



Mrs. Doris Evelyn Ward

September 16, 1934 - February 27, 2016

Celebrating The Life Of Doris Evelyn Ward:

AS A DAUGHTER: On September 16, 1934, in Marshall, Texas, the late Oscar Douglas Johnson, Sr. and Austria (Thornton) Johnson welcomed their third child Doris Evelyn (Johnson) Ward.

AS A STUDENT: After receiving her high school diploma from Southeastern High School in the Detroit Public Schools at the young age of 16, Doris continued her education and graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Home Economics, from Wayne State University. Initially Doris was pursuing to become a dietician, but ultimately earned her teaching certificate.

AS GOD'S SERVANT: At a very young age, Doris accepted Jesus Christ into her life and remained a devoted Christian throughout. She served as the Director for Christian Education for over 40 years. As well as served decades as the Vacation Bible School Director at Grace C.M.E. Church. In addition, Doris served on Usher Board Number 2 serving as the current President, as well as other positions over the years. On the church district level Doris participated with the Detroit District Usher Board, serving in the previous capacity of treasurer and secretary; and was a Detroit District Layman representative. Lastly, she was a member of a Women's Ministry group.

AS A TEACHER: Doris began her teaching career at Breitmeyer Elementary

School as a second grade teacher until she became a full time homemaker after the birth of her third child. Later she returned to teaching and was a substitute teacher at Daly Elementary School in the Westwood Community School District. Her dedication of working with and nurturing children as a Sunday school teacher, community tutor, and other endeavors garnered a great appreciation from her students into their adult lives.

AS A COMMUNITY ACTIVIST: Doris was passionate in a variety of community organizations over the years. They included National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs (NANBPWC), American Association of University Women (AAUW), Wayne County for Family and Community Education, served on her local PTA Board, was active with both Girl Scouts of America, and Boy Scouts of America.

AS A MOTHER FIGURE AND ROLE MODEL: Doris was also adored by her children's friends because of the indelible impression she left. This grew from her involvement as a room mother, safety patrol hot chocolate mother, school lunch Mother aide, and Cub Scouts Den Mother. As her children attended college and entered their professions, close friends formed during those periods, along with earlier periods, were also exposed to her caring way. As a result, her children's long term friendships extended to relationships with her.

AS A PERSON: Doris had a quiet, but strong demeanor. Her kind and gentle spirit reflected a positive outlook to all she encountered. Doris had zeal and enthusiasm for her children/grandchildren and their activities whether attending their concerts, performances, sporting events, and every graduation. She was always a constant presence in their lives. Her interests included being an avid reader, sewing clothes for herself and children, travel, music, cooking in which she was an exceptional cook, couponing, watching local city council meetings and school board meetings on TV, and listening to opera.

Family Legacy

AS A WIFE AND MOTHER: Doris met her husband of 47 years, Albert Abraham, while earning her teaching certificate at Wayne State University. On April 16, 1960, their courtship led to marriage.

AS A GRANDMOTHER AND GODMOTHER: Doris cherished her two adoring granddaughters Lauren Anne, Denise Elizabeth, and was blessed with a grandson Mosheshe Camara-Khary Blake. In addition, she was a shining example to her goddaughters Candace Jenkins, Laquisha Cleburne.

AS A SISTER: She bids farewell to her two loving sisters Geraldine Abernathy and Gloria Washington who often shared similar characteristics, mannerisms, interests, styles, and enjoyed their time spent together. As well as, brothers-in-laws Thomas Washington and Willie Clyburn, and sister-in-law Ruth Johnson. She is reunited with her late brother Oscar Douglas Johnson, Jr., and late sister-in-law Yvonne Cleburne.

AS AN EXTENDED FAMILY MEMBER: Doris leaves a host of endeared cousins, nieces, nephews, and other beloved family and friends.

Cemetery Details

Great Lakes National Cemetery

4200 Belford Rd.
Holly, MI 48442

Previous Events

Family Hour

Monday, Mar. 7. 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

Grace CME Church
642 W. McNichols Rd.
Detroit, MI 48203

Funeral Service

Monday, Mar. 7. 10:00 AM (ET)

Grace CME Church
642 W. McNichols Rd.
Detroit, MI 48203

Tribute Wall



“ *Mrs. Doris Evelyn Ward*

January 21, 2023 at 09:34 PM



“ *With our deepest sympathy and love your family ,
The Peterson from California*

Belinda Peterson - March 07, 2016 at 09:22 AM



“ *When we first came to Grace, Sister Ward was among the first to welcome us. She was always so pleasant and always had a kind word. Her laugh was wonderful and warm. She LOVED serving as an usher and was dedicated to that ministry. You knew you were at Grace when you entered and walked up the stairs on the right side because Sister Ward was there to greet you. We will fondly remember her, Dr. Ward and all the family members. Our prayers are with you. Love, Rev. Dr. Robert L. and Sandra F. Holt*



Sandra F. Holt - March 06, 2016 at 12:00 AM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mrs. Doris Evelyn Ward.*



March 05, 2016 at 09:30 PM

SG

“ Cheryl, David, and Donald,

God blessed you with a wonderful mother whose smile brought so much joy to others. I am honored to have called her my "other" mother and I know how much you will miss her. Sending you much love and praying for God's arms to surround you with strength and comfort.

Sondra and Gerry Gardetto

Sondra Gardetto - March 05, 2016 at 07:26 AM

SH

“ Prayers of peace and comfort are extended on behalf of Ivery & Maynette Harvey and Apostle John & Pastor Sandy Harvey and the Setenity Christian Church family. Mrs. Ward was a beautiful and sweet woman and supporter of Serenity's Heart to Heart Women's events. Bless you all in this time of grief. May you feel joy in the memories and thoughts even through the tears.

Sandy Harvey - March 05, 2016 at 07:18 AM

YR

“ Your friends & family at ASM Research purchased the Sunny Memories for the family of Mrs. Doris Evelyn Ward.



Your friends & family at ASM Research - March 04, 2016 at 08:46 PM

EW

“ *Ellen White purchased the Simply Elegant Spathi phyllum for the family of Mrs. Doris Evelyn Ward.*



Ellen White - March 04, 2016 at 05:56 PM

GS

“ *To: Cheryl , David & Donald, I would like express my condolence, know that she has transitioned on to a "painless" journey and she is free, however, she will be missed. Keep your heads up high and continue to bond together as a family like you have in the pass and everything will be ok. May God continue to strengthen each of you.*



R.I.H. Mother Ward,

*Gloria Smith / Friend of the family
Lansing, MI*

Gloria Smith - March 04, 2016 at 03:00 PM

RL

“ *Sheryl, I am praying for you and your family at this time of bereavement. May God continue to strengthen and Bless you.*
*Rhonda Lowe
Flint, MI*

Rhonda Lowe - March 04, 2016 at 01:24 PM

DW

“ Cheryl, David and Donald,

You have been blessed by God to have a wonderful mother. Her love will never leave you, it lives within your heart.

Dr. Thomas Washington

Dr. Thomas Washington - March 04, 2016 at 01:11 PM

JR

“ *It was good to know Doris way back when our children attended Madison School together. She was a very sweet lady. I pray God will give comfort to her family at this difficult time.*

Joyce Reimann

Joyce Reimann - March 04, 2016 at 10:52 AM

MS

“ *David, Your mom was a sweet, kind and beautiful person. Her spirit is well taken care of. Sending comfort and peace to you and your family.*

Always ~ from the Stewart family.

M. Stewart - March 03, 2016 at 11:27 AM



“ *Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mrs. Doris Evelyn Ward.*



March 02, 2016 at 08:43 PM

FJ

“ From Colleen, Alicia, Dan, Rick, Jeff and Jacob purchased the Garden of Serenity Bouquet for the family of Mrs. Doris Evelyn Ward.



From Colleen, Alicia, Dan, Rick, Jeff and Jacob - March 02, 2016 at 01:41 PM

DA

“ Dr. Marguerite Waltonn Adams purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Mrs. Doris Evelyn Ward.



Dr. Marguerite Waltonn Adams - March 02, 2016 at 12:05 PM

MH

“ Dear Cheryl,

I was so sorry to hear of your mother's passing. Please know that your friends at Visit Indy are praying for you to have great comfort in the Lord. How wonderful that you were able to bless her throughout her lifetime and especially during these last days. I know that your Mom must have been a very beautiful and special person because she raised such a good kid! Rest in God's good hands.

Mary Huggard

Mary Huggard - March 02, 2016 at 08:59 AM

SJ

“ My thoughts and prayers are with you Cheryl and your family. Losing a loved one, especially your Mom, is a difficult thing. You have the blessing to have been able to be there and provide her with the comfort that only having a loving family surrounding her can bring. Know that she could transition to her new life knowing and feeling the love she gave, returned to her.

May God bless and keep you, till you meet again!

Sandra Johnson, Indianapolis

Sandra K Johnson - March 02, 2016 at 08:46 AM

ML

“ May you find peace during this difficult time as you reflect on how caring our heavenly father is towards those who mourn as well as the hope he extends to all. (Rev 21:4) I am so very sorry for your loss.

Ms Laverne - March 02, 2016 at 06:24 AM

PW

“ Sister Doris was always warm and smiling as she faithfully served as a doorkeeper in the house of the LORD. I'll always remember her passion for effective Christian Education. Thank GOD for a life well lived. I know there will be a huge void in the Grace Church Family. You have my deepest sympathy. My prayers are with you.

Phoebe Woodley - March 01, 2016 at 06:23 PM

MB

Dear family of Doris Ward; It was such a blessing to have known your mom. Your mom was a very quite and loving person. I met her when I joined the Detroit District Usher board. She demonstrated the meaning of " I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my Lord than to dwell in the tents of wickedness." Psalms 84 : 10. May God continue to bless all of you.

Mary Bussey - March 03, 2016 at 06:18 PM