



Ruby Edwards Watkins

August 22, 1931 - November 28, 2011

Ruby Edwards Watkins was born on August 22, 1931 in Norfolk, Virginia to Annie B. Edwards and Ernest G. Edwards. She departed this life November 28, 2011 in Richmond, Virginia.

Mrs. Ruby, as she was often called, graduated from Booker T. Washington High School in Norfolk, Virginia and Little State (Norfolk State University). She continued her education at St. Phillips Schools of Nursing an institution for African Americans. In 1953, she received a Bachelor's of Science in Nursing making her one of the first black women with a degree from the Medical College of Virginia's St. Phillips School of Nursing.

Mrs. Ruby shared her gift of nursing at Richmond Health Department and McGuire Veteran's Hospital. For many years she served as a school nurse, later she began teaching nursing for the Richmond Public Schools.

In her forties Mrs. Ruby was diagnosed with rheumatoid arthritis and given less than a year to live forcing her to retire. With her strong will, determination and zest for life for the next 30+ years, Mrs. Ruby devoted herself to God, family and community.

Mrs. Ruby loved the Lord and evidenced her faith throughout her life. She was a strong advocate of Christian Education serving as church school teacher, a

superintendent and a teacher of teachers,encouraging others to recognize their gifts and embrace their calling.

Mrs. Ruby served as a faith member of Fifth Street Baptist Church of Richmond,VA;Metropolitan African-American Baptist Church and Imani Christian Ministries.

She was preceded in death by her mother and father and two brothers,Ernest George Edwards and Frank Edwards.

She leaves to remember her:son,Kenneth Watkins(Stephanie) and grandchildren,Kenneth Watkins,Jr. of Chicago,Illinois and Nathaniel Watkins(Tory) of Richmond,Virginia;two brothers,Frederick Edwards(Mildred),of Houston,Texas and Robert B. Edwards(Gaynell) of Norfolk,Virginia;one aunt,Ruby Smith(Ernest)of Richmond,Virginia; and a host of family members and lifelong friends,Joyce Lewis and Annie Harrison.

Cemetery Details

Calvary Cemetery

1600 St. Julian Ave
Norfolk, VA 23504

Previous Events

Public Viewing

DEC 2. 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Home-Laburnum Chapel
Richmond, VA 23222

Family Hour

DEC 2. 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

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

Service

DEC 3. 10:00 AM (ET)

March Funeral Home-Laburnum Chapel
Richmond, VA 23222

Tribute Wall



“ *Ruby Edwards Watkins*

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ *Ms. Ruby was a very nice and sincere woman. Her faith and her love for God were nothing short of fabulous. She taught us to believe, care and do your part to help others. Her words were always truthful and to the point. Her heart was sincere and she made you smile with her joy for life! Ms. Ruby you will be missed by me and other folks. God bless you and may you have continued peace and contentment. It has been a pleasure to have known you in my life, Marie Woodfolk*

Marie A. Woodfolk - December 06, 2011 at 02:02 PM



“ *Rayette and I don't think we can light a candle for the Lady who always was shining so bright. She was one of the brightest candles in our lives. We will miss her dearly and we are so sorry we missed saying our goodbyes to her. Shine on Ms. Ruby, truly, Shine On.*

Sandra M & Rayette Y - December 06, 2011 at 07:47 AM



Beautiful statement!

Marie A. Woodfolk - December 06, 2011 at 02:03 PM

CW

“ *Cheryl Whitaker lit a candle in memory of Ruby Edwards Watkins*



Cheryl Whitaker - December 01, 2011 at 05:52 PM

MH

“ *Please accept my condolences to the family. May you receive comfort from the bible's hope of a resurrection at John 5:28,29.*


Mrs. Howard - December 01, 2011 at 10:31 AM

JM

“ *Jamika Mccray lit a candle in memory of Ruby Edwards Watkins*



jamika mccray - December 01, 2011 at 05:26 AM


Melissa
Young

“ *Melissa Young lit a candle in memory of Ruby Edwards Watkins*



Melissa Young - November 30, 2011 at 11:28 PM

MS

“ I'm so sorry for your loss and would like to offer my condolences to your family. Death is such a terrible thing for a family to go through, I actually lost my mom about 3yrs ago. I'm truly grateful that I have the truth about death and look forward to the future when there will be a resurrection of both the righteous and the unrighteous.”— ACTS 24:15. I'm sure you would love to see your dead loved one again in the coming Paradise here on earth! Again so sorry for your loss!!

Ms Springer - November 30, 2011 at 07:45 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 - November 30, 2011 at 01:36 PM