



Obituary

Born: Saturday, March 3, 1923

Died: Thursday, February 18, 2021

A Time To Remember:

Mrs. Flora Mae Waker, affectionately known by her family as “Mudear” and “Cuddin Flora”, was born on Saturday, March 3, in the year of our Lord, 1923, as the second eldest child to the marital union of the late J. T. Woody and Minnie Dee Farrow-Woody in Springville, AL. She accepted Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior at an early age, being baptized at Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Springville, AL. She served faithfully as the church clerk and youth director under the pastoral leadership of the late, Rev T.C. Williams. Notably, she often recalled attending Wills Creek District Baptist Association as a youth with her uncle the late Ike Newsome and childhood friend, the late Nellie Boyd. Upon moving to Attalla, AL in 1960, she united with Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church under the leadership of the late Rev. J. J. McGhee. She served dutifully and tirelessly as Missionary Society President, Sunday School and Vacation Bible School Teacher, member of the Senior Choir, and member of the Christian Board of Education under the pastoral leadership of the late Rev W.H. Granger until her health began to fail. Additionally, she was a faithful attendee of weekly Bible study where she enjoyed bringing homemade dishes of which her peach cobbler was a crowd favorite. Realizing that God’s work never ceases, Mrs. Waker served lastly as the Emeritus in these respective positions under the current leadership of Rev Jonathan D. Granger, Mt. Calvary Baptist Church. Noteworthy, Sis. Waker was the oldest member of her beloved church at the time of her passing.

Wills Creek District Baptist Association:

Mrs. Flora Mae Waker was a teacher of the missionary society and lecturer on child welfare in Sunday School and BTU Congress, respectively. Mrs. Waker faithfully attended the Alabama Baptist Women’s Convention annually held in Selma, AL and was awarded as honoree of the “Women of Service” award of the State Convention in the summer of 2006. She also attended the National Baptist Annual Convention 2008, in Atlanta, GA.

Education, Work History and Civic Involvement

Mrs. Flora Mae Waker was a 1943 graduate of Rueben Yancy School in Ashville, AL being the first African American female to graduate from the school. Mrs. Waker was a certified school teacher during the segregation era. Having a passion for children, the Lord gave Mrs. Waker a platform for her gift of teaching as she faithfully taught kindergarten out of her home. Mrs. Waker received a 4 year

Service Summary

Visitation

4:00 PM to 6:00 PM, Fri Feb 26, 2021

Adams-Buggs Funeral Service ~ Etowah Chapel

401 N. 9th Street
Gadsden, AL 35901

Funeral Service

1:00 PM Sat Feb 27, 2021

Friendship Missionary Baptist Church - Attalla

709 3rd St NW
Attalla, Alabama 35954

diploma from Birmingham Easionian Baptist Bible College. Most of all, she held a BA “born again” Christian. Mrs. Waker retired from the Attalla City School System as teacher’s aide working in early childhood. She had such a positive impact on the lives of countless children and many sing her praises even today. Upon retirement, she worked as a Senior Aid for the Etowah County Department of Human Services where she also gained the respect and admiration of many co-workers and the public alike.

She was devoted to her community and served on various committees to include: The Attalla Emancipation Proclamation Annual Program, and The Norris Scholarship Foundation of Churches. It is to be noted that she was a part of the historical committee that influenced the designation of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. along Cleveland Ave in Attalla. Upon her passing, she was the oldest African American resident of District 1 and the City of Attalla as a whole. She was a faithful voter, volunteered at the polls and encouraged others to exercise their right. Demonstrating her love for people, she was known for giving popcorn to family and friends every Christmas.

Award and Honors

Sis. Waker’s beautiful spirit earned her various recognitions and awards throughout the years she served. She was the Recipient of the Norris Scholarship Foundation of Churches “Service Award”, Outstanding Mother Honoree of Lambda Eta Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. She was also Honored at her home church, Mt. Zion Baptist Church Springville, AL as Woman of Faith. In commemoration of her 90th birthday, in 2013, she received Presidential greetings from the first African American President, The Honorable President Barack H. Obama, of which she was very proud.

Mrs. Waker enjoyed cooking and gardening, working in her flower bed in particular. She was well Known for the beautiful hats that she adorned, her kindness, mild mannerism, and humble spirit. She had compassion for people, loved her family, friends, the church, and the Lord. She taught everyone to worry about nothing instead pray about everything. She was careful not to let an idle word flow from her mouth, rather she chose to pray and seek God about every situation. She will always be cherished and missed by all who have known her. She transitioned peacefully from earth to heavenly rest on Feb 18, 2021 in the comfort of home surrounded by family.

Preceded in death by her parents, beloved son Cornelius “Boo” Waker, chosen mother Hettie Newsome “Aunt Sis”, Step-father Jim Wilson. She was the last surviving sibling of nine children who preceded her in death: Junior C Woody, Clistereen Salford, James Woody, Claudia Hudson, Alpha “Tootsie” Kidd, Hardwick, Caesar, and Bobby Lee Wilson, granddaughter Vinetta “Net” Waker, great-grandsons: Jamall

Johnson, Hamese Waker, and bestfriends, Mrs. Vera Hill and Mrs. Bulah Lawrence. She was united to the holy bond of matrimony to Silas Woods and L.C. Waker, both who preceded her in death.

She leaves to cherish and honor her memories, her children: Gloria Jean (James) Johnson Gadsden, AL, Edward Woods, Stamford, CT, Sherman Woods, Attalla, AL, Lesia Waker, Atlanta, GA, and Marilyn Waker, Gadsden, AL, daughter in law Mamie Waker, Birmingham, AL. Step-Children Dorothy Waker, Shelia (Brian) Carter, Sister in laws: Louise Woody, Beatrice Wilson, Ten Grandchildren: Sharn, Tonia, Edward Jr. , Reginald, Marki, Deuntonius, KenLesia, Mario, Kynae, Aleik, chosen granddaughter and caregiver Margaret King, God grandson Donald (Faith) Morgan. Nine Great-grandchildren: Tiffany, Marshaye, Aaliyah, Wynter, Victory, Serenity, Aaron, Mauricio, Aires, three special great granddaughters and caregivers: Florana, Tytiana, Jahra. Five Great-Great grandchildren: Janyla, Hamese, Amouree, Liam, Zoie. Special cousins: Estella Long, Kumye Adams, Betty Jo Gorman, Louise Rhone, Bobby, Don, and Joyce Farrow. Several nieces, nephews, cousins, friends and members of Mt. Calvary Baptist Church Attalla whom she loved dearly.