



Helena Odessa Street

January 18, 1928 - November 5, 2010

Helena Odessa Street-referred to by friends and loved ones as "Shugg," was born on January 18, 1928 to Fulton Andrew and Lue Ethel Buggs in Memphis, Tennessee. At the age of 10, she was baptized in her hometown church, the Greater Mount Zion Baptist Church.

She married Nathan Brown in 1947. Shortly thereafter, they relocated to Fort Greene in Brooklyn, New York, where they began their family.

Throughout her life she mobilized people around issues of social justice, education, family and voter rights. She co-founded the Hyde Park Memphis Neighborhood Community Council.

She served as the president of the Council of Education, a General for a Brooklyn chapter of the Red Cross and helped to establish the first credit union in Fort Greene, Brooklyn. She was also a Worthy Matron of the Order of the Eastern Star. Helena graduated from the New York City Community College of Applied Arts and Sciences with an Associate in Arts Degree. In 1972, she had the privilege of becoming campaign secretary for the first African American woman to run for the United States presidency, her friend, Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm.

Later she followed her children to Richmond, Va., where she retired as a day teacher from the Virginia Commonwealth University's Childhood Development

Center in 2006. During the last years of her life, you may have seen her shopping at "Penney's", playing Pokeno with her friends, enjoying the holidays with her family or attending Sunday morning worship services at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Historic Jackson Ward, where she became a member.

She leaves to cherish her memory, four beautiful children; Nathaniel Brown (Gloria), Gregory Brown (Inga) Timothy Brown (Corless) and Helena Lee; 15 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; a god-daughter, Helena Parker; a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and a life long friend, Lila Mae Parker.

Cemetery Details

Oakwood Cemetery

3101 Nine Mile Road
Richmond, VA 23223

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 11. 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Home-Laburnum Chapel
Richmond, VA 23222

Family Hour

NOV 11. 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

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

Service

NOV 12. 11:00 AM (ET)

Ebenezer Baptist Church
216 W. Leigh Street
Richmond, VA 23222

Tribute Wall



“ *Helena Odessa Street*

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 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 - November 08, 2010 at 12:39 PM