

Order of Service

Processional.....Clergy & Family

Congregational Hymn.....

Scripture Reading.....Chaplain Alberta Scott
Old Testament – Psalm 23
New Testament – John 14:1-6

Prayer of Comfort.....Pastor Sharon Smith

Selection.....The Brockington Singers

Special Tribute and Reflections.....Family and Friends
(Please limit to two minutes)

Cards, Acknowledgements, and Resolution.....Karen Thompson

Reading of Fannie' Life Story.....Sheila Beverly

Selection.....The Brockington Singers

Eulogy.....Bishop Robert Hanna

Final Viewing

Recessional.....Clergy & Family

Repast

Mount Calvary Family Worship Center
1438 S. 51st Street
Philadelphia, PA 19143



Acknowledgment

The family of the late Fannie M. Brigham gratefully acknowledges your kind thoughts, your tender gestures, your unwavering support, and steadfast love shown to us during this time. We appreciate the love, care, and assistance given to us by nurses, CNAs, social worker, and chaplain of Main Line Health.



Professional Services Entrusted To:
G. CHOICE FUNERAL CHAPEL INC.
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Celebrating THE LIFE OF Fannie M. BRIGHAM

MARCH 18, 1930 - FEBRUARY 4, 2023

Service of Love

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2023
VIEWING: 9:00AM | SERVICE: 10:00AM

MOUNT CALVARY
FAMILY WORSHIP CENTER
1438 S. 51st Street, Philadelphia, PA 19143

Pastor Sharon Smith
Pastor Donald Anderson, Presider
Pastor Robert Hanna, Eulogist

LOVED BEYOND WORDS. MISSED BEYOND MEASURE.



Fannie M. Brigham

GOD'S ANGEL ON EARTH

On March 18, 1930, an angel was sent to earth in the presence of Fannie M. Brigham. Born in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, Fannie was the first daughter born to Anna (Bradley) Johnson and Troy Bradley, who had already welcomed a son, Troy Jr. Later Pearl, Annie Lee, Samuel Louis, Gwendolyn, and Lula would join the family union. Fannie watched her mother take care of her family and she learned to cook, clean, wash, and iron clothes. She became the "second mother" to her siblings, especially Gwen, who she took to school on her first day, holding her hand, and bow in her hair. Both Gwen and Lula knew the loving side of their elder sister Fannie and the tough side, chastising them with the switch.

At an early age, Fannie loved God, after all that's what angels typically do. She gave her life to Jesus and joined the Mount Sinai Glorious Church of God. This early beginning would lay the foundation of a life of holiness, inspiring, educating, and compelling her siblings and her parents to do the same.

Fannie received her formal education, in Winston-Salem Public Schools, attending the 14th Street Elementary School and subsequently Atkins High School. Post graduating from high school, Fannie entered the Winston-Salem Teacher's College, now known as Winston-Salem State University. She worked fervently in school and in the work place to cover the expense of her tuition and books and supplies. A student by day, Fannie worked at night at the Robert E. Lee Hotel. In the summers, she left Winston-Salem to work in hotels in Wildwood. This angel reached for the stars and in 1952, earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Elementary Education.

Degree in hand, Fannie could not find a teaching position in Winston-Salem so in 1953, she left her home and moved to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania where she became employed by the Philadelphia Public Schools, first as a substitute teacher and then a full-time teacher. For 32 years, Fannie, who was awarded Teacher of the Year in the City of Philadelphia, taught at the M. Hall Stanton Elementary School, where her passion was to teach third graders. Although Fannie also specialized in teaching math, she deemed reading to not only be fundamental, but critical. Just ask any of her nieces or nephews, who in unison would say that they receive "a book" from Aunt Fannie for Christmas.



Once in Philadelphia, Fannie joined the Ebenezer Church of God In Christ, under the leadership of Bishop Robert A. Bady. It was while a member at COGIC that Fannie would meet her life partner, Rudolph Brigham, a native of Texas who had thought he was temporarily visiting. Rudolph, affectionately called Rudy, got a job at Bud Company and met a deacon at the church where Fannie attended. Invited to come to church, Rudy, who lived only two blocks away from Fannie, got on the same bus as Fannie and got off at the same spot as Fannie. Later during the service, as a visitor, she would greet him, and after service, he would eat a piece of her homemade cake, and wedding bells would soon follow.

Fannie and Rudy remained at Ebenezer, where she served as Head of Christian Education Department, developing, overseeing, and teaching Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, and the YPWW. For close to seven decades, Fannie remained a faithful and dedicated member of Ebenezer, where Pastor James Hunt and then Pastor Donald Anderson would become the undershepherds.

Fannie's life was enriched with the birth of her sons, Gilbert, her eldest son, and Eric, her baby boy. Depositing into Gilbert and Eric a godly heritage, together Fannie and Rudy taught their sons, God was to be first in all matters and if you love him, family will last. Both Gilbert and Eric understood the value of an education and how to invest money. Together, Fannie and Rudy raised their boys on 20th street in a home full of love, music, and good eating where the favorite meal was "everything." Fannie could fry chicken, cook succotash, stew tomatoes, and make the best peach cobbler. She also loved to sew, dress with finesse, play the piano, and gardening. Her smile would light up a room and her skin was smooth as silk.

After forty years of living, loving, and laughing, Fannie's soul mate, departed. September 20, 1999 was a sad day for Fannie. She remained committed to her sons and her grandchildren, Dustyn, Gabriela, Lyanni, and Eric Jr., passing onto them a legacy of what it looks like to be in the presence of an angel.

After retiring, Fannie went back to her home state, North Carolina, where she lived with Linda Robbins and Marquis for five years. Miss B. as she was called was beloved by them. Fannie remained in North Carolina until her health began to decline. Returning to Philadelphia, along with her baby boy, Fannie would be lovingly cared for by Vanessa Phillips, Patty Taylor, and Lakisha Sturgis, along with the kind care of her nieces, Judy and Marlene, and nephew, Clyde.

On February 11, 2023, in the presence of her son, Eric, her sister, Lula, and her niece, Marlene, after close to 93 years of living, and countless days of memories, the angel left and the angels in heaven smiled. Always cherishing and remembering her life is her baby boy, Eric Brigham; sisters, Gwendolyn Lash and Lula Scott; her grandsons, Dustyn Brigham and Eric Brigham; her granddaughters, Gabriela and Lyanni Umazor; brother-in-law, Booker T. Brigham; sister-in-law, Carrie Brigham; a circle of nieces or nephews, residing in Pennsylvania, Delaware, New Jersey, North Carolina, Texas, and New York; and too many children to mention whose lives were touched and changed by an angel.

Lovingly Submitted,

The Family

