



Rev. Doris Ann Batts

August 3, 1946 - June 19, 2021

Doris Ann Hodges Batts, affectionately known as Mom, Granny, Auntie, Little Preacher, was the youngest girl of six children born on August 3, 1946, in Richmond, Virginia to Rosalee and Fleetwood Hodges, Sr. After her birth, the family moved to Darlington, South Carolina. Shortly, after the passing of her father, her mother relocated to Greensboro, North Carolina where Doris studied in the North Carolina Public School System. After the passing of her mother, at age 12, she relocated to Richmond, Virginia to live with her older sister, Ida Mae Howard. She continued her secondary education at Maggie L. Walker High School.

In 1960, she joined Second Baptist Church under the pastorate of Reverend Odie Brown. It is there that she confessed Christ as her Savior, was baptized, and her Christian journey was sealed. She married Jodie Blowe, Jr. from Emporia, Virginia in 1963. From this union, four children were born, Christil, Monica, Jodie Lamont, and Demetrius. She retired from Henrico County Capital Area Training Consortium after 25 years of faithful service.

Doris was a huge advocate for continued education, graduating May 1999 from J. Sergeant Reynolds Community College, earning an Associate degree in Office Systems Technology; and May 2000 from Saint Paul's College, earning a Bachelor's degree in Business Management. As a result of the call to ministry, she began studies at Virginia Union University Samuel Dewitt

School of Theology where she earned her Master of Divinity degree in May 2010.

In 2007, she was led to Rising Mt. Zion Baptist Church, where she fully dedicated her life to the service of God. At Rising Mt. Zion, she was passionate about teaching the gospel and serving as an associate minister, working closely in assisting her Pastor, Dr. Roscoe D. Cooper III. She regularly attended church worship services, was an active member of Zion Church School, the Spratley Allen Missionary Circle, the Seniors of Zion Ministries, teaching Adult Bible Study and regularly visited the sick to provide encouragement. In addition, she was an active member of the Baptist General Convention Women's Division and a social group called SUITS (Sisters United in The Son). During 2020', as she was experiencing declining health, Doris remained steadfast and led a weekly virtual Bible study and prayer hour with her family.

Doris leaves to cherish her memory, four children, Christil Darlene Cates (Joe), Monica DeBerry, Jodie Lamont Blowe and Demetrius Jevon Blowe (Tamara), ten grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren; her brothers, Robert Hodges (Joanne) and Roosevelt Hodges (Geneva); her daughters in love, Denean Anderson and Sonya Broady; and devoted friend of 40 years, Grace Dabbs. She was preceded in death by her siblings, Ida Mae Howard, Fleetwood Hodges, Jr., Edna Mae Hodges, and son-in-law, Brian DeBerry.

She fulfilled her ultimate call, in her words to, "share the Good News of the Gospel empowering others in the ways of God's love, forgiveness and salvation power through Jesus Christ." Her favorite scripture was Proverbs 3:5-6 NKN: Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not to your own understanding, in all your ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct your paths.

Cemetery Details

Forest Lawn Cemetery

4000 Pilots Lane
Richmond, VA 23222

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 25. 9:30 AM - 4:30 PM (ET)

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

Celebration of Life service with live streaming on website

JUN 26. 9:00 AM (ET)

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

Tribute Wall



“ *To View the Webcast of the Funeral for Rev. Doris Ann Batts, Please Click the Link below.*



March Funeral Homes - June 22, 2021 at 12:56 PM



“ *I met Mrs. Doris at the Samuel Dewitt Proctor School of Theology, we were classmates. She was the mother of the class, always keeping us straight. I remember her loving and kind spirit. She loved the Lord, helping people and her family. I remember she opened up her home to some classmates to further study class work, I will never forget. I admired her hard work and diligence during that time. Mrs. Doris was that kind of person, motherly and always wanted to help. She would encourage us by expressing she was always praying for us. I will never forget Mrs. Doris. She was one of a kind! My continued condolences to her family. ❤️*

Demeka McCleave - December 08, 2022 at 09:15 AM



“ *Rev. Doris Ann Batts*

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM

PB

“ *Monica/Darlene,*

I share in your sorrow. Ms. Batts was (and is) much loved. May you find solace in the sweet memories she left us.

Phyllis

Phyllis Bullock - June 29, 2021 at 10:10 PM

KW

“ *Sending Our Condolences from the Wood Family.*

Kevin and Necole Wood - June 28, 2021 at 05:45 AM

DB

“ *To the family of Rev. Doris Betts, my thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. May you find comfort in knowing, your mom was loved and she is no longer in pain. I pray you find comfort and strength knowing she lived a full life, loved her family, church and people.*

Derith Hatcher, Rising Mount Zion Baptis - June 25, 2021 at 07:30 PM

AW

“ To Crystal, Monica, Joey and Demetrius:
I will always remember all the good and great times with your mother. She was an awesome Woman of God a fantastic mother, grand mother, aunt and a great sister. She truly was a warrior in the army of the Lord. She had a great smile for everyone no matter who she met. God saw a great soldier work was finished and called her home. Rest my sister. “You fought a good fight” you have the victory. Death has no sting. You, her children, will survive for you were taught well in the Lord.
We will bless the Lord at all times and his praises will always be in our mouth.

*Humbly Submitted,
Dr. Apostle Thelma Wallace
Pastor, New Beginning Church of Love
Jacksville, North Carolina*

Apostle Dr. Thelma Wallace - June 25, 2021 at 06:40 PM

JJ

“ May your memories bring you comfort during your time of grief. And know that others care deeply and are remembering you with special thoughts.

John Johnson

John Alvin Johnson - June 25, 2021 at 09:57 AM

RS

“ Dear Demetrius & Family,

We share in your sorrow. A caring mother is more valuable than pearls. Just know that she will remain with you in your heart. You will miss her, yet God knew she was tired and He wanted her to rest. Blessings,

Dr. Arlene Brown & Mr. Roy Brown, Sr.



Roy Brown Sr - June 24, 2021 at 04:10 PM

RT

“ Rev. Marian H. Thomas, a sister in Christ!

My prayers and exhortations are extended to the family of Rev. Batts. May you be comforted and strengthened by our good Lord who is always near. May you remember the life, the lessons, the inspiration, and the joy she shared. I remember when we were Interns together at Fifth Baptist Church, and it was there that our friendship and kinship began. Rest well, my sister!

Rev. Marian H. Thomas - June 24, 2021 at 01:50 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Rev. Doris Ann Batts.



June 22, 2021 at 01:23 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 - June 21, 2021 at 04:43 PM