



Lela Summerville

December 10, 1898 - October 9, 2008

In the evening hour of October 9, 2008, God entered Ruxton Nursing Home and whispered to Lela, His faithful servant, "Well done". Then He collected another beautiful rose for His Heavenly Garden. LELA MARY CORNISH SUMMERVILLE, daughter of the late James and Mary Cornish, was born on December 10, 1898 in Baltimore, Maryland. She was baptized at the early age of one month during the month of January 1899, by Father George Stone in the Church of St. Mary The Virgin, formerly known as Mount Calvary,, located at that time on Orchard Street. Lela was educated in Baltimore City public schools. Lela attended St Paul's School for Girls in Lawrenceville, VA after receiving a Basketball Scholarship for two years. In 1919, Lela entered into Holy Matrimony with James Summerville. However, shortly after four years, her husband departed this life. She stated that her most joyous time was her marriage to James. Lela began her employment to society at the Archers Cleaners in Baltimore City. Lela dutifully served as secretary of Saint Mary's, Saint Stephens Court Apartments in the 2400 block of North Avenue. Lela continued her faithful ministry throughout the Church of St. Mary the Virgin. Lela loved her church and served it well until her health began to fail. She began her ministry as a member of the Dorcas Society and The Guild of the Blessed Mother. Lela's main passion was the acolytes. She made sure that the acolytes were impeccably attired to serve in each mass. Even in her illness, Lela would still inquire about the acolytes. Lela was the main role model of the church. If a parishioner was uncertain of when to stand or kneel

during the service, they would automatically focus on Lela and follow her. In spite of her age, church members always marveled at how she was able to kneel down on her knees, as we were taught. Lela remained a devoted member of the church. Lela stated that the most fascinating and significant thing in her "109" years was the automobile. Lela contributes a piece of chocolate and a small glass of sherry daily to her longevity. Lela was always a lady, well groomed, pleasant, fun, entertaining, and very generous. All during her illness she never once complained. She always appreciated the many acts of kindness shown by her church members and friends. She was loved by all. Lela leaves to mourn; devoted great-nieces, Lela Diggs and Rebecca Johnson; great-nephews, Leland Wilson, Milton Haynie and Brent Haynie; seven great-great-nieces, five nephews, seven great-great-great nieces, two nephews; devoted friends, Lorraine Coleman and Mary Lacy Hall; and a host of friends.

Tribute Wall



“ *Lela Summerville*

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ *To the family and friends, I offer my sincere sympathy. I know the sadness associated with the loss of one you love and I know the comfort offered by God in his word the Bible. Please read John 5:28,29 and Acts 24:15 which talks about the hope of a resurrection for the righteous and the unrighteous. After reading these two scriptures please turn your attention to John 3:16 and Matthew 20:28. These two scriptures tell us why we can put faith in the promise of a resurrection. May these provide you with comfort and hope as they have for me.##imported-begin##Gwen Winston##imported-end##*

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