



## Ruth Jean Pottillo

October 20, 1920 - August 28, 2009

Ruth Jean Pottillo was born to Bishop and Priscilla Goosby on October 20, 1920, Mangum, Oklahoma. She was the third of six children, two brothers and three sisters. Ruth was called “Sis” by her father and siblings. She and her sister Juanita were reared by her father’s sister, Eudora Ragsdale in Dallas, Texas and worshipped at the Boll Street A.M.E. Church. Ruth graduated from Booker T. Washington High School in Dallas and continued her studies at Texas College (an HBCU supported by the United Methodist Church) in Tyler, Texas. There she was an honor student and became a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated. While teaching Algebra in Altus, Oklahoma, she met her beloved husband, Melvin D. Pottillo, who was stationed at the U.S. Army Air-Force base at Altus, Oklahoma. They were in love from the moment they met and that love continued forty-eight years until his passing on February 14, 1991 (Valentine’s Day). God blessed them with three sons and two daughters. The two of them, along with their five children, affiliated with the Milton Avenue United Methodist Church on a Palm Sunday in the early sixties under the Pastorate of the late Reverend James H. Wooden. During her membership at Milton Avenue, she was blessed to have other great ministers leading her in her spiritual walk; the Reverends Wesley E. Kelley, Lewis I. Keene and Tina Miles. Ruth affiliated with the Eastern United Methodist Church under the pastorate of Reverend Constance C. Smith on August 3, 1997 and joined the Sanctuary Choir immediately. Music has always been very dear to her. She sang on the Sanctuary Choir and the

Choraleers at Milton. At Milton Avenue, she served in various capacities. Secretary of the United Methodist Women and the Administrative Board; Chaplain and Co-treasurer of the Retired Committee. At Eastern, she loved helping in the Soup Kitchen, the Worship and Praise Committee, the Sanctuary Choir (secretary) and the United Methodist Women. She was sweet and gentle and had a ready smile and a willing heart for listening and assisting anyone who needed help. She liked to read and was supplied with many books by her children. Reading the Bible was dear to her. She found working complex crossword puzzles enjoyable and educational. She loved taking pictures of people, animals, and anything that was interesting or entertaining. She never seemed to have enough plants and flowers. She dearly loved her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren as well as everyone else's children. They adored her. After working in the home for twenty-five years raising children, she became employed by the Defense Department of Ft. Holabird and retired in 1983 after 17 years of service. She retired when her beloved husband, Melvin retired from Bethlehem Steel following thirty-two years of employment where he was a foreman most of those years. They cherished every moment together and delighted in big family gatherings. She is predeceased by her husband Melvin D. Pottillo, Sr., sons Melvin D. Pottillo, Jr. and David E. Pottillo, daughter Linda C. Pottillo and four of her brothers and sisters Ruth leaves to cherish her memory; son, Willie D. (Gayle); daughter, Patricia Wilkins (Dr. Cletus, Jr.); five grandsons, Patrick Pottillo (Amy), Christopher Pottillo (Tamara), Cletus W. Wilkins, III (Karena), Virgil Pottillo (Nicole), Marcus Pottillo; three granddaughters, Nicole Williams (Jeffrey), Erica Wilkins, Tameka Cassel; twelve great grandchildren, Christopher Pottillo, Jr., Dominick Cassel, Autumn Pottillo, Chloe Pottillo, Camille Pottillo, Chase Pottillo, Jeffrey Williams, Jr., Jaden Williams, Camden Pottillo, Maria Pottillo, Akeira Helluns, Micha Wilkins; daughter-in-law, Donna Pottillo (Melvin D. Jr., deceased) sister, Vera Campbell (Oscar) of Las Vegas, Nevada; and a host of other relatives and dear friends including Mrs. Odessa Tillman, Mrs. Evelyn



# Tribute Wall



“ *Ruth Jean Pottillo*

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ *Sorors Pat and Erica, and Bro. Cletus, we are sorry for your loss. We wish you strength during this difficult time.##imported-begin##Damon and Kenya Johnson##imported-end##*

July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you. I am so very sorry for your loss. My God Bless and keep you in His loving care.##imported-begin##Soror Daffney Henry##imported-end##*

July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ *Soror Pat, my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.##imported-begin##Jessie Jackson##imported-end##*

July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ *Mrs. Wilkins, you and your family are in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.##imported-begin##Scales Family##imported-end##*

July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ Pat, you and your family are in my prayers. I am sorry to hear about your loss but I hope you find comfort in the memories.##imported-begin##Lorene K. Phillips##imported-end##

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July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ To Chris and family, we would like to express our deepest sympathy in the passing of your Grandmother, just remember that she is truly resting in God's hands. To the family members she is truly resting in a better place,love me but let me go for when I come to the end of long road and the sun has set for me,don't cry for my soul has been set free. Remember that she love you, and you loved her. For this is truly a journey that we must take and we must go alone for it's all part of the Master's plan a small on the road to home. When you come lonely, reach for family and they will be there. And just so know god will always be there watching below. Ms.Rose Boyd##imported-begin##Mr &Mrs. Carroll Boyd Jr##imported-end##

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July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ Your smile, hugs, and love will forever be in our hearts. But your weary heart is at rest. Miss ya and Love you Grandma Pottillo.##imported-begin##Tamara Boyd Pottillo##imported-end##

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July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ Soror Pat & Family, I am sorry for your loss. May God bring you strength in the days ahead.##imported-begin##Katrina Bailey##imported-end##

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July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ To the family of Ms. Pottillo, my deepest sympathy on your loss. Please take comfort in reading Revelation 21:3,4 and Isaiah 25: 8; where God promises to swallow up death forever.##imported-begin##marilynn wright##imported-end##

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July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ Sorry to hear about your loss. Even though death is an enemy of mankind, you can look forward to the time when all those in the memorial tomb will here his voice and come John 5:28,29 also Acts24:15. May the god of comfort be with you and your family at this time .##imported-begin##Sheila Scott##imported-end##

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July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM