



Ruth L. Sparks

April 22, 1939 - May 5, 2004

Ruth L. Baxter Spark's philosophy was "one person can make a difference." Throughout her life she exemplified her philosophy through her personal commitment to make a difference in the many lives she touched. Born in North, South Carolina on April 22, 1939, Ruth and her twin sister, Reba Bullock, were the third birth of eight children of the late Bertha and James Baxter. On Wednesday, May 5, 2004, Ruth peacefully entered into eternal rest. Ruth began her education in the public school system, graduated from Dover High School in North, South Carolina, and continued her higher education at Molloy College in Rockville Center, New York. Ruth was married to the late Judge Ralph W. Sparks, Jr., from this union three children were born, Terry Anthony (deceased), and twins Renee and Norman. Upon moving to Long Island, New York, Ruth immediately became active in her community. She was one of the co-founders of the Concerned Parents of Baldwin School District where she served in several leadership positions. Ruth served as president of the Roosevelt Democratic Club, co-vice president of the Roosevelt/Freeport Branch of the NAACP, and was active with the Nassau County Democratic Party. She served on the Board of Educational Assistance Center for Nassau-Suffolk Counties. Ruth and her family were active members of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church for over twenty-five years where she served in many capacities. Ruth's political interest led to her employment as a special Assistant to U.S. congressman Edolphus Towns of the 10th Congressional District of Brooklyn, and as District Office Manager for

former Assemblywoman Barbara Patton of the 18th Assembly District. She also found time to be actively involved in her husband's successful campaign for Civil Court Judge in Brooklyn, New York. Upon the death of her husband, Ruth eventually moved to Baltimore to join her family and resided in the Morgan Park Community. She immediately became involved in the community and served as vice-president of the Morgan Park Community Association. She continued her interest in political campaigns by volunteering and holding fundraising events in her home. Ruth was also an active member of St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church where she served on the Altar Guild and Events Planning Committee, and was a member of the Union of Black Episcopalians. Ruth loved people and had an extremely outgoing personality that was greatly admired by many. Her family affectionately referred to her as the "diva" because of her love of fashions and her exquisite taste. She enjoyed golfing, bowling, interior decorating, gardening and especially traveling around the world with her twin sister Reba. She also enjoyed the yearly mother/daughter vacations with her sisters and nieces to Martha's Vineyard. Ruth had a strong belief in Christ that sustained her during her illness. Ruth was the recipient of numerous awards including a New York State Assembly Citation for Volunteerism and Community Service, Nassau Democratic County Committee Community Service Award, Concerned Parents of Baldwin Community Service Award, and Woman of the Year Community Service Award from Iota Theta Zeta Chapter, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. Ruth had many interests, but her greatest joy was the love and devotion she exhibited toward her children, grandchildren, siblings and other family members and friends. She leaves to cherish her memories: one daughter, Renee Sparks Cuffie of Baltimore; one son, Norman Van Sparks of Brooklyn, New York; one son-in-law, Michael Cuffie; one daughter-in-law, Mary Rose Sparks; four grandchildren, Iman Michele, Christina Ruth, and Michael Cuffie, and Hannah Rose Sparks; three sisters, Lillian Jones Cuffie, Reba Bullock, and Celestine Morgan of Baltimore (one sister, Myrdis Walker, preceded her in death); three brothers, Frank and Wilbur Baxter of Baltimore

and Ralph Baxter of North, South Carolina; two brothers-in-law, Ronald Cuffie and Julian Morgan of Baltimore; one aunt, Mary Baxter Johnson, of Long Island City, New York; twenty-one nieces and nephews; one godson, Alfred Taylor, and many other relatives and special friends.

Tribute Wall



“ *Ruth L. Sparks*

March 25, 2023 at 10:25 AM



“ *Ruth L. Sparks*

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ *To the Family: Please accept my deepest sympathy. It is so comforting to know that one day death will be no more. May you find comfort from the Holy Scriptures which shows that one day the enemy death will be gone forever. Isaiah 25:8 and Revelation 21:4. Continue to find solace from the scriptures.##imported-begin##Vanessa Adams##imported-end##*

July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ My deepest sympathy during your time of sorrow but know 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 Jesus Christ have been given the authority to bring all those in the memorial tombs back to life. John 5:28-29 Just think there will come a time not only will death be no more but Jehovah promises that no one will have to say I'm sick according to Isaiah 33:24. I feel the need to express these words of hope because so many of us today treasure the gift of life and we do all we can to maintain it to hold on to it. That is why it hurts so badly when our loved ones die. With so many of us desiring life today no matter how good or bad it is we still want life here on earth. No one looks forward to that time of death. That is why I am under obligation by the spirit and love of God to share that hope that is in our near future that the righteous shall inherit the earth and reside upon it forever according to Psalms 37: 29 along with the above stated promises on a paradise and peaceful earth. We all can hold true to this everlasting promise because Isaiah states all the words Jehovah have spoken WILL NOT RETURN WITHOUT RESULTS. What a wonderful prospect for our future especially enlight of the fact that Hebrews 6:18 States of God, it is IMPOSSIBLE for him to lie.##imported-begin##Carter##imported-end##

July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM



“ just a message of comfort to the family of mrs. sparks, she seems to have been a person who cared about the well being of others. so, mrs. sparks must have found the "happiness" that the bible says we would receive from giving. because of mrs. sparks being so involved in the lives of those she knew and loved, i know she is sorely missed. well, the bible also shows that the time is coming when there will be no more sickness or death and this will happen during a time when the earth will be made into a beautiful park or garden, if you will, a paradise with no wickedness, no one to cause harm to others, everyone living during that time will be persons practicing righteousness in their lives. also written in the bible is the hope of a resurrection of our dear loved ones. for me this is a wonderful hope since i too have lost loved ones in death - most recently, my one year old grandson. all death is painful but especially so that of a child. so, with such a grand hope ahead of us, let us continue to learn and practice the things pleasing to God that He might count us worthy to live during that time. here are a few scriptures that you can read to see that these promises are real -Rev.21:3,4, Ps.37:9-11,29, John5:28,29, Proverbs3:5,6 if after reading this message and these bible verses you decide that you would like to have a free home bible study or just a few minutes to discuss these things in detail, i can be contacted at my e-mail address -kic2@verizon.net##imported-begin##kathy commander##imported-end##

July 02, 2010 at 02:21 PM