She was a past member of the Baltimore Black History Club and a charter member of the National Museum of African American History.

Whether making strides in her career or making local history, Mrs. Pinder was most proud of being a mother to five children. She is survived by three of her children, Joy Savage, Amelia Campbell, and Gay Pinder; sisters Ruby Golding of Midland, Pennsylvania and Mary Wilson of Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania; several grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild.

She is predeceased by husband George Weldon Pinder, sons Geoffrey Pinder and Brian Pinder, and brother John Taylor.

Cemetery Details

Garrison Forest Veterans

11501 Garrison Forest Road
Owings Mills, MD

Previous Events

Wake

DEC 29. 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM (ET)

Church Of The Holy Trinity
2300 W. Lafayette Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21216

Service

DEC 29. 10:30 AM (ET)

Church Of The Holy Trinity
2300 W. Lafayette Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21216

Tribute Wall

CH

“ I met Mrs. Pinder years ago in 1963 when I dated her son, Geoffrey. She was certainly a real gem. I again encountered her several years later at one of the retail businesses where she assisted me. She really had a sense of fashion and style. To Mrs. Pinder's beautiful family, you have my sincere condolences.
Charleen Honest, Owings Mills, MD.

Charleen Honest - December 29, 2022 at 07:27 AM

TW

“ We loved your Mom from the moment we met her. She was such a beautiful soul. Our sincerest condolences to your family.

The Team at Woodholme - December 28, 2022 at 10:30 AM



“ Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Bertha M. Pinder.



December 26, 2022 at 11:09 PM

CS

“ Celeste and family share all the beautiful memories of your Mom we will miss her spirit

Celeste Scott - December 23, 2022 at 07:58 PM

MN

“ Gay family the Mount de Sales Academy Class of 1979 extend our deepest condolences to you and your family in the loss of your beloved mother. May your mother rest in eternal peace.



Margaret Neville - December 21, 2022 at 06:27 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 - December 17, 2022 at 01:34 PM