

A LIFE LIVED BY
*Dignity
& Grace*



Petty
JUNE
Fox

JUNE 16, 1931 – NOVEMBER 23, 2020

THE LIFE OF A QUEEN

Betty
JUNE
Fox

Her children rise up and call her blessed...
honor her for all that her hands have done
and let her works bring her praise...

Proverbs 31:28 & 31

Those of us whose lives Betty June touched, who were privileged to walk in the shining light of her presence, are certainly rising to call her blessed and give all honor to God for the work she did here on earth!

Betty June Stewart was born in Chickasha, Oklahoma on June 16, 1931. She was the third child and second daughter of 13 children born to Eartha Dorsey and Eugene Stewart. Betty always spoke lovingly of her childhood growing up in Chickasha. Her descriptions were so idyllic, you might have thought she had spent her youth in a perfect little town from a Hallmark movie. She regaled many of us with tales of Chickasha, from the memories of 3 meals a day with her mother making homemade bread and no one being able to eat until her father was there at the table for them to bless the food, to the playground her father built for them in their back yard. She accepted the Lord at New Hope Baptist Church at an early age where she and her siblings attended church with their parents. She shared stories of her and her siblings enjoying great times in the church including being taught the value of sharing with others and learning the importance of putting God first in everything they did.

We loved to laugh at her stories of Uncle Stew walking in the front door of Lincoln High School, and right back out the back door, or tales of Aunt Florence insisting on getting herself a dance in at the local dance club while sweet Betty pleaded with her from across the street to hurry up and come walk home with her before they both got in trouble! But as much as she did not want to get in trouble, she wasn't going to leave her big sister. Family loyalty and unity was something she was taught from an early age, and these were traits that she lived and taught her children and grandchildren throughout her life. After graduating as valedictorian of her high school class, Betty headed off to Wichita, Kansas to attend Wichita Business College. While attending school in late 1948, she met and married William Russell Fox. To this union were born Pamela, Stefania, Georgia Ann, Rebecca, and Daryl. The young family settled in Wellington, KS for a few years before moving to Denver in 1959. Betty later met and married Marshall McGrew and to that union Marsha Lynn was born.

Betty's remarkable strength endured in all situations. Always looking to God first, she instilled a strong belief in self in her children and practiced love and respect for others that allowed her to always see the best in everyone. As a member of Zion Baptist church for many years she was a dedicated member of the Usher Board, Sunday School classes and participated in community outreach activities. Attending church with her children every Sunday was a joy and non-negotiable part of her life. Her most recent church membership was at Heritage Christian Center under the late Pastor Dennis Leonard and the current Pastor Marlon Saunders. At Heritage she continued to enjoy the Word of God and fellowship with others. One of her favorite things to do was to go to the Church bookstore following the service for tapes and additional reading material.

The Eastside Neighborhood Health Center (known today as the Bernard F. Gipson, Sr. Eastside Family Health Center) opened on Monday, March 7, 1966. Betty was a part of the original staff supervising in the medical records department. She was proud of the work being done at the health center as it afforded health care to so many.

Anyone who knew Betty well would say that she was not only incredibly sweet and loving, but also an industrious woman with a fierce work ethic. Many may not have known that she was among the vanguard of women who paved the way for little Black girls to enter what we now call the STEM field. A "hidden figure" of the early tech and computing industry, Betty took the skills she gained at business college to work for a Black-owned data processing service in Denver.

Never one to rest on her laurels, she joined forces with her good friend Hope to start AAA Key punch, one of the first such tech companies in the region owned by women of color — much to the chagrin of her former boss who thought these ladies had no business competing against him! This dynamic duo forged a successful path together but after many years, Betty struck out on her own and became the sole proprietor of her own business, Quality Key punch. In her transformed garage she set to work with her new employees — her children — who will all tell you that they never worked harder than they did for their no-nonsense mama!

Betty genuinely enjoyed making her contribution to society and continued in the workforce well into her senior years. Before finally retiring for good, she worked for Denver Public Schools for 20 years, helping to set up school libraries with the books needed to challenge and expand young minds. She was a lifelong learner and many of her coworkers said she always had the biggest stack of books on her desk because she was reading them before shipping them out to the schools. Her name is proudly displayed on a plaque at the Montebello Public Library as a Library Benefactor.

An avid sports fan, Betty could be found on any given Sunday telling the refs off from her couch if she felt her favorite team was being cheated (she saved her strongest contempt for any refs that dared to call a foul on her grandson Darriek!) She was loyal to Oklahoma University Football and checked the playing schedule each week to prepare to watch. For many years, her children and grandchildren descended on her home in Denver for the annual Broncos/Raiders football showdown. Serious planning went into this tailgating fete – right down to the homemade breakfast burritos and her famous BRISKET. The Fox family tailgate was the hottest ticket in town and one of her most memorable moments as a Broncos fan was winning the 'Tailgater of the Month' crown in 2008.

Family was EVERYTHING to Betty. She spread an abundance of unwavering love, joy, acceptance, open-mindedness and, most of all, wisdom to not only those who belonged to her, but anyone else who came into her orbit. She became everybody's "Big Mama" and had a knack for saying the exact words you needed to hear. For her grandchildren it was not uncommon to receive a phone call and hear "Babe, I am not trying to get in your business, but....."

On November 23, 2020, Betty earned her wings and was promoted from elder to ancestor — joining all those who went before her to watch over and guide those left to cherish her memory. She was preceded in death by her parents, as well as brothers Albert and Bill, sisters, Florence, Wanda, Ellen, Lorraine, Evelyn Ann, Jacquelyn, and Patricia, stepchildren Musheer Muhammad and Sandra Augusta and great grandson Gabriel Lee Ford.

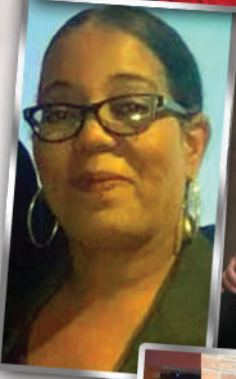
Betty leaves to carry on her legacy her loving brother Michael Stewart (Zoraida) Denver, CO; sister Kay Kuykendall (Gary) Chickasha, OK; five daughters and one son — Pamela Martin (Jesse) Los Angeles, CA; Stefania Eskridge, Georgia Ann Frazier (Alfred), Rebecca Ford, Marsha Lynn Hayes (Jessie) and Daryl Fox (Diana) and stepdaughter Patricia McGrew all of Denver, CO; daughter-in-law, Kathryn Fox of Park City, FL; grandchildren, Darriek, Andre, Dionne, Kevin, KeVanna, Danielle, Michelle, Jessica, Chenoa, Brittany, Alfred II, Nicole, Jordan, Gill II, Daryl Jr., Brian, Garrett, Terrance, Maya, Carl, Brandon, Tai and Justin; 46 great-grandchildren ..some adopted; and a host of nieces, nephews and friends.

An author once wrote of a lost loved one, "She was the sun of my life, the glider of every pleasure, the soother of every sorrow, I had not a thought concealed from her, and it is as if I had lost a part of myself."

These words manage to capture the sentiments of all those who love Betty. She really was the brightest star in her family's universe and as her legacy, we will continue to embody her spirit and shine on, so that the beauty of her light never dims.







TRIBUTES
TO OUR

Sister

TRIBUTE FROM SISTER KAY KUYKENDALL

So extremely glad for my sister Betty to be with us every summer on her summer trip. She would have us so excited when she arrived here in Oklahoma. She would call and talk to me for a bit then it was her and Gary. She had her itinerary ready for her and Gary and we could come only if we wanted to. We just followed her lead and just rode. The plan was to go to a casino, eat, and then to the next casino. We laughed, we planned and then on to the next casino. The next day was on to a new adventure. We just followed her and Gary. There was nothing like a Betty adventure in Oklahoma. She made her life here every Summer. Always the boss. Love you sister Betty.

TRIBUTE FROM BROTHER MIKE STEWART

Sis-This is so hard for me to do, putting pen to paper to express all my love and feelings for you. I have decided to grab a bottle of water and a box of tissues and remember your words, "come on brother, you can do it." So, with my hands shaking and tears flowing, here I go.

We have shared so many good times, fun times, hard times, serious times, and bonding times together over the years. The many many trips to Oklahoma for many different reasons, just you and I. What bonding experience those were. We laughed and talked about everything. Even the trip to go and see daddy when he became sick, was truly a learning experience for me about love, life and family.

Thanks, Sis, for all the wisdom, smiles and love. From the many lessons learned from your spiritual inspiration, this family will stay strong and continue to move upward. Well, I have run out of tissues, but never the tears or love for you.

Love,
Brother

TRIBUTE FROM SISTER-IN-LAW ZORAIDA STEWART

Betty, my sister-in-law, mom, and my friend. We were not ready for you to go yet! There is so much to say, so I'll start out by saying, "I am so grateful to have had you in my life." You were a wonderful woman of God and so full of love and joy. Everyone who knew and met you, fell in love with you. Your amazing personality and love for your family and friends will never be forgotten.

I am confident that you are with our Creator. I thank you for your brother Mike and for allowing me to be a part of your life's journey. You will be in our hearts forever.

Love you so,
Sister-in-Law Z, Niece Eartha Ashley, Nephew Ronald, Great Niece Destine, Great Nephews Carter & Jason, Family member Teco, My mom Carmen & My brother Angel

TRIBUTES TO A

Queen

TRIBUTES
TO OUR

Mother

TRIBUTE FROM DAUGHTER PAMELA MARTIN

Having lived so far away from you Mama for most of my life, all I kept thinking...Just One More Time...

Father God,

I needed one more time to hear my Mama's voice,
One more time

- to hear her say, "Hi Babe!", "I Love You baby. Take care of yourself."
- to watch her meticulously season, grill and cook her brisket.
- to behold her smile when she talked about her Children, Grands and Great-Grands.
- to watch her enjoy her food from the hor d'oeuvres to dessert.
- to watch her iron every wrinkle out of her clothes – even her sweatshirts and jeans!
- to feel the warmth of her hug.
- to share my deepest hurts, pains and greatest JOYs and Laughter with!
- to experience God's unconditional Love through her.
- to see you watch OU, Tiger, Serena and the Broncos!
- to get one more list from her.
- to see you beam with pride when you talked about President Obama and Michelle.
- to sit next to you in church.
- to tell her, 'Thank you for being my Mama, my confidant, my friend.'
- to thank her for her faithfulness to our family.
- to hear her laugh.
- to tell her Thank you for your unconditional love even when you knew we had not made good choices.
- to tell her that 'I Love You' not for what you do but for who you are.
- to tell her 'Thank You Mama for living your faith for us to see' which encourages and ensures me that this is not 'goodbye' but 'see you later' when the trumpet sounds.

Thank you, Father God, for choosing Betty June Stewart to be our Mother, Grandmother, Great-Grandmother, Big Mama, Sister, Auntie, Cousin, and Friend

Thank You Father God that you allowed us to see Your Glory as it shined through Our Mama.

Thank You Father God for One More Time.

I Love You Mama, Pam

TRIBUTE FROM DAUGHTER STEFANIA ESKRIDGE

Whatsoever things are True, Honest, Just, Pure, Lovely, of Good Report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things. Philippians 4:8

I love you Momma. You gave me wings from birth and now once again you are giving me wings to fly onward and upward; not only me but my lovely Dionne Michale and my lovely Brittany June. Only you – my love – My Momma. I love you Momma – Stefania

Whatsoever thy hand finds to do, do it with all thy might – Ecclesiastes 9:10

TRIBUTE FROM DAUGHTER GEORGIA ANN FRAZIER

To my mother, my friend, my confidant, and as Uncle Mike would say my "road dog."

Mom, you are our bright and shining star and will light up our hearts forever. Your words to never stop believing, to never stop praying and to never stop "dancing" will forever guide us. We shared so much as at laughed at how we could finish each other's sentences because we thought so much alike. Your loving spirit towards all things and all people is going to be a guiding force in our lives each day. I can honestly say, "YOUR Best Life began each morning." Every morning you poured into the souls of those around you. I was honored to share a home with you for so many years. The saying, "She believed she could, so she did" describes how I saw you as a quiet strength with so much dignity.

Watching church on Sunday, your laugh...because your whole body would laugh, that sweet encouraging "have a good day" you would say every day as I left for work, celebrating birthdays, playing games like scrabble, connect four and Pokeno, cooking Sunday breakfast together, watching Gihanna wrap JR around her little finger.... all things I will dearly miss sharing with you but will hold the memories close in my heart. I pray I can live a life of integrity and excellence following the example you set. Love you so much my Queen.... Remembering verses, you shared with me from your daily meditation readings:

Isaiah 25:1: Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you and praise your name, for in perfect faithfulness you have done wonderful things, things planned long ago.

Jeremiah 29:11: "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hop and a future."

Love you more, Georgia Ann, JR and Gihanna

TRIBUTE FROM DAUGHTER REBECCA FORD

Mom you were the best mother in the world, the best grandmother, and the best Ma Ma as Zoey so affectionately called you. You will be greatly missed by me, your loving daughter, and the Ford/Germany's. Words will never be good enough to describe you, but I know that you knew that we loved you because we made sure to give you your flowers while you were still with us.

Psalms 100:4-5: Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise. Give thanks to him and praise his name. For the Lord is good. His unfailing love continues forever, and his faithfulness continues to each generation.

Song, "When we all get to Heaven what a day of rejoicing it will be"

Forever your Daughter Becky, Grandchildren, and Great Grandchildren.

TRIBUTES TO OUR *Mother*

TRIBUTE FROM SON DARYL RUSSEL FOX

All that I am, or hope to be, I owe to my Angel Mother.

Proverbs 31:28-31

"Her children rise up and call her blessed; 'Many women have done excellently, but you surpass them all.'"

Proverbs 31:25-28

"Strength and dignity are her clothing, and she laughs at the time to come. She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue. She looks well to the ways of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness."

Mom you were the kindest, most loving person I have ever known. You mothered everyone, so much so that even our friends would call you mom. You took this as a compliment and never shied away from being there for everyone who needed support in one way or another. You took on the role of Mother and not just Aunt to all your sibling's children who had gone on before you. Your tiny shoulders were the strongest I have ever seen. As your son, I know I grew up with the most incredible role model of love, kindness, honesty, and strength I could have ever hoped for. You taught me to always be myself and to always push myself. I miss you so much. You are forever in my heart.

I love you,
Rusty

TRIBUTE FROM DAUGHTER MARSHA LYNN

Hello Beautiful Mom, I know deep down you live in my heart and always will. I love you every day and now I miss you every day. You make remembering you so easy, I do it every day. But there is still an ache in my heart I know will never go away. Even though I will not see your smile or be able to kiss your cheek there is a trail of beautiful memories that you have left behind. You were not only a mother to your kids, but a mother to all our friends and who ever crossed your path. Your Grace, Love and Dignity will be remembered by all. I know that you will always be with me and I will see you soon one day. I wish I had just one more day to chat, laugh or cry. All the things you allowed me to do whenever I called on you. Maybe then I would be satisfied, No... that would just leave me wishing for more days with you. I will never say goodbye. So, until I see you again, I will keep my memory of you alive.

Sending you Lots of Love, XOXOX!
Marsha Lynn

ORDER OF *Service*

Saturday, December 12, 2020 - 11:00 AM

Services Arranged By
PIPKIN BRASWELL FUNERALS & CREMATION SERVICES
Streaming at: www.pipkinbraswell.com/obituary/Betty-Fox

Pastor Donald Givens, Officiating

Soft Music | "I Can Only Imagine" | Minister Nathaniel Black
Musical Selection | "Precious Lord" | Tara Washington-Everette/Minister Nathaniel Black
Opening Remarks Celebrating Betty June Fox | Gill Ford II (Grandson)
Opening Prayer | Pamela Martin (Daughter)
Old Testament Reading | Brian Hayes (Grandson)
New Testament Reading | Andre Martin (Grandson)
New Testament Reading | Daryl Fox Jr. (Grandson)
Prayer of Comfort | Elder Edward Clayborn
Remarks Betty's Love of Learning and Books | Dionne Fox (Granddaughter)
Musical Selection | "Jesus Is Love" | Tara Washington-Everette/Minister Nathaniel Black
Reading of The Obituary | Morgan Hayes (Grandson)

Video Memorial

Family Words of Expression | Daryl Fox (Son)
Betty's Words of Wisdom | Alfred Frazier II (Grandson)
Betty's Final Words of Encouragement | Darrick Martin (Grandson)
Musical Selection | "We Shall Behold Him" | Tara Washington-Everette/Minister Nathaniel Black
Eulogy | Minister Donald Givens (Nephew), El Bethel Training Center

Pipkin Braswell Funeral Directors

"I Shall Wear A Crown"

Committal | Closing Prayer | Benediction
Recessional | "Soon And Very Soon" | Tara Washington-Everette/Minister Nathaniel Black

Acknowledgment

The family of Betty June Fox would like to thank you for your prayers, thoughts, flowers, cards, meals, and other expressions of love during this time. Your thoughtfulness and support will never be forgotten and is deeply appreciated.

Honorary Pallbearers

Paul Germany Derrick Jones Kevin Martin Luke Sullateskee
Terrance Fox Justin McGrew Brandon Augusta



Betty's Shining Stars



"I need each of you to continue to shine bright for me"

Branden, Bailey, Jalen, Darrick Jr., Jordan, Ashton, Kaden, Brooklyn, Lennix, Gihanna, Zoey, Anette, Gill III, Gisele, Jamaurie, Kennedy, Kristyn, Charles Henry, Katheryn, Donald III, Angel, Havana, Jayden, Amir, Ayden, Lucien, Sophia, Destiny, Carter, Jason, Jaylynn, TeRae, Devin, Mason, Kai, Daiveante, Kayleigh, Harper



The Family Received Personal Care from the Staff of

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"When Someone You Love Becomes A Memory; The Memory Becomes A Treasure."