



## Valma Henson

February 23, 1911 - September 21, 2013

VALMA RUTH THOMPSON HENSON was born on February 23, 1911 in Westmoreland County, Virginia. She was the seventh of nine children born to the late Joseph and Sarah Aston Thompson. All of her siblings preceded her in death.

At an early age, Valma accepted Christ as our Lord and joined the Potomac Baptist Church in Hague, Virginia. Her education experience began as a child at the Potomac School in Westmoreland County in Virginia. As a young teenager, she was sent to Baltimore. She enrolled and graduated from Frederick Douglass High School. Following graduation Valma returned to night school to pursue a diploma in Commercial and Business studies. She also attended a local junior college and Cortez Peters Business School.

As a young lady, Valma continued her relationship with our Lord at Sharon Baptist Church Sunday School under the tutelage of Miss Emily Carter. She later attended and joined, with other family members, Perkins Square Baptist Church. While attending Perkins Square, she met and married William James Washington. Of that union, two children, Marie and Delano were born.

Following a divorce, Valma's faith grew stronger as she became the sole provider for her children. She praised GOD daily and thanked Him for providing a myriad of opportunities for her to earn an honest living. Many employment opportunities were made available to her during her life, the last employment being with the State of Maryland from which she retired in 1975. Valma's quest to continue her education and her continuous reaffirmation of

her faith in GOD became her hallmark within her family and life. Valma enriched her children with love, respect, faith, and numerous childhood experiences that became part of their firm foundation. This included Sharon Baptist Church Sunday School, where they followed their mother's lead and became members in their childhood.

It was at Sharon Baptist Church that Valma met and married Maurice Henson in February 1954. He was an avid Sharon member and supporter of the Adult Sunday School. This union grew in faith and in the church. It ended with Maurice's death in of August 1983.

Sharon Baptist Church became Mother's "other family" with its richness of love, friendship, generosity and support. Under the pastorate of Dr. Vaughn, Mother became a Deaconess and then a Deacon. She loved all of the church organizations where she became a member, but in particular the Church Life and Birthday Circles. Mother also loved the children of the church. She supported their activities, provided counseling (when requested), and took pride in their many achievements. She leaves many of these children who join us in sorrow at this time.

In transition, Valma leaves: her daughter, Marie W. Phillips; son, Wm. Delano T. Washington; daughter-in-law, Marilyn W. Washington; son-in-law, Treadwell O. Phillips; grandchildren, Jerry and Jerilyn Payne, Cheryl and Deryk Phillips, Nicole W. Selby and Michael M. Washington; ten great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews and cousins. She also leaves one special nephew, Kerner Thompson, whom she assisted in his early development, growth, and Christian experience and whom she considered her other son.

# Cemetery Details

## Arbutus Memorial Park Cemetery

1101 Sulphur Spring Road  
Baltimore, MD 21227

# Previous Events

## Public Viewing

SEP 26. 8:30 AM - 8:00 PM (ET)

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

## Family Hour

SEP 26. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

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

## Wake

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SEP 27. 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Sharon Baptist Church  
1373 N. Stricker Street  
Baltimore, MD

## Service

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SEP 27. 11:00 AM (ET)

Sharon Baptist Church  
1373 N. Stricker Street  
Baltimore, MD

# Tribute Wall



“ *Valma Henson*

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ *Thinking of you! Love you dearly! ooxx*

**Jerilynn Payne** - September 21, 2015 at 08:20 PM



“ *Birthday Blessings Nana!*

**Jerilynn** - February 23, 2014 at 05:08 PM

JP

“ *We Thank You*

*We give thanks for the ever renewing, the ever-unfolding expressions of love, blessings and energy given by you to us! Your thoughtful actions, a card, a telephone call, a text, a Facebook message, a visit, a gift, food, flowers, a prayer or thoughts unheard are deeply appreciated.*

*Know that God upholds and sustains us.*

*We have unshakeable faith for God is in absolute control.*

*We love you and give thanks for blessing us!*

*We Love You*

*Special Thanks & Blessings*

*The late Clement B. T. Knight, M. D., Tejaswi Sastry, M. D., and the Maryland Oncology Hematology staff - especially Sheila Stephens, Freda Fields, and Denise Carter-Brookins*

*Andrew Lazris, M. D. and the Personal Physician Care staff - especially Jill Kendall*

*Shakunmala Gupta, M.D. and the Lorien Columbia Health Care Center staff - especially Athena Adams and Nancy Bright*

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**Jerilynn Payne** - October 09, 2013 at 09:19 PM

“*Valma Ruth Thompson Henson, age 102, of Columbia, Maryland died early morning on Saturday, September 21, 2013 at Lorien Columbia Health Care Center in Columbia, Maryland.*

*Valma Ruth Henson, daughter of the late Joseph and Sarah Thompson, was born February 23, 1911 in Westmoreland County, Virginia. She was the seventh child of nine. She attended the Potomac School and was baptized at Potomac Baptist Church in Westmoreland. In 1926, Valma traveled by boat to Baltimore, Maryland to attain a higher education not available to Negro children in her native community. She attended Frederick Douglass High School and the Cortez W. Peters Business School while working to help support her family.*

*At a young age, she met and married William James Washington and from this union, Marie and William Delano Washington were born. Her first marriage ended in divorce. With the assistance of her mother Sarah in caring for her young children, Valma attended night school and worked to support her children. She was determined that her children would have a college education. Valma retired from the State of Maryland in 1975 as a medical records employee at Spring Grove State Hospital.*

*Valma met and married, in 1954, Maurice Douglas Henson, a World War I veteran and Past Post Commander of The American Legion (TAL) Walter Green Post No. 14 Baltimore, at Sharon Baptist Church where she was a member for over 60 plus years. With her husband, Valma attended and supported myriad activities for years enjoying the companionship of his comrades and their spouses. Valma continued her commitment of service and giving to veterans and military personnel and ultimately joined the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) Jackson & Johnson Memorial Unit No. 263 – Catonsville, Maryland. The TAL family of Post No. 263 honored her as one of four “Women of Distinction” and provided immeasurable assistance in celebrating Valma’s 100th Birthday Celebration!*

*Valma joined Perkins Square Baptist Church when she arrived in Baltimore and later moved her membership to Sharon Baptist Church. Valma and Maurice loved church work and especially the Adult Sunday School where she served as Past Superintendent. She was a member of the Birthday Circle, Church Life Circle, and a supporter of the Constance H. Moore Scholarship Fund. Under the current pastor, Rev. Dr. Alfred C. D. Vaughn, Valma became a Deaconess and Deacon. She was humbled when she was named, "Mother of Sharon Baptist Church."*

*Valma, affectionately known as "Nana" to many, and "Grandma" to some, was a living historian and genealogist. She faithfully studied her Holy Bible and enjoyed Bible Word Search puzzles. Her favorite scripture was Proverbs 3:5-6. "Trust in the LORD with all your heart..." and one of her favorites hymns was, "What a Friend We Have in Jesus." She lived during the era when woman and people of color were not allowed to vote. She proudly voted many times but most proudly for Barack Obama. She traveled to Jerusalem and was baptized in the River of Jordan and sailed on the Sea of Galilee. She traveled to Africa, Italy, Greece, and joined her daughter for many domestic trips across the United States. Nana enjoyed family meals, shopping, gardening, and attending concerts and events of her grandchildren and great grandchildren. This wonderful woman loved life!*

*Cherishing loving memories are her daughter, Marie W. Phillips (Treadwell) and son, Wm Delano Washington (Marilynn); grandchildren, Jerryl Payne (Brenda), Jerilynn Payne, Cheryl Phillips, Deryk Phillips (Angel), Nicole Selby, and Michael Washington; great grandchildren; Lance Adams, Jeremyah Payne, Justyn Payne, Bryanna Payne, Denver Phillips, Michael "Mimi" Washington, Gage Phillips, Jordan Selby, Jessica Selby, and Jaden Selby; a nephew she considered a son, Kernie Thompson; Godchild Velma Phillips; and a host of loving nieces, nephews, cousins, great nieces and nephews, extended family, and friends.*

*Her husband, Maurice D. Henson and siblings, Malachi Thompson,*

*Georgiana Lewis, Austin Thompson, Miriam Jones, Martha Thompson, Bly Hackett, Hannah Carr*

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**Jerilynn Payne** - October 09, 2013 at 09:17 PM

JP

“ 6 files added to the album *New Album Name*



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**Jerilynn Payne** - October 05, 2013 at 09:29 AM

CA

“ Hello Jerryl,

*I just wanted to express my condolences to you and your family with hope. I pray for the peace of all and that God provide comfort as only He can through revelation of His faithfulness and grace and mercy to establish the moving of His hand and the provisions therein for us regarding this life and eternity. May each of you behold heaven's offerings and it remove fear and bring forth the sharing in the joy of every experienced moment with your Nanna and the hope for reunion. My prayers are toward you and your family with thanksgiving for God being a very present help and always present with us.*

*Just a note to let you know you are on my mind and in my heart.*

*Now unto Him that is able to keep us from falling and to present us faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy. To the only wise God our Savior be glory, majesty, dominion and power both now and ever. Amen (Jude 1:24-25).*

*Love you and God bless,*

*Cedric Wooten  
Cel: 214-536-3115*

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**Cedric Wooten (MIT & St Paul AME)** - September 25, 2013 at 11:32 PM

PL

“ *I would like to send my condolences to the family. When someone we love dies its very painful. But the Bible talks about God doing away with pain at Rev 21:4. May the God of comfort provide solace to your family at this time.*

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**Peggy Land** - September 24, 2013 at 10:44 AM

HN

“ WISHING YOU PEACE LOVE AND BLESSING DURING YOUR TIME OF BEREAVEMENT FROM THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT POST#263 CATONSVILLE MD...PRESIDENT K. DAVIS, 1ST VICE H.NICHOLS, 2ND VICE C. ROBINSON

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**HOPE NICHOLS** - September 23, 2013 at 12:52 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.

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**March Funeral Homes** - September 23, 2013 at 12:26 PM