



Ora Stephens

November 1, 1928 - December 15, 2011

Funeral service will take place at 12:00 Noon on Friday, December 23, 2011 at Zion Missionary Baptist Church, 721 Johnson Street. Rev. Rodrick A. Smith, Pastor. Rev. Eddie Parker, Sr. will officiate with interment in Forest Lawn Cemetery. Friends may call at Browne's Mortuary, 441 North Jefferson Avenue, on Thursday from 2:00 until 8:00 p.m. Mrs. Ora Bell Stephens, who was affectionately known as "Big O", passed from this life to eternal life on Thursday, December 15, 2011. She was born on November 1, 1928 in Houlka, Mississippi to the proud parents Alexander Moore and Venella (Woodard) Moore. Henry and Ora Stephens joined their families in Saginaw, Michigan in January 1959 where they lived together until Henry's passing on December 2, 1984. Big O was an active member of Zion Missionary Baptist Church where she served faithfully as a mother, a missionary, deaconess, and in many other ministries until her health failed. Big O is survived by her sisters, Ruthie Lee Wright, Bobbie Sue Armstrong, and Minnie Ruth Galloway; her brothers, Theodis Moore, John Moore, and other siblings; seven daughters, Annie Austin (Joe), Janie Martin, Bobbie Beard (Willie), Patsy Abernathy (Larry), Rita Parker, Ora Kirkland (Joe), and Annie Stephens; nine sons, Henry Clay Stephens (Alice), Henry L. Stephens Jr. (Clara), Paul Stephens (Debra), Glenn Moore, Mark Stephens, Larry Moore (Johnny Mae), Ricky Stephens (Margerette), Sylvester Stephens II, and Howard L. Stephens (Kimberly); a host of grandchildren, great-grandchildren, great-great grandchildren, nieces, nephews, brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, aunts, uncles, cousins, and many,

many friends, including special friends, Earnestine Evans and Lottie McClain. Big O was preceded in death by her husband, Henry L. Stephens; her sister, Betty Jean Edmond; her brother, Raymond Moore; and her sons, Jimmy Dallas Stephens and David Moore.

Tribute Wall

GM

“ *"The sorrow of the faithful
is not that of permanent loss,
but the tender sense of sadness
that comes in saying good-bye for now
to someone we love.
May today's sorrow give way
to the peace and
comfort of God's love."*

Love you grandmom

Gloria Martin - December 15, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ *all my preyers go out to the family and the lord has brought home a
child of god.*

david hunt - December 15, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DM

“ My sincerest condolences To the family of Mrs Ora Stephens,
affectionately known as "BIG O." I leave this poem with you:

GOD looked around his garden

and found an empty place.

HE then looked down upon the earth

and saw her tired face.

HE put his arms around her

and lifted her to rest.

He knew that she was suffering

He knew she was in pain

He knew that she would never

Get well on earth again.

He saw the road was getting rough

and the hills were hard to climb

So he closed her weary eyelids

and whispered, "Peace be thine."

It broke our hearts to lose her

But she didn't go alone,

For part of us went with her

The day GOD called her home.

My GOD give you strength during this difficult time. REST-IN-HEAVEN, Mrs Ora Stephens !

Dora Shaw McDole - December 15, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MG

“ *God knew the time and hour... The last time, I spoke with "Big O" we had prayer. To her children, May the God of Jesus bring you the Comforter to assure you that when we are in Christ Jesus, we are saved, safe and secured that God has His heart open to those who receive Him. Aunt "O" is saved, safe and secured. Forever loved...Min.Gatlin*

Min.Dianne Galloway-Gatlin - December 15, 2011 at 12:00 AM