

Celebrating the Life of
Ethel Calhoun



Sunrise: September 14, 1938 – **Sunset:** August 24, 2024

Wednesday, September 11, 2024

Viewing: 10:00 a.m. Service: 11:00 a.m.

First Baptist Church of Glenarden
3600 Brightseat Road
Landover, MD 20785

Pastor John K. Jenkins Sr.

Reverend Lenia Queen, Presider
Reverend Jonathan Queen, Eulogist

Obituary

Ethel Mae Calhoun

Ethel Mae Calhoun, affectionately known as “Qunie”, was born September 14, 1938, in Concord, Georgia, to the late Raymond Bryant Sr. and Bertha Mae Bryant. The fifth of seven children, Ethel was raised in a home filled with love and faith. It was this foundation that would shape her into the remarkable woman she became – one whose life was a testament to unwavering love, resilience, and compassion.

On August 24, 2024, Ethel peacefully departed this life, surrounded by the love of her family at her home. Her passing leaves a profound void, but her legacy of faith, love, and service will continue to inspire all who knew her. Ethel was preceded in death by her husband, Abner Calhoun; her daughter Phyllis Calhoun; her sisters Bessie Dotson and Lena Mangham; and her brothers Alvin Bryant, Travis Bryant, Raymond Bryant Jr. and Nathaniel Bryant. She leaves to cherish her memory through her two sons Alton Bernard and Alexis Quinton Calhoun, and her daughter Paula Denita Calhoun, adopted children Dana Harvey and Jason Calhoun. 14 Grandchildren, Unique, Nisha, Holly Marie, Tyra, Alton Bernard Jr, Tyrell, Carrell, Eboni, Hampton, Isaiah, Zion, Jeremiah, and Kyria. 13 great grandchildren, Zamani, Zariah, Jada, Shani, Madison, Nevaeh, Aniya, Marley, Madalyn, Pierre, Alton Bernard III, Miles, and LJ. She leaves to cherish a loving family who will forever hold her close in their hearts.

Ethel’s journey through life was marked by both triumph and hardship, and she navigated both with grace. After completing her education at W.A. Fountain High School in Forest Park, GA, Ethel began her

professional journey in a local factory.

In 1970, with her four children in tow, she boldly relocated to the Bronx, NY, where she made a home and began working in the jewelry industry, creating beautiful pieces that reflected the meticulous care she put into everything she touched. Ethel's true calling, however, was not only in the work of her hands but in the work of her heart.

In 1975, she began what would become her lifelong mission: caring for others. Ethel's home was a sanctuary, a place of refuge for family members, neighbors, close friends, and even those who faced challenging circumstances. She welcomed everyone with open arms, offering not just a place to stay but a place to heal and be loved. After her time in the jewelry industry, Ethel devoted herself to the care of children, becoming a beloved babysitter in her community. Her home was always filled with the laughter of children, and she became a second mother to many, nurturing them with the same love and attention she gave to her own.

In 2014, as Ethel's health began to decline due to Alzheimer's, she moved to Largo, MD, to live with her youngest daughter Paula. She oversaw her mother's 24 hour care, tending to her every need and she became a passionate advocate for her mother's diagnosis, ensuring that her mother received the respect, dignity, and understanding that she deserved.

Throughout her life, Ethel's faith was her guiding light. She received salvation in Christ Jesus when attending her original church home at the Pleasant Grove Baptist Church in Forest Park, Georgia. While living with her daughter Paula, Ethel found joy and peace in worship as she would regularly visit the First Baptist Church of Glenarden. She especially loved attending church during the holidays because it filled her with so much warmth and happiness.

Ethel's life was a living testament to Matthew 25:35: "For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me." Her kindness and compassion were boundless through her acts of service and was felt everywhere by all who came in contact with her.

Though she has departed from this world, Ethel's legacy of love and generosity will endure. Her life was a beacon of light, guiding those who knew her toward a deeper understanding of what it means to truly care for one another. She was and always will be a woman of God, whose heart and home were open to all. Ethel Mae Calhoun will be deeply missed, but her spirit will live on in the countless lives she touched. As her family and friends gather to celebrate her life, they do so with the knowledge that she is now at peace, resting in the loving arms of the Lord, reunited with those who went before her.

Order of Service

Processional

Scriptures:

Old Testament: Psalms 23
Zenovia Cole

New Testament: John 14:1-6

Kyria Calhoun

Prayer

Reverend Keshia Dixon

Ministry of Music

FBCG Music & Creative Arts Department

Acknowledgements

Alton Bernard Calhoun Sr.

Remembering Ethel

(Reading of the Obituary)

Reflect in Silence

Please limit reflections to two minutes

Reflections

Family and Friends

Ministry of Music

FBCG Music & Creative Arts Department

Message

Reverend Jonathan Queen

Committal & Benediction

Recessional

Memories

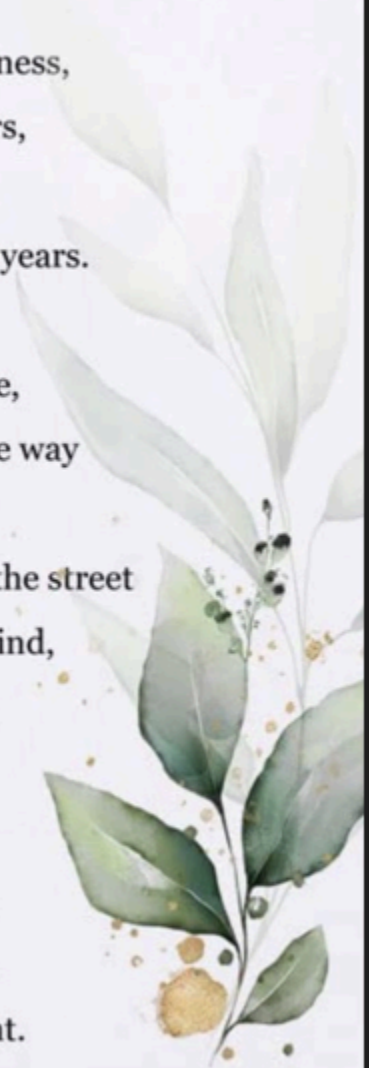
(Photos – must be downloaded in dropbox – JPG)

From the Heart of the Family

Back

Remember Me

Don't remember me with sadness,
Don't remember me with tears,
Remember all the laughter,
We've shared throughout the years.
Now I am contented
That my life it was worthwhile,
Knowing as I passed along the way
I made somebody smile.
When you are walking down the street
And you've got me on your mind,
I'm walking in your footsteps
Only half a step behind.
So please don't be unhappy
Just because I'm out of sight,
Remember that I'm with you
Each morning, noon and night.



Pallbearers

Alexis Calhoun
Alton Calhoun
Patrick Harvey
Jason Calhoun
Tyrell Dunn
Carrell Calhoun

Floral Bearers

Friends of the Family

Acknowledgements

The family wishes to acknowledge with deep appreciation the comforting messages, prayers, and many other expressions of kindness and concerns during our time of mourning.

Interment

First Baptist Church of Glenarden
3600 Brightseat Rd
Landover, MD 20785

Services Entrusted to:

Beall Funeral Home
6512 Robert S. Crain Highway
Bowie, MD 20715