



Gladys Fuller Copeland

January 9, 1940 - June 19, 2012

Mother Gladys Pernell Fuller Copeland

Gladys Pernell Fuller Copeland was born on January 9, 1940 to Robert Berlin Fuller, Sr. and Beatrice Roher Fuller in Chatham, Virginia. Gladys was the first born child of seven children.

Gladys was a gifted and anointed child who grew and matured into a tremendous woman of God. She accepted Christ as her Savior under the pastoral leadership of her father, Bishop Robert B. Fuller, Sr., who then was pastor of the First Church of Jesus, in Chatham, Virginia. Gladys received the precious gift of the Holy Spirit at the tender age of nine. From an early age she exuded great faithfulness. Her faithfulness continued when she followed her father to Mt. Zion Way of the Cross, in Callands, Virginia where he served as pastor. This faithfulness permeated every area of her life, from her family to her church, and most of all, to her God.

Gladys received her early education in Pittsylvania County school system, where she later graduated from Northside High School. In 1959, she matriculated to Virginia Union University in Richmond, Virginia. After a year at Virginia Union, she traveled to New York City where she met Nathaniel Copeland. After a six month courtship, Nathaniel proposed and they were married by Bishop Melvin Lewis Jones of Mt. Zion Holiness Church in

Manhattan, New York where Gladys diligently served as President of the Junior Missionaries. Now living in New York, Gladys would complete her undergraduate studies at the prestigious Hunter College. She studied diligently, and in 1976 she received her Bachelor's Degree in Sociology with honors.

Gladys would later join the Bible Way Church in Brooklyn, New York where she served as a faithful member for ten years under the leadership of Bishop Huie L. Rogers. During her years of service, Gladys' faithfulness shined as a great example of what it means to be a willing, humble and joyful ambassador for Christ in the earth.

In 1977, she received a request from the late Bishop William C. Abney, Jr. of Bethel Pentecostal Church in Grand Rapids, Michigan to come and establish a child development center. Mother Copeland established the center from the ground up and served as its Director for 10 years. She also began a Basic Bible Class Night where she exercised her ministerial gift of teaching with unparalleled excellence, great fervency and anointing. While in Grand Rapids, God blessed Gladys and Nathaniel with the wonderful gift of a precious baby girl, Tina Marie Lumpkin (Copeland).

After 10 years of service at Bethel Pentecostal Church, the Copeland family relocated and eventually settled in the Northern Virginia area. In 1989, Mother Copeland founded the Merrifield Child Development Center of First Baptist Church in Falls Church, Virginia where she served as Director for many years until 2011. While in Virginia, Mother Copeland and her family joined the fellowship of the Bible Way Mother Church in Washington, D.C. under the leadership of Apostle James Silver where she served faithfully for fourteen years. Mother Copeland was a committed member who served in various capacities, including Senior Missionary, President of the Local Women's Council, President of the International Women's Council and Young Ladies

Congress and teacher at the Bible Way Temple Educational Center. In 2009 at the 52nd Holy Convocation, Bishop Huie L. Rogers of Bible Way Church of Our Lord Jesus Christ World Wide, Inc., appointed Mother Copeland as International President of the Women's Council for Bible Way World Wide. She served in this role until God called her home.

On June 19, 2012, at Henrico Doctors Hospital in Richmond, Virginia, the earth lost one of its brightest stars. Mother Copeland spent her entire life making her calling and election sure. She lived a purpose driven life and was the walking embodiment of faithfulness and service unto the Lord. She was sold out for the cause of Christ and fulfilled her God-ordained mission as an uncompromising and anointed teacher of God's Word. She was an Angel on Assignment, sent from above to spread the love of God everywhere she went; reaching endless hearts, touching countless lives and winning many souls to the Glory of the Lord. We shall always remember Mother Gladys Fuller Copeland; a woman of great grace and elegance whose smile was utterly infectious and whose loving spirit inspired many. We celebrate her as a Vessel of Honor and a Shining Light in the Kingdom of God, even as the Lord and the Host of Heaven salutes and welcomes home God's Crowned Jewel and His precious, faithful servant. We love you beyond measure!

Mother Gladys Copeland was preceded in death by her loving father, Bishop Robert B. Fuller, Sr. and mother, Beatrice Fuller. She leaves to cherish her memory, husband Nathaniel Copeland; daughter, Tina Marie Copeland Lumpkin (Madison); two wonderful grandchildren, Madison Charles Lumpkin, II and Michael Chase Lumpkin; three doting brothers, Robert Fuller, Jr. (Delores), David Fuller (Benita), and Alton Fuller (Brenda); three caring sisters, Christine Moss, Celia Hairston (Bill), and Mary Smith; a host of adoring nieces and nephews, great nieces and nephews, cousins, and other caring relatives and friends.

Cemetery Details

Mt. Zion Temple Cemetery

13620 Callands
Callands, VA 24530

Previous Events

Service

JUN 26. 10:00 AM (ET)

Bible Way Temple
1100 New Jersey Ave
Washington, DC 20001

Tribute Wall



“ *Gladys Fuller Copeland*

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ *Dr. Veneese Chandler sent a virtual gift in memory of Gladys Fuller Copeland*



Dr. Veneese Chandler - June 26, 2012 at 01:16 PM

NS

“ *I am sorry for your loss. Gladys was a loving, caring and happy person. I will miss her beautiful smile and hearty laughter. May she rest with God,*

*Sincerely,
Naomi Schofield*

NAOMI and SANDY SCHOFIELD - June 25, 2012 at 07:20 PM

NS

“ *NAOMI And SANDY SCHOFIELD lit a candle in memory of Gladys Fuller Copeland*



NAOMI and SANDY SCHOFIELD - June 25, 2012 at 07:16 PM

MS

“ I'm so sorry for your loss and would like to offer my condolences to your family. Death is such a terrible thing for a family to go through, I actually lost my mom 3yrs ago. I'm truly grateful that I have the truth about death and look forward to the future when there will be "a resurrection of both the righteous and the unrighteous."—ACTS 24:15. I'm sure you would love to see your dead loved one again in the coming Paradise here on earth! Again so sorry for your loss!!

Ms Springer - June 24, 2012 at 06:33 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 - June 22, 2012 at 12:54 PM