



Mrs. Ruby Mae McElwee

November 27, 1935 - December 17, 2015

Ruby Mae McElwee was born as Ruby Mae Wigfall in Saundersville, Georgia on November 27, 1935 to the late Eather Wigfall Sr. and Louise Poole. She departed this life on December 17, 2015. Ruby was married to the late Charles William McElwee Sr. for over 45 years prior to his sudden death in October 2002. Ruby was born by a midwife and her actual birthdate was November 27, 1934. She was often asked which age did she prefer to use and she would say "my government age" because it made her younger. Though Ruby had no formal schooling, she was always striving to learn and attended nursing school at Providence Hospital in the early 1960s and she received a certificate in nursing. Ruby always in learning mode, eventually received her GED once she retired in the late 1980s. Ruby was an unconventional, pioneer woman owning two grocery stores in Baltimore City at a time when women worked as housewives in the home or as housekeepers in other's homes. She also worked as a cook and at Pimlico and Laurel Race Courses as she had a love for horses. Ruby taught her children to strive for excellence and to be innovative in their approach to life and work. An avid gardener, Ruby grew everything in her backyard on Belvieu Avenue from strawberries, corn, greens and yes-even pumpkins. She often enlisted her grandsons to help her till the soil and would get upset with them when they would eat up all the strawberries.

Ruby was always involved in faith-based organizations and was a member of the Eastern Stars in the early 1970s. In her later years she joined and became

a faithful member of Epworth United Methodist Chapel where she served on the Outreach Ministry, the Women's Ministry and the Wednesday afternoon Noon Day Devotion group. Even after becoming ill and going into FutureCare Courtland Gardens Nursing Home, she maintained strong ties to the church and to her fellow church members. She received visits every week from church members and the pastor.

Ruby was preceded in death by her late husband, Charles William McElwee Sr., her son, Wade Jones Jr. stepson Sheraton McElwee Sr., mother Louise Poole her sister-in-law Cecelia Reid. Ruby was the eldest daughter of nine children and she was also preceded in death by her brothers, Eather Jr., Daniel, Robert and her beloved brother William (Willie), her sister Mary Lee and her niece Louise. She leaves to mourn daughters Debora Distance (Earl Thompson); Barbara Dunston and son-in-law Thomas J. Dunston Jr.; stepson Charles William McElwee Jr.; stepdaughter Paula Jackson; sisters Mattie James and Virginia Jackson, brother James Wigfall Sr., three grandsons (her pride and joy) Rodney Distance Jr.

(Sophia);(her second husband) Charles Distance (Shakeria); and as she affectionately called him "my baby" Gregory Dunston (Andrea); grandniece/granddaughter Lakeyna Henderson (Daniel), nine great grandchildren, Imani, Tajah, Nevaeh, Taylor, Tyler, Jahleel, Amari, Ilayah, and Ana'lysia, adopted son Chuck Bryant and a host and we mean a host of cousins, nieces, nephews and friends.

Love is how you stay alive even after you are gone. -Mitch Albom

We love your momma and we know you are with your Lord and our daddy.

The Family

Cemetery Details

Garrison Forest Veterans

11501 Garrison Forest Road
Owings Mills, MD

Previous Events

Public Viewing

DEC **21**. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Homes - West Baltimore
4300 Wabash Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21215
(410) 542-2400
info@marchfh.com

Wake

DEC **22**. 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Epworth U.M.C.
3317 Liberty Rd.
Balto., MD

Service

DEC **22**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Epworth U.M.C.
3317 Liberty Rd.
Balto., MD

Tribute Wall



“ *Mrs. Ruby Mae McElwee*

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ *Sorry for your loss, may GOD give you comfort in your time of need.
2Corinthians I :3,4.*

Carolyn - January 03, 2016 at 12:10 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 - December 20, 2015 at 10:57 AM