



Mrs. Velvet Vesey Dozier

August 11, 1937 - April 22, 2023

To be in her presence was to experience love. Velvet was born in Detroit, Michigan, August 11, 1937, together with her twin sister Velma Wilson to Narvell and Burl Henry Vesey. She was the tenth of thirteen children. The family had recently relocated to Michigan from Oklahoma before the twins' birth. Velvet was known for looking just like her paternal grandmother, Bettie Sikes Vesey, and was named by her father, who said her eyes were dark as coal and her skin reminded him of velvet.

Her early education was at Barstow Elementary School in Detroit and Carver Elementary School in Inkster. She graduated from Inkster High School, class of 1956, and left her mark as a member of the "Rockets" and "Inkster Torpedos," known to be one of the best girls' softball teams, where she played alongside her twin Velma and older sister Ruth.

As sweet and gentle as she was known to be, Velvet never let you forget that she was born under the zodiac sign of Leo. A true lioness can never be contained, and she had a stubborn side. Velvet was known for cutting bangs against her mother's wishes, and she eloped with her high school sweetheart, Alvin L. Mears, Sr., while on a trip to California. Within that union, Alvin (Jr.) and Valerie Mears were born. Velvet lived for a period of one year in California.

When Velvet returned to Michigan, she went on to be employed at Ford Motor Company where, to this day, a plaque with her name is on the “UAW Local 900” wall in Wayne, Michigan due to her union executive board leadership and involvement. She took several classes at the Institute of Labor and Industrial Relations in partnership with the University of Michigan and Wayne State University and diligently worked at Ford for twenty years until she retired.

Velvet became a lifelong member of the Spiritual Israel Church and Its Army along with most of her family in the early 1950s and served on the Mother’s Board. She helped her parents start several Israel churches and went on to have the honor of becoming a “Golden Jewel.”

Velvet met and married her spiritual soulmate, Bishop Henry Mack, Israel's Assistant Overseer. As a helpmate there was nothing she would not do in support of their spiritual walk. They worked tirelessly to build up Israel’s Michigan Temple 8 from painting the basement to selling barbecue dinners for building funds. This union resulted in the birth of Crystal and Aaron Mack. They lived as a loving family until Bishop Mack’s untimely transition.

Raising four children on her own, Velvet always had a mindset of abundance. Her children never went without, and she was known for her sense of fashion and style. As a single woman, she purchased her own home in an area of Inkster with few Black families and went on to own a Cadillac Eldorado. She was known for her giving spirit, so much so that it was a running family joke that she would give the shirt off her back and yours. She was always willing to offer her last to others.

Velvet met and married the late Richard Dozier. They went on to build a second home in Rome, Georgia where they often spent their summers until they permanently relocated there and helped with the ministry at the Church of God and Christ. In her retirement, Velvet became a licensed CNA at a

senior center in Georgia where she was over the food encouragement program and brought her gentle touch to those she cared for.

If you spent any time with Velvet, you know that wisdom was her natural gift, and she always left you feeling better than she found you (even when you thought you were at your best). She saw beauty in all people and purposed herself to live a life of forgiveness, commenting that no one was important enough to block her blessings from God. Her positive outlook was truly infectious.

Velvet moved back to California in 2011 to spend the remainder of her years with many of her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. Velvet commented that when she was younger she asked God, "What is my purpose?" And then she looked around at her "pond," which she would affectionately call her immediate family, and would say, "All this came from little old me." She was truly proud of her children, their families and to be a Vesey woman. "We come from good stock," she would tout.

Velvet was a true pillar of Israel's Compton California Temple, which was her final spiritual home, and was blessed to see her son Alvin become a called Bishop. She never missed an opportunity to testify about the goodness of the God of Israel in her life and was always willing to travel near and far with her son Alvin and niece Lynnett to attend church events. In addition to travel, Velvet enjoyed shopping, word search puzzles, watching channel 9's "court block" shows, spiritual or news programs, and ending the night with Family Feud. On any given Saturday you would find her watching women's wrestling, playing cards while listening to rhythm and blues, as well as gospel, or watching documentaries about Black history with a Pepsi and a Reese's Peanut Butter Cup in hand.

Velvet transitioned from being an earth angel to a spiritual angel on April 22,

2023, surrounded by her loving family. In the days, weeks, and months before, she was cared for by her children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, her twin sister Velma's children and grandchildren, and was visited by a host of spiritual and natural family who gave her all the love that she had poured out over the years.

Velvet was preceded in death by her father Burl; mother Narvell; brothers Melvin, Parnell, Burl, and Rudolph; sisters Lucille, Ina-Christine, Vondell, Virdell, Ruth, and Christell; and her loving son Aaron. She leaves her twin sister Velma Wilson; brother Venus Henry Vesey (Sue); four (4) children: Bishop Alvin L. Mears, Jr. (Peggy), Valerie Curry (Richard), Crystal Prince (Kenneth), and stepson William Mack (Marie); seven (7) grandchildren: Bianca Page, Esq. (Kenneth), Dr. Aminah Mears, Takiyah Esters (Jeremy), Kenneth Prince, Jr., Erica Smiles (Soloman), Jessica Johnson (Frederick), and Christen Curry; six (6) great-grandchildren: Aaron Bradley, Travis Johnson, Jr., Lyric Page, Mikayla Atkins, Kenneth Page, III, and Aaliyah Esters; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, church family, and friends.

Cemetery Details

United Memorial Gardens

4800 Curtis Road
Plymouth , MI 48170

Previous Events

Visitation

Friday, May **12**. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

O. H. Pye, III Funeral Home
17600 Plymouth Road
Detroit, MI 48227
(313) 838-9770
info@pyefuneralhome.com

Celebration of Life

Saturday, May **13**. 12:00 PM (ET)

O. H. Pye, III Funeral Home
17600 Plymouth Road
Detroit, MI 48227
(313) 838-9770
info@pyefuneralhome.com

Live Stream

Saturday, May **13**. 12:00 PM.

Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81870168886?pwd=Vi9CRlhDRzRoblpueE9QeWgwYXc3dz09>

Dial: +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago) Meeting ID: 818 7016 8886 Passcode: 08111937

Repast

Saturday, May **13** (ET)

Israell Gardens
22971 Martinsville Road
Belleville , MI 48111

Immediately following the internment.

Tribute Wall

AO

“ Sending my love, prayers and condolences to Grandma Velvet’s family. She was a kind, loving, and wonderful lady who truly loved the God of Israel. She was very special and will be sorely missed by all who were fortunate enough to cross her path. Love you, Audrey
💕💕

Audrey J. Owens - May 13, 2023 at 12:14 PM

AO

“ Audrey Owens lit a candle in memory of Velvet Dozier



Audrey J. Owens - May 13, 2023 at 12:05 PM

DA

“ Thank you to Mother Velvet for being a shining light in our lives. - Harold Dawson and David Amuda (husband of Michol Dawson)



David Amuda - May 11, 2023 at 03:57 PM

HD

“ Harold Dawson purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mrs. Velvet Vesey Dozier.



Harold Dawson - May 11, 2023 at 03:54 PM

BW

“ Bridgitte Wilson purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Mrs. Velvet Vesey Dozier.



Bridgitte Wilson - May 11, 2023 at 01:50 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mrs. Velvet Vesey Dozier.



May 09, 2023 at 08:53 PM



“ Enduring Grace was purchased for the family of Mrs. Velvet Vesey Dozier.



May 09, 2023 at 10:57 AM

BD

“ To the family of our beloved Mo Velvet Dozier, May the God of Israel grant you comfort and peace during this time. We are praying for your strength. May the God of Israel be your leaning post. She will live on in our hearts for we know that the Spirit goes back to God who gve it.

Peace and Love

Bishop Bobby and Queen Gloria Davis

Bobby J Davis - May 04, 2023 at 12:30 AM

CC

“ Christen Curry lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Velvet Vesey Dozier



Christen Curry - May 03, 2023 at 09:11 PM

EH

“ Erica Hare lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Velvet Vesey Dozier



Erica Hare - May 03, 2023 at 08:36 PM

EH

“ Erica Hare lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Velvet Vesey Dozier



Erica Hare - May 03, 2023 at 08:19 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mrs. Velvet Vesey Dozier.* ”



May 03, 2023 at 09:55 AM

DM

“ I will remember- your, love, laughter and your flair. All night cook outs before our annual Cedar Point trips. The Christmas Party-perks from your UAW. Edgewater ,picnics at Kensington State Park . The Chevy Chase vacation to Florida in the mobile home with the Sisters and Grandmother. The first time you took me to get my hair done with Jean. I will remember your love for animals Ginger and the Parrot 🦜 that could call Aaron's name, whistle, sing and discreetly repeat expletives that I found amusing. The many talks from you and the the other Auntie's that I secretly referred to the as the firing squad especially when we were reminded that the State School for wayward girls was in Adrian and a convenient exit on the way to the farm. I will remember the love you had for my mom and the times you guys would get dolled up for holiday pictures on Ross street, church in the basement and parties in Aunt Velma's basement. You have been such a blessing to my life and memories I will hold dear. I know God's garden will be brighter he only takes the best. Love Diane



Diane McClendon-Lampkins - May 02, 2023 at 12:33 PM

PL

“ Pamela Lathan lit a candle in memory of Velvet Dozier



Pamela L Lathan - May 02, 2023 at 08:40 AM



“ Jessica Johnson lit a candle in memory of Velvet Dozier



Jessica Johnson - May 01, 2023 at 08:18 PM

PL

“ 10 files added to the tribute wall



Pamela L Lathan - May 01, 2023 at 06:04 PM

EA

“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



erica atkins - May 01, 2023 at 02:10 PM

BP

“ Bianca Poindexter Page lit a candle in memory of Velvet Dozier



Bianca A. Poindexter Page - April 30, 2023 at 04:51 PM

AM

“ 19 files added to the album Pics from Aminah



Aminah Yetive Mears - April 29, 2023 at 02:09 AM

BE

The beautiful smiles in these pictures capture the countless moments of happiness that grandma velvet experienced & also brought to our lives.

What a blessing. Thank you Aminah for sharing.

Brandy Estelle - April 30, 2023 at 06:17 PM

AW

My Condolences to the family I remember the couple of times I was around she was one of the sweetest ladies I've ever met I'm sure she will be missed ❤️

Alton K Williams - May 01, 2023 at 04:16 PM

BC

To our Spiritual Family we know your grief is great because the LOVE of and from Mother Velvet was so Great. We are so thankful for the fond and joyous memories we have of our time spent with such a Special Lady, beautiful inside and out. She loved the God of Israel and We loved to hear her testify. The original Diva, Mother Velvet was a True Soldier and fought a good fight!! Mother Velvet will forever be an inspiration to run on and press our way through all circumstances! We love you all and here for you not just at this time but any time you need a hug, an ear, a word whatever you got us your extended family. May the God of Israel be your strength and comforter now and forever. Peace, Love, and Life Bishop JR and Mo. Val Carswell

Bishop JR Carswell - May 13, 2023 at 02:11 AM

TB

“ First and foremost my condolences to the family, I remember see Mrs. Velet at most of our Assemblies and we became friends.. She's the kindest person you'd ever want to talk to, and she took a likeness to me... She'll definitely be missed 😞

Tyrone Bennett - April 28, 2023 at 10:20 PM