



Nora Johnson

November 28, 1926 - November 30, 2005

NORA VERNELL JOHNSON, first child of the late Eddie and Estelle Watkins Gilliam, was born on November 28, 1926 in Dinwiddie County, Va. After a brief illness, Nora was called home to rest on November 30, 2005. Nora (or Vernell as she was affectionately called) worked hard at everything she did. She graduated high school as class valedictorian in McKenney, Va. Following graduation, Vernell attended Virginia Union University. She then moved to Baltimore and worked as a nurse's aide at Johns Hopkins Hospital. While there, she decided to become a nurse, following an unfulfilled dream that her mother had always had for herself. She moved to Mt. Vernon, N.Y. and graduated from Phelps Memorial Nursing School while working as a nurse's aide at Grassland Hospital (now Westchester County Medical Center). She became a licensed practical nurse and continued her education at Bronx Community College, where she earned her credentials to become a registered nurse. Nora then worked as an R.N. at Mt. Vernon Hospital until she moved to Urbana, Va. She continued her work in nursing and was selected as Employee of the Year while serving as the first African American Director of Nursing at the Saluda Home (now Riverside Convalescent Center) in Saluda, Va. In 1983, Nora moved to Baltimore and worked at Sinai Hospital, St. Luke Nursing Home and finally, Augsburg Nursing Home. She never really retired because she always found time to care for those who were too weak to care for themselves. In the mid forties, Nora was joined in matrimony to the late Purlie B. Brown. From this union, Veronica and Bernard were born. On July

26, 1963, she married the late John R. Johnson, and Joan was born to them. Nora accepted Christ at an early age at Shiloh Baptist Church in Darvills, Va. As an adult, in spite of raising her children, working two jobs or working full time and going to school, she always found time to go to church. After moving to Baltimore, she joined the Rising Sun First Baptist Church family on March 24, 1985. She was active with her church as a member of the Mother Board, Flower Circle, Senior's Outreach Ministry and Missionary Circle. She was also a regular participant in the Wednesday Noon Bible Study Class. Mother Johnson loved her church family and was very happy to have spent her final days within Christian fellowship. When most people think of her, they remember her kindness, and in particular her gentle spirit. She believed in fairness and justice. She was known to have determined mind to do what she believed was right and in the best interest of others, especially her family, who she dearly loved. Those with cherished memories are her children: Veronica Elevial Brown, Bernard Alfonso Brown (Sandra), Joan Estelle Gosier (Thomas); her grandchildren, tiffany Nicole Brown, Tomeara Jeanelle Gosier, and Toleah Elstelle Gosier; her sibilings, Kathleen Byer, Mary Whittaker, Grace Beard (Napoleon Sr), Linwood Gilliam (Kathryn), Joseph Gilliam (Shirley), Lucille Downes (Ernie), Gloria Pride (Collis Sr.), Clem Gilliam (Doris)' her brothers-in-law, Lloyd Brown (Rose), Leslie Brown, and William Johnson (Juli); sister-in-law, Bertha Craig (Reuben), her very special cousin and early childhood friend, Viola Jordan (Samuel), her good friend and "housemate," Priscilla Evans and a host of cousins, nieces, nephews, great nieces, great nephews and friends.

Tribute Wall



“ *Nora Johnson*

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ *Well, time indeed heals all wounds. We are now in the process of saying our fairwell to your special son Bernard. It makes me smile to know that he is with you now and that you can spend eternity together. All of your love and care has been well invested as a gardener who carefully tends her garden. Mommy, I love you always.##imported-begin##Joan##imported-end##*

July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ *My deepest sympathy during your time of sorrow but knows that the God of comfort is with you all during this time of tribulation. (2Corinthian 1:3-4) Due to the many unforeseen occurrences that brings tragedy to our lives Jehovah God promises one day soon Death will be no more (Rev 21:3-4) and his son have been given the authority to bring all those in the memorial tombs back to life. John 5:28-29 What a wonderful prospect for our future.##imported-begin##Carter##imported-end##*

July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ To Bernard & Sandi Brown and Tiffany Brown, You have my heartfelt sympathy and prayers as you mourn the loss of your Mom, Mother-in-law and Grandmother. She was a very sweet woman and she will be missed. You have done a beautiful job taking care of her and God is pleased. God bless you and your home. Peace and Love, Regina Salley##imported-begin##Regina Salley##imported-end##

July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM