



ELDER

Ruby
MAE THURMOND

Sunrise JULY 10, 1942 *Sunset* JUNE 16, 2024

For every child of God defeats this evil world, and we achieve this victory through our faith. And this is what God has testified: He has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son.

1 John 5: 4, 11

Pallbearers

Michael Thurmond
Jyvelle Thurmond
JhaMari Thurmond

Rodney Howard
Tyrelle Thurmond

Flower Bearers

Tomeka Johnson
ShaWanda Davis
Vivian Doumas

Lillian Howard
Earnestine Daugherty

*A flower in our garden... Has been blooming for years.
Seasons change, my flowers grow
The soil is rich, the sun shines bright
(my flower grows)
Ruby was that flower leaving petals everywhere she went.
In her church ministry, there were petals of Peace.
In her family, petals of Happiness (she kept everything together).
In her community, she showed petals of Love.
The Lord is allowing new flowers to bloom.
The garden Ruby left will continue to grow
With each member of her family.
The Lord will bless his people with Peace,
Embracing you in prayer, knowing that even though
You are grieving, we rejoice knowing our flower
Ruby, is with the Lord.*

The family wishes to THANK each and every one of you for your love and support during this time. Every text, DM, call, prayer, card is greatly appreciated. Proper acknowledgements will be sent at a later date.

Professional Services Entrusted To:
Trinity Memorial Chapels & Cremation Service
Dr. Ilah Ball, LFDE
Serving Illinois and Indiana
773-778-5140
trinitymemorialchapels.com

Poe's Memory Chapel
Dr. James Poe, Jr.
324 S. Prairie St.
Union Springs, AL 36089
Poesmemorychapel.com



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Celebrating The Life Of...



Sunday, June 23, 2024

Service 12:30 PM

Sweet Holy Spirit Church
8621 S. South Chicago
Chicago, Illinois 60620

Processional

Old Testament: Minister Victoria Seals

New Testament: Elder Delcine Ball

Prayer: Elder Terrance Claiborne

Musical Selections: Choir

Resolutions: Missionary Mamie Crenshaw

Tribute: Mrs. Marjorie Howard

Tribute: Postal Bible Study Group

Obituary

Musical Selection

Eulogy: Bishop Larry Trotter

Recessional



Wednesday, June 26, 2024

Service 1:30 PM

Lowfield Missionary Baptist Church
446 AL-110
Union Springs, Alabama 36089

Processional

Old Testament

New Testament

Prayer

Selection

Resolutions / Acknowledgements

Tribute: Classmate

Tribute: Family Friend

Tribute: Family

Obituary

Selection

Eulogy

Recessional

Ruby Mae Howard Thurmond was the fourth of five children born to Emmie Lee Rodgers Howard and Jesse Howard in Suspension, AL. During her early years, the family moved to Lowfield Community in Union Springs where she met lifelong friends. She was an active member of the Lowfield MBC until she left home. She attended Carver HS graduating in 1961. Not to miss the excitement, she joined the great migration north, originally living with her Aunt Sallie in Gary, IN before moving over to Chicago, IL where she would spend the rest of her life.

Being the loyal person that she was, she began her career at the Butternut Bakery on Garfield Blvd. In May, 1970 she was afforded an opportunity at the United States Postal Service – main branch, where she would dedicate 33 years until retiring in December, 2003. During her tenure, she made great friends and small group of them were founders of the Postal Bible Study Group.

Ruby met her soon to be husband as he was friends with her older brothers. During their courtship, **Ruby** gave birth to their first child – Lisa. She and WB were married March 29, 1966, in Chicago and were blessed with a second child – Michael, in October, 1969.

Upon settling in Chicago, **Ruby** sampled a few churches before joining the Greater Mount Eagle family; upon a church split, she followed her then Pastor, Rev. James Allen Rodgers and considered a founding partner as he established the Greater New Mount Eagle Missionary Baptist Church where she faithfully served on the Nurses Board. In about 1975, along came a young fire-filled preacher named Rev. Larry Trotter. Rev. Trotter grew and served as the youth pastor until his calling to pastor the Sweet Holy Spirit Missionary Baptist Church. **Ruby** and her family moved their fellowship with Rev. Trotter, with **Ruby** serving as pulpit / choir nurse.

Through the church growth and expansion, **Ruby** served in the Nurse's Ministry until she was called into the Ministry of Evangelism, ordained in September of 2008; elevated to Elder in 2021. **Ruby** was also commissioned to serve the finance committee and a proud member of the XYZ until her health began to decline. She also volunteered with the Prison Ministry of SHS under the direction of Elder Sandra Rowe. Upon retiring, **Ruby** volunteered with, and was licensed as a member of the Willing Workers for Christ Outreach Ministry, February 2005, under the direction of Rev. Walter Green, serving various Nursing Homes around the southside.

Ruby was preceded by parents: Emmie Lee and Jesse Howard; brothers: Andrew James, Jesse James, Samuel James, Henry James; Louis; Fred Louis; Jessie (aka Jr.) Howard and one sister, Emma Dean.

She is survived by her loving husband of 58 years, W.B. Thurmond; daughter, Lisa (Leroy, II) Brazier; son, Michael (Denise Stapleton); 4 grandchildren: Zhavante (Leamos Byrd) Brazier, Jhonteil Brazier, Jyvelle and Tyrelle Thurmond; 2 great-grandchildren: JhaMari Emmanuel Brazier and JhaZelle Elyse Brazier-Fields; 8 sister's in law; 10 nephews; 17 nieces and a host of cousins.

