



Irene May Whitehead

May 13, 1934 - November 18, 2017

Faith is the key to heaven, and only God's children hold the key that opens the gateway to that beautiful city of gold. This is the gate of the Lord through which the righteous may enter. Psalm 118:20.

Irene May Whitehead, affectionately known as "Tea Tea" and "Tulip", was born on May 13, 1934, to the late Liston Tyler, Sr. and Lucille Pryor Tyler in Richmond, VA. She was preceded in death by her daughter, Dynevia Quarles, brother, Liston Tyler, Jr., two sisters, Virginia Prentiss and Lorraine Bedford and step-granddaughter, Dana Quarles.

In June, 1954 Irene graduated from Virginia Randolph in Glen Allen, VA as valedictorian. Irene received Christ at an early age and became a member of First Bethel Baptist Church. Later in life she flourished as a faithful member of Elohim Christian Center Outreach under the leadership of Apostle Leo Hackett. She cherished her Pastor and First Lady, they were the added children to the family.

Irene was a wonderful outgoing spiritual woman who loved the Lord and displayed the fruit of the Holy Spirit such as love, peace, joy, patience, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness self-control and kindness. If there was chaos, she would bring the peace, order and the love of Christ to the situation.

She was a fantastic wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, aunt, friend and a neighbor. "Tea" was a very devoted wife to her husband of sixty-three years. In fact you very rarely saw one without the other; the two were one. Proverb 31 verses 10-31 best describes Irene; she was truly "a virtuous woman." She adored her husband, children, grand/great-children and the rest of family. Tulip, gave them all the love, mother wit, guidance they needed while depending on God for wisdom and strength. She was like a mother to the nieces, nephews and cousins especially after their parents went home to be with the Lord. Irene was called the Matriarch of the family and they looked up to her. As a neighbor she was kind, friendly and helpful. She was an excellent cook and gardener. Even as a little girl, she enjoyed the garden and was fascinated with tulips so much so that her daddy gave her the nickname of Tulip. Irene kept her yard looking immaculate all year round. Any day you could find her working out in her yard, the beautiful tulips and mums helped to dress-up the neighborhood. At all the family gathers or other events, Irene was always asked to be sure to make her famous tea; warranting the nickname of "Tea." Irene was a Lady of many talents, well loved and respected. Whatever she did it was done with a touch of class and love.

Her life was a legacy and that legacy will continue in the hearts of her loving husband, children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and all that loved her.

Cherishing her precious memory and carrying out her tradition of love is her very devoted husband, Langston Whitehead, Sr., two sons, Langston, Jr. (Cynthia), and Sherland (Yvette) Whitehead, one daughter Paulette Gipson, nine grandchildren, one step grandchild, nine great-grandchildren, one step great-grandchild, a dear aunt, Florence Tyler, one loyal cousin, Ruth Jones, two dedicated friends, Annie Bowman and Bernice Jonathan and a host of other relatives and friends.

Cemetery Details

Washington Memorial Park

6217 Memorial Dr.
Sandston, VA 23150

Previous Events

Public Viewing

NOV 26. 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

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

Service

NOV 27. 11:00 AM (ET)

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

Tribute Wall



“ Irene May Whitehead

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ I was so saddened to hear of Mrs. Whitehead's passing. What a beautiful person she was. I would see her and Mr. Whitehead in Food Lion often and we always stopped to chat just for a bit and she would always ask about the family. She recently attended my Aunt's 90th birthday celebration in October. May GOD comfort and bless the Whitehead family during this difficult time.Jacqueline Pemberton/Johnson Family

Jacqueline Corbin - November 27, 2017 at 09:39 AM



“ To the Whitehead/Tyler Families:
Please accept our sincere sympathies in the passing of your loved one. May God grant you peace and comfort during this time.
Warren Bell & JoAnne (Prentiss) Crawley Bell

JoAnne Crawley Bell - November 24, 2017 at 12:22 PM



“ Joie Charity lit a candle in memory of Irene May Whitehead



Joie Charity - November 24, 2017 at 09:45 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 20, 2017 at 05:38 PM