



## Myrtle B. Emerson

February 15, 1923 - October 17, 2003

**A TIME TO BE BORN** Myrtle Baptiste Emerson was born on February 15, 1923 to the late James and Alberta Baptiste. She was the only girl in a family of four boys. She was loved, protected and pampered. After a long and fruitful life, she found eternal rest on October 17, 2003.

**A TIME TO GROW** Born in New Orleans, Louisiana, "Sister", as she was called, enjoyed the loving support of her parents and brothers. However, she had a special bond with her godmother, Aunt Ella. Aunt Ella continually showered her with attention, beautiful dresses, and patent leather shoes and instilled in her a sense of style and love for fashion. Myrtle took care of her appearance, loved beautiful clothes and was always well coordinated. Along with a few close girlfriends, she attended P.S. #35 and graduated with aspirations of going to college and becoming an English teacher. She later instilled her desire for higher education in her children. After years as a homemaker rearing her children, she entered the workforce; first with the city school system and later with the Social Security Administration. She retired from SSA in 1985. She traveled extensively with the Soul Journey Travel Club and was a founding member of the Magnificent Ladies Social Club. She was a member of the Toastmasters of America, active at the Waxter Center and a member of the GEMS Senior Ministry.

**A TIME TO LOVE** During a trip to Baltimore to visit her cousin June, she met Benjamin Emerson. He was a native of North Carolina and recently discharged from the Army. He was handsome and ready to settle down. He was fascinated by this "exotic lady from New Orleans." They immediately fell

in love. They were married on Easter Sunday in 1946 and reared their six children in their little house on Presbury Street. They shared their love and forged a strong partnership. If Ben was the general, Myrtle was his able lieutenant. They made decisions together. After 33 years of marriage he preceded her in death in 1979. An excellent cook, she nourished her family with New Orleans Cajun Cuisine and was especially known for her homemade hot rolls, lemon pound cake and sticky buns. She loved her sons unconditionally, and groomed her girls to be proud, strong, independent women. She cherished her granddaughters and identified the special gifts in each one. She adopted numerous co-workers, neighbors, relatives, friends and their children sharing her special brand of wit and wisdom. She loved to laugh with you and with love she would say exactly how she felt. She always said what was on her mind.

**A TIME TO SERVE** Myrtle joined Mount Moriah Baptist Church nearly 40 years ago. She instilled her deep faith and penchant for service in her children. She attended Bible study and prayer meetings. She was a faithful member of the Adult Sunday School Class Number 2. She started each day at 6:00 a.m. with a telephone prayer with her prayer partners. Myrtle loved public speaking and with her Toast Master's training was a fixture on church programs. Whether she was bringing greetings, welcoming visitors, or introducing the guest speaker, she would spend hours on her presentations. She made sure that each word or phrase was perfect. As a member of the Senior Courtesy Guild she welcomed visitors on Sundays and contributed to their anniversary program each year. She enjoyed the activities of the senior ministry, the GEMS. She attended their day trips, participated in their dramatic presentations, crafts and exercise classes. Myrtle loved the Lord. She was a faithful, hard worker in her church.

**A SPECIAL GIFT** Myrtle's special gift was a sincere heart and an ability to accept others unconditionally. Her spirit exemplified Agape love. Numerous friends and neighbors thought of her as their adopted mother. Many were touched by her kindness, humor and warmth. She fed, nurtured and encouraged everyone that she met.

**A TIME TO MOURN** Myrtle leaves to cherish her

memory and continue her legacy: six children, Ronald, Sybil, Gayle, Dwight, Cheryl and Patrice; five granddaughters, Tynisha, LaToya, Ashley, Erin, and Cameron; one son-in-law Arthur Woodard; special family members Frank Murray and Marlon McMillan; one sister-in-law Ruth Baptiste; "adopted daughter Shirley Woodard and grandson John Woodard"; and a host of nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Myrtle B. Emerson*

March 25, 2023 at 10:25 AM



“ *Myrtle B. Emerson*

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ *Please accept our heartfelt sympathy in your time of great sorrow. Only those who have lost a loved one can know the depths of your feelings. We hope our caring will make your sorrow easier to bear.##imported-begin##The March Family and Staff##imported-end##*

July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ *OJC/WLGREEN CHOIR MEMBER##imported-begin##Suzanne C. Cranson##imported-end##*

July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ Dear Cheryl, Patrice and Family I want to say I Love You Girls and if there is anything that I can do to support you now and in the future, please let me know...I want you to know that losing your Mom is very difficult to experience but; as time moves forward the void will be filled with the beautiful memories and the blessing of having the many years that you did...I want you to know that the beautiful smile she had on her face is a testimony of her beautiful spirit and it lives on through you all and your family...Stay strong, prayed up and call on me day or night and I can walk you through...I've been where you are... Love conquers all,God Be With You.. Love,  
Lynn###imported-begin##Lynda M. Brown###imported-end##

---

July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ Please accept my condolences on the loss of your mom. May you find much comfort and solace in the promise of John 5:28,29 in the days ahead- "The hour is coming in which all those in the memorial tombs will hear his voice and come out, those who did good things to a resurrection of life."###imported-begin##Sharon Hill###imported-end##

---

July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ My husband and I would like to express our deepest sympathy for your loss. The Bible helps us to appreciate how Jesus feels when a loved one dies. John 11:35 tells us that Jesus gave way to tears upon learning of the death of his friend Lazarus. This gives us assurance that Jesus cares for you during this time of your grief. May you find a measure of peace in this scripture.###imported-begin##S. McNeil###imported-end##

---

July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM