



Bettye Jean Bragg

December 7, 1942 - March 2, 2023

Bettye Jean Branch Bragg was born on December 7, 1942, in Richmond, Virginia. She was the daughter of the late Warren Eugene Branch Sr. and Deloris Easley Branch and was the second of four siblings.

After a lengthy illness, Bettye entered eternal rest on March 2, 2023.

She attended Randolph Elementary School, Graves Junior High School, and completed her studies at

Maggie L. Walker High School, where she was a 1961 graduate. During her Maggie L. Walker days, she

was a member of the Dancing Dolls and the Cheerleading Squad. After graduating high school, Bettye

started her first job at Miller and Rhodes Co. in downtown Richmond. Soon after, she met the love of

her life, Clarence Bragg. From that union two children were born and after a 25-year separation, she and

Clarence reunited on November 30, 2002.

Once her children were of school age, Bettye began her career with Richmond Public Schools as a paraprofessional with the Head Start Program. Her entire tenure was spent at Overby Sheppard Elementary School in Richmond's Highland Park District. Her love and concern for her students was

evident when they would come back to visit her during their high school years and beyond. While employed by Richmond Public Schools, Bettye participated in the Ten Pin Bowling League for many years. As additional support for her family, she also worked at Sears and Roebuck at Cloverleaf Mall until its closure. In 2002, Bettye entered early retirement from Richmond Public Schools as a result of complications from Lupus.

Bettye was born into the Catholic faith, was christened, and received her first Holy Communion in May of 1953 at St. Joseph's Catholic Church. In the mid 70's, Bettye and her family joined Sixth Baptist Church, under the leadership of the late Dr. E. L. Fleming and she remained a faithful member until her health declined in 2022. She contributed her gifts and talents as a member of the Sixth Baptist Women's Chorale, The E. L. Fleming Gospel Chorus, and The Women's Ministry. She was also a member of her family's gospel group, "IN FAITH" and participated annually with the Metro Revival Choir for many years.

Over the years, Bettye had many hobbies and interests that were near and dear to her heart, beginning with her love of talking on the CB Radio. She was affectionately known over the air waves as "The Brown-Eyed Doll". Later in life, her pastimes included taking day trips to Charlestown Casino, working on 1000-piece jigsaw puzzles, having lunch and shopping with Dorothy Fells and her younger sister, Wanda, talking to her older sister, Barbara, daily about their Channel 6 Soap Operas,

and constantly clowning with her baby brother, Boo. Bettye was an avid Dallas Cowboys, Duke's Girls Basketball Team, and NASCAR fan.

Bettye was loved by all who knew her. She was quick-witted and compassionate. She was a supportive, protective, "ride or die" advocate for her children. She loved them with all her might. She was an awesome Sister to her siblings and a loving wife to her husband twice over.

Bettye leaves many precious memories with her husband, Clarence W. Bragg, children, Kevin Lamont Bragg (Jokita), and Candace Bragg Freeburn; granddaughter, Samantha Rae Bragg; sisters, Barbara Anderson, Wanda B. West (Ronnie); brother, Warren E. Branch Jr. (Debra); brother-in-law, Richard Bragg; sister-in-law, Carolyn Joyner (Thomas), and a host of nieces, one devoted Barbara Bryan; nephews, cousins, SBC family and friends.

Previous Events

Public Viewing

MAR 9. 9:30 AM - 6:00 PM (ET)

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

Celebration of Life

MAR 10. 12:00 PM (ET)

6th Baptist Church
400 S. Addison Street
Richmond, VA

Tribute Wall

DM

“ Rest In Peace dear Bettye you will truly be missed. Shirley & Lawrence McCray

Delores & Lawrence McCray - March 09, 2023 at 10:22 PM

CH

“ Mrs. Bettye, we will miss your smiling brown eyes. We the Hundley family wish to express our deepest condolences. Her place in Heaven is glorious!! To Candace, Kevin and Mr. Bragg - I only pray that you all will find peace in her passing. She was one of the most caring souls that touched my childhood memories. May you find comfort in the Lord.

Cheryl L Hundley - March 09, 2023 at 03:33 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Bettye Jean Bragg.



March 08, 2023 at 02:53 PM

DL

“ My condolences and prayers to the family. Bettye was a very loving person. She live to love and love to live. She will be miss by all who new her. May she Rest in Heavenly Peace



Davis LL - March 07, 2023 at 10:09 PM

FB

“ *My sincerest condolences to the family. I have always known of Mrs. Bragg through Candice but I was formally introduced to her when she was my daughter's teacher 30 years ago. She took no prisoners and played no games about her babies! She was a pillar of strength to all who knew her. May God grant her family peace knowing that she now rest well with our heavenly Father.*

Felicia Boney - March 07, 2023 at 10:30 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 - March 06, 2023 at 05:31 PM