



Laura Royster Moody

January 1, 1923 - February 17, 2018

Deaconess Emeritus Laura Royster Moody, 95, daughter of the late Fleetwood Royster and Alberta Snead Royster was born January 23, 1923 in Mecklenburg, Virginia.

Deaconess Moody was baptized at Mt. Ararat Baptist Church in Mecklenburg County where she grew up in the era when tobacco farming was king. After graduating from West End High School in Clarksville, Virginia, Laura resolved not to live and work on the farm as her vocation. She furthered her education at St. Paul's College in Lawrenceville, Virginia, earning a degree in Dressmaking and Tailoring. During her early years, Laura used her talent, sewing for others in the Clarksville community.

She married the late Driscoll Richard Moody, a native of the neighboring town, Red Oak, Virginia. From their union, they were blessed with a precious daughter, Deborah.

Laura also became a substitute elementary school teacher in Mecklenburg County. She taught in a rural school where each row was a different grade level. Both she and Driscoll were firm believers in education. As such, they agreed Deborah would get a better education in Richmond, moving to Richmond when it was time for her to begin school.

That's when Laura also began her career as a seamstress in the corner cleaners at 29th and P Streets. When she established a loyal following, she opened her first dress shop at 2nd and Leigh Streets. She was so proud when "Laura R. Moody Dressmaking & Tailoring" was painted on the window of her shop. This was the era when Eggleston Hotel and Anderson Grill on 2nd Street were booming in Jackson Ward. After many years at that location, she moved her dress shop to Chamberlayne and Leigh. She remained there until she "retired." Even then, she brought her dressmaking skills home and continued sewing for others until her early eighties.

Laura loved Fourth Baptist Church. She was an active participant over the years serving as an Usher, Hospitality Committee member, Sunday School Teacher, Missionary and ultimately the Deaconess Ministry. She was also a faithful attendee of both the National Baptist Deacons and the Lott Cary Convention. She often called her convention time away "her vacation." Laura was also a member of the East End Chapter #79, Order of Eastern Star Prince Hall Affiliated.

She loved the Lord and her family, often being self-sacrificing. She was a true big sister to her younger sister Mayzell over the years extending well into adulthood. She was a living example of the scripture as found in Proverbs 31.

She was called home to be with her loved ones on Saturday, February 17, 2018 as the gates of heaven opened to receive their newest angel. She leaves to cherish her loving memory, daughter, Deborah White; grandchildren, Lauren and Chelsie White II; a host of other relatives and caring friends.

Cemetery Details

Moody Family Cemetery

4055 Cargills Creek Rd
Red Oak, VA 23964

Previous Events

viewing

FEB 22. 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM (ET)

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

Wake

FEB 22. 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

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

Service

FEB 23. 11:00 AM (ET)

Fourth Baptist Church
2800 P Street
Richmond, VA 23223

Tribute Wall



“ *Laura Royster Moody*

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ *I am a member of a Christian outreach group called Reckless Trust. We visit Glenbernie the fourth Tuesday each month and offer worship and praise songs, a devotional and Bible reading, and both corporate and individual prayer. Ms. Moody was often in attendance and I had the privilege of praying with her often. Ms. Moody was always dressed impeccably and was a joy to talk with. On behalf of the whole group, please accept our condolences for your loss, but we also rejoice with you, for Ms. Moody is now in paradise with her Savior. May the Lord bring you all His peace and comfort.*

Jay Raymond

Jay Raymond - February 22, 2018 at 11:56 AM



“ *Helen Peoples lit a candle in memory of Laura Royster Moody*



Helen Peoples - February 21, 2018 at 11:39 PM



North Carolina Women Auxiliary

Helen Peoples - February 21, 2018 at 11:41 PM

WM

“ *Mr. and Mrs Moody were great neighbors for years on 23rd street. I truly wish you and your family comfort. Sincerely William Henry Massenburg (Mr. Mack)*



William Massenburg - February 21, 2018 at 08:06 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 - February 19, 2018 at 05:47 PM