



## Mrs. Alfoncya Keys

November 1, 1923 - October 1, 2016

Going Home Celebration Of  
Mother Alfoncya Keys :

I, Alfoncya Knight-Keys was born to John and Mary-Elayn Knight on November 1, 1923 in Soso, Mississippi.

I was a farmer's daughter the third born of seven children. I was educated in the Jones County School District.

In June 1942, I married Joseph Broomfield Keys. We moved to Detroit, Michigan in 1953 from Soso, Mississippi with our four small children.

After moving to Detroit, we were blessed with five more children and our grandson William (Scooby) Keys who we raised.

I accepted Christ at an early age and I was saved and filled with the Holy Spirit. I worked outside the home as a nurses' assistant for many years while raising my children. I loved to cook, sew, and garden. My home was affectionately known as the Keys' Hotel. As my children married or moved out of the house, I still wanted to make sure they had a place to call home.

In 1956, my husband and I helped with the establishment, and I named what

is now known as Third New Hope Missionary Baptist Church, currently under the leadership of Pastor E. L. Branch. I was always very active in the church and I served as Usher Board President, Choir President, Nurses Guild President and a member of the mother's board. I was President of the Missionary Society from 1974 and served as the President until my health failed in 2004. I was also the Treasurer of the Uplift and President of the District Nurses Ministry in the BM&E state convention.

I attended my first National Baptist Convention in 1964 and loved the experience so much that I would pack my suitcase three weeks in advance. After my first attendance, I would save all year round to attend every September and I continued going for 39 years until I could no longer attend due to my failed health. I was very proud to represent my church at the convention.

I also enjoyed attending our Knight Family Reunions and I made my children go with me. I looked forward to seeing my sisters and my cousins from Erie, PA. I am going to really miss these bi-annual events where I always led the reunion song "You Just Well Live In Union." I will always be there in spirit.

I loved my children, grand and great-grandchildren and they all loved me. I gave everyone a nick-name and everyone I gave a nick-name to fit them to a "T."

On my birthday in 2004 my children gave me an eightieth (80) birthday party and invited members of my beloved church family, biological family, and friends. A sledge hammer couldn't have gotten the huge smile off my face I had because all the people I love were helping me celebrate this great milestone in my life.

On October 1, 2016 at 9:10 a.m. in Sinai-Grace Hospital Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ gave me my wings.



# Cemetery Details

## Grand Lawn Cemetery

23501 Grand River  
Detroit, MI 48219

# Previous Events

## Family Hour

Saturday, Oct. 8. 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM (ET)

Third New Hope Missionary Baptist Church  
12850 Plymouth Road  
Detroit, MI

## Funeral Ceremony

Saturday, Oct. 8. 10:30 AM (ET)

Third New Hope Missionary Baptist Church  
12850 Plymouth Road  
Detroit, MI

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mrs. Alfoncya Keys*

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January 21, 2023 at 09:34 PM



“ *My sympathy to the family. Death claims the lives of those we love. My you find comfort in Jesus words, "I am the resurrection and life."- John 11:25*

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**Ms. Tuffy** - October 09, 2016 at 02:18 PM



“ *To the family, You have my deepest sympathy.*



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**Tahisha Haygood** - October 09, 2016 at 12:30 PM

CT

“ To our dear cousins,

*We hope you find comfort in knowing that we are thinking of you all, especially on this day. We pray for the Holy Spirit to hold you, guide you and carry you through. May He give you strength for the moments, hours, days, weeks, months and years ahead. We love you-Levone (a.k.a. Bupsie), Derek, Clarence (a.k.a. Neenee) & Sherrae*



*P.S.*

*I guess our moms are singing praises together, again.*

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**Children of Ernest & Helen Thomas** - October 08, 2016 at 08:14 AM

CL

“ *Cathy Lucas lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Alfoncya Keys*



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**cathy Lucas** - October 07, 2016 at 07:52 PM

BS

“ *Betty Ann Sims lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Alfoncya Keys*



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**Betty Ann Sims** - October 07, 2016 at 07:30 PM

MS

*Praise the Lord!  
May the Lord give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness....  
May the Lord strengthen, comfort and keep each of you. You are in our hearts and prayers.  
Love, Missionary Betty Sims. & Family*

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**Missionary Betty Ann Sims** - October 07, 2016 at 07:57 PM

EG

“ *Elder Willie & Dorothy Gladney lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Alfoncya Keys*



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**Elder Willie & Dorothy Gladney** - October 07, 2016 at 05:19 PM

EG

*You have our deepest sympathy in the loss of your loved one. May the blessings of the Lord be upon you..*

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**Elder Willie & Dorothy Gladney** - October 07, 2016 at 05:53 PM

MF

“ *Mother Doris G. Hudson & Family purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Mrs. Alfoncya Keys.*



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**Mother Doris G. Hudson & Family** - October 05, 2016 at 08:44 PM

TL

“ Terry and Barbara Salmond with our heart felt love purchased the Pink Tribute Spray for the family of Mrs. Alfoncya Keys.



Terry and Barbara Salmond with our heart felt love - October 04, 2016 at 11:22 AM

ML

“ I am so very sorry for your loss. May the God of all comfort embrace you with peace and hope now and in the days to come. Rev 21:4

Ms Laverne - October 04, 2016 at 09:52 AM



“ Lanodda Singletary lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Alfoncya Keys



Lanodda Singletary - October 03, 2016 at 07:52 PM

CW

Our prayers and thoughts are with you and your family during this time, we pray that you will find comfort with the Lord Jesus Christ. October 6, 2016 MDWWG, Refuge Temple, Columbia SC

Carolyn Wolfe - October 06, 2016 at 06:34 PM

MO

Praise the Lord,  
Our prayers are with you and your family doing this trying time.  
So sorry for your loss. Please know that we will be there for you  
ask you go through your healing.  
GOD BLESS YOU  
Mo.M.Glover

Mo.M.Glover - October 07, 2016 at 10:08 AM

ST

*To our dear cousins,*

*We hope you find comfort in knowing that we are thinking of you all, especially on this day. We pray for the Holy Spirit to hold you, guide you and carry you through. May He give you strength for the moments, hours, days, weeks, months and years ahead. We love you-Levone (a.k.a. Bupsie), Derek, Clarence (a.k.a. Neenee) & Sherrae*

*P.S.*

*I guess our moms are singing praises together, again.*

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**Sherrae Thomas-Pope** - October 08, 2016 at 08:11 AM