



Willa Ray Hassell

April 2, 1933 - February 11, 2018

WILLA RAY HASSELL was born on April 2, 1933 in Parmele, NC. She suddenly departed this life on February 11, 2018. She was born to the late Richard and Etta Humphrey Little and is the youngest of 14 siblings who preceded her in death; Leroy, Bessie, Minnie, Geneva, Clara, Mamie, Verna, Richard, Christine, Tom, Velma, Marion, and Dallas Ray, her twin.

Willa Ray was a graduate of W.C. Chance High School in Parmele, North Carolina. In 1952 she moved to Baltimore, Maryland and on August 12, 1953, James Edward Hassell (affectionately "Jimmy") and Willa Ray were united in matrimony. From this union, Ronald, affectionately "Ronnie", Renee and Michelle were born. Ronnie preceded her in death.

Willa Ray worked in the Baltimore City Public School System and in the evenings attended night studies at Coppin State University.

Willa Ray joined Gospel Tabernacle Baptist Church during the 1960's and was a member of the Sanctuary Choir. She loved the Lord, studied the Bible daily and was a dedicated church member who participated in various committees.

In 1976, Willa Ray retired from the Baltimore City Public School System to become a devoted homemaker. During the weekdays, she lovingly cared for her grandchildren. She enjoyed transporting them to school, helping with their

studies and caring for them, which later continued with her great-grandchildren.

Willa Ray passionately cared for family and extended family. She had a kind heart, genuinely loved children and is known for her charitable giving to underprivileged kids.

Family meant everything to Willa Ray. At family events she was known as the family member who always had her camera and captured memorable moments that created lifelong memories for everyone. Not only did Willa Ray style Renee, Michelle and her grandchildren's hair, she also styled extended family members hair, as well.

Willa Ray was very fashionable and loved shopping. She enjoyed shopping sprees, specifically the Reading, Pennsylvania outlets. Willa Ray's other hobbies included sewing, cooking, and talking and laughing on the phone with longtime friends and family.

She is survived by her loving and devoted husband of 64 years; daughters, Renee Hassell Harris (Ellis) and Michelle Hassell Funn (Michael); grandchildren Latika Hassell Noel (Kevin) and Rekeia Hassell, Courtney Glasgow, David Mayfield; great-grandchildren, Tylah McCray, Logan Davis, Curtis Streat, Jr. (affectionately Poppie), and Ryland Holloway; sister-in-law, Callie Hassell; daughter-in-law, Pamela Mayfield; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and many friends.

Cemetery Details

Garrison Forest Veterans

11501 Garrison Forest Road
Owings Mills, MD

Previous Events

viewing

FEB 19. 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

FEB 19. 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

FEB 20. 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Gospel Tabernacle Baptist Church
3100 Walbrook Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21216

Service

FEB 20. 11:00 AM (ET)

Gospel Tabernacle Church
3100 Walbrook Ave
Balto., MD 21216

Tribute Wall



“ *Willa Ray Hassell*

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ *To Michelle, Courtney and Michael:. May the love and tender mercy of God surround you during this time of sorrow. I'm thinking and praying for you . Please know that you are not alone during this difficult time.*

Margaret A. Turner

Magaret Turner - February 19, 2018 at 03:38 PM



“ *Serenity Wreath was purchased for the family of Willa Ray Hassell.*



February 19, 2018 at 01:06 PM



“ *Courtney lit a candle in memory of Willa Ray Hassell*



Courtney - February 19, 2018 at 09:56 AM

CO

love you grandma!

Courtney - February 19, 2018 at 09:57 AM



“ *Serenity Wreath was purchased for the family of Willa Ray Hassell.*



February 16, 2018 at 05:31 PM

NW

“ *Nevin Womack purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Willa Ray Hassell.*



Nevin Womack - February 16, 2018 at 01:24 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 - February 13, 2018 at 03:30 PM