



## Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper

August 27, 1944 - July 16, 2024

Ruth Estelle Kemper went home to be with the Lord on Tuesday, July 16th , 2024 in the loving presence of her twin daughters in West Bloomfield, MI. Ruth was 79 years old. She was born in Saginaw, Michigan on August 27, 1944, daughter of the late John H. and Ethel E. Kemper.

Ruth absolutely loved life. She enjoyed spending time and traveling with her family and friends. But her greatest joy was that of her twin daughter's and grandchildren. Ruth was known for her delicious barbecued ribs and often made them for family reunions and other events. She was an avid bowler who loved dancing to her favorite entertainer the late Michael Jackson. She loved listening and dancing to the Blues, going to movies and gaming with her grandkids. She was fiercely competitive and would lovingly accuse them of cheating when she lost. She was the Detroit Lions number one fan and would don her Lions gear every Sunday and participate in the family weekly NFL pool winning two years in a row! Ruth had a special place in her heart for her "furry babies" the family cats and they loved her too. Her family referred to her as the "Taco" Queen. She and her brother Johnny enjoyed taco eating contests throughout the years. She turned over the reins to her daughter Cici and would enjoy eating her tacos every Saturday without fail for the last four years while living with her daughter and family.

Ruth graduated from Saginaw High School in 1962. She later attended,

graduating from Saginaw Valley State University with a Bachelors of Education degree and later she achieved two Master's degrees. Upon completing her student teaching, Ruth taught at Nelle Haley, Longstreet and Heavenrich Elementary Schools before teaching at South Middle School retiring from teaching after 40+ years of faithful service to her students and community.

Ruth was a member of Bethel AME Church Saginaw for over 78 years. She was a dedicated lifetime member of Phi Delta Kappa Inc. Gamma Kappa Chapter of Saginaw, where she dutifully served as Treasurer and Basileus. She was the co-advisor for the Xenos, Phi Delta Kappa's Youth Group. Ruth was also a dedicated and beloved member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. Zeta Omega Zeta Chapter Saginaw for over 40 years. She served on various committees, including the finance committee, the Zeta Debutant Ball committee, and she spent countless hours on the publication of the annual Finer Womanhood Program. On the state level Ruth served as a Michigan State Organization Parliamentarian. She was appointed by Zeta's International President as a resident agent of "Birchhaven" a cottage located in Idlewild, Michigan, one of the sororities three properties. Ruth also found time to serve as co-chair of the Saginaw High School 1962 class reunion planning committee.

Her memory will be forever cherished by her twin daughters, Cynthia (Julious) Corley-Washington, West Bloomfield, Mi and Victoria (Eric Christopher) Corley-Hayes, Auburn Hills, MI; two grandchildren, Brittane' Corley-Washington and Cameron Corley-Washington, West Bloomfield, MI; three siblings, Martha (Vernell) Ramsey, Detroit, MI, John (Regina) Kemper, Orlando, FL and Robert (Steve) Kemper, Stratham, New Hampshire; one aunt, Lucille Shelby, Saginaw, MI and a loving stepdaughter, Serina (Rodney) Lawrence-Francis, Nashville, TN. Also left to cherish her memory are her dearest friends, Gloria Wilson, Thelma Ruffin, and Ruth Ann McMahon, all of

Saginaw, MI and Sherry Bledsoe, Bay City, MI. Ruth had a host of bonus grandchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins and other dear friends. Ruth's daughters would like to thank the Beaumont Corewell Hospice team. Especially, homecare Hospice nurses, Tonya and Jenine for their loving support.

Family Hour will take place at 10:00 AM Saturday, July 27, 2024 at Bethel A.M.E. Church, 535 Cathay Street, Saginaw, Michigan 48601, with funeral service commencing at 11:00 AM. Rev. Dr. Dennis Laffoon officiate. Entombment will take place in Roselawn Memorial Gardens, 950 North Center Road, Saginaw, Michigan 48603. Visitation will take place on Friday at the funeral home from 2:00 until 6:00 p.m.

# Cemetery Details

## Roselawn Memorial Gardens

950 North Center  
Saginaw, MI 48603

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL 26. 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Evans & Browne's Funeral Home  
441 North Jefferson Avenue  
Saginaw, MI 48607

## Family Hour

JUL 27. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Bethel A.M.E. Church  
535 Cathay Street  
Saginaw, MI 48601

## Funeral Service

JUL 27. 11:00 AM (ET)

Bethel A.M.E. Church  
535 Cathay Street  
Saginaw, MI 48601



# Tribute Wall

EA

“ To the family of Ms. Ruth Kemper I will continue to keep you all in my thoughts and prayers. Ms. Kemper was my 6th. Grade teacher at Longstreet elementary and a good teacher she was. She will be missed. This is from Tracey Anderson Jones



Elizabeth Anderson - July 29, 2024 at 10:08 PM

BM

“ Beatrice F. McAfee lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper



Beatrice F. McAfee - July 28, 2024 at 08:56 PM

MR

Thank you for your kind expression of sympathy. The family of Ruth Kemper.

Martha Ramsey - July 29, 2024 at 07:45 AM

FH

“ Freddie Hodges sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper



Freddie Hodges - July 27, 2024 at 05:06 PM

BM

“ *Barbara McMillan-Hargrow lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper*



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**Barbara McMillan-Hargrow** - July 27, 2024 at 10:57 AM

PC

“ *Peter Cooper lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper*



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**Peter Cooper** - July 26, 2024 at 03:49 PM

PC

*To the Kemper family, I send my deepest condolences from Metro Atlanta Georgia. I didn't know your Mom personally but my Mom was a part of Phi Delta Kappa chpt. The late Jessie Cooper. Your Mom was very kind to my mother and I appreciate it along with the other soror sisters of Phi Delta Kappa chpt, Saginaw MI. Peter Cooper, Roswell Georgia*

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**Peter Cooper** - July 26, 2024 at 03:58 PM

AJ

“ *Amelia Genwright Johnson lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper*



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**Amelia Genwright Johnson** - July 26, 2024 at 02:25 PM

TF

“ *The Hurd-Burnett Family purchased the Heartfelt Sympathies Blue & White Funeral Standing Basket for the family of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper.*



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**The Hurd-Burnett Family** - July 25, 2024 at 09:10 PM



“ *Plants-A-Plenty was purchased for the family of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper.*



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July 25, 2024 at 11:31 AM

SH

“ *Sending condolences and prayers to Soror Kemper's family. May God be your strength during your hour of bereavement. Sincerely, Soror Sherelene A Harris, Ed.D. MWR Chaplain*

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**sherelene harris** - July 24, 2024 at 05:08 PM

EH

“ *Sending condolences to the family.*

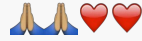


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**Elene Hall** - July 24, 2024 at 09:13 AM

JS

*My deepest sympathies to the family, praying for peace and strength.*



Jackie Scott - July 24, 2024 at 03:37 PM

CW

*“ I'm am so sorry for your loss....she was the best teacher a child could have.. I wish all educators could have the same passion she had for education. I had her two years in a row. A diamond shining...I was her student at Longstreet Elementary. I pray that the Lord comforts the heart of the family and keeps you under His arms of care.*

Cynthia (Bibb) Washington - July 24, 2024 at 09:10 AM

GF

*Dear Ruth I will miss the wonderful times we shared together. You will always be my friend and I appreciate you leaving me with great memories. Love you forever* 🤍🙏

Gloria Wilson and family - July 25, 2024 at 10:48 AM



*“ Blue & White Sympathy Standing Spray was purchased for the family of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper.*



July 24, 2024 at 08:46 AM

UK

*“ Uncle Johnny, Tina and Kenya Kemper planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper.*

Uncle Johnny, Tina and Kenya Kemper - July 24, 2024 at 08:46 AM

DW

“ *Deborah Morris Williams sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper*



Deborah Morris Williams - July 23, 2024 at 10:23 PM

BK

“ *Bobby & Thelma (Moten) Kelley*



Bobby & Thelma ( Moten) Kelley - July 23, 2024 at 09:38 PM

TB

“ *I GREW UP WITH VICKI AND CINDY RUTHIE ALWAYS SAW THAT WE HAD LUNCH BACK THEN WE CAME HOME FOR LUNCH WILL MISS YOU A LOVELY PERSON. TECKNER BROWN*



teckner brown - July 23, 2024 at 07:59 PM

SH

“ *Stephanie Hall lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper*



Stephanie Hall - July 23, 2024 at 06:30 PM

J(

“ *Judy McCoy (Charlotte) purchased the Floor Plant for Sympathy for the family of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper.*



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**Judy McCoy (Charlotte)** - July 23, 2024 at 12:12 PM

BC

“ *Bobbie Crosby-Locke lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper*



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**Bobbie Crosby-Locke** - July 23, 2024 at 08:51 AM

SM

“ *The Merkerson Family, Sandra Crichton, Connie Payne, Emerson, Quilliam and Collis send sympathy and love to the family of Ruth Estelle Kemper.*



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**Sandra Dianne Merkerson** - July 23, 2024 at 12:07 AM

GL

“ *Glendorah Lawrence lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper*



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**Glendorah Lawrence** - July 22, 2024 at 11:31 PM

VB

“ Ruth was a beautiful and wonderful person all her life. She spent a lot of time with me in my younger years when I lived on 6th Street. I never forgot those years. She named one of her twins Vicki. My name is Vicki as well. I’m very happy about that. Rest in peace Ruth. 💕💕

Vicki Bradley - July 22, 2024 at 11:31 PM

BS

“ Ms. Kemper you will be missed! I’m sending prayers and hugs to the immediate and extended family and friends. Ms. Kemper was my Xino advisor and aided in me becoming the successful young woman that I am today!

-Bria Smith

Bria Smith - July 22, 2024 at 07:00 PM

VJ

“ Val J lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper



Val J - July 22, 2024 at 05:05 PM

KF

“ Ken & Gladys Fields lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper



Ken & Gladys Fields - July 22, 2024 at 04:59 PM

JC

“ Jeanette B Champion sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper



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**Jeanette B Champion** - July 22, 2024 at 05:57 AM

TG

“ I have such pleasant memories of Soror Ruth Kemper while we were members of Zeta Omega Zeta Chapter together. Triumphant Soror Kemper was a big supporter and mentor for many members of the sisterhood.

*Rest peacefully, dear Triumphant Soror Ruth Kemper. She will be dearly missed and forever remembered and loved. Her legacy will continue to inspire us all.*

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**Traci Guinn** - July 22, 2024 at 12:49 AM

VS

“ Vermell L Sangster lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper



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**Vermell L Sangster** - July 21, 2024 at 09:51 PM

RS

“ RuthAnn Armbruster McMahon & Sherman planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper.

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**RuthAnn Armbruster McMahon & Sherman** - July 21, 2024 at 08:53 PM

RS

“ *RuthAnn Armbruster McMahon & Sherman purchased the Peace, Prayers & Blessings - Blue and White for the family of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper.*



RuthAnn Armbruster McMahon & Sherman - July 21, 2024 at 08:53 PM

RM

“ *Cici, Vicky and all the members of Ruth's wonderful family, I have so many happy memories of Ruth. We met in the 7th grade at Central Junior High School, where we both played on the Volleyball Team. Then we went on to Saginaw High, graduating in 1962. Later we served together on the SHS Reunion Planning Committee. Because we were both night owls, there were many times we stayed on the phone until 3:00 am. We could talk about anything and everything - and we did! Ruth and I became so close we used to say we were "sisters from another mister". We were kindred spirits and I truly loved her. I'm going to miss her so very much!*

*Love and Prayers,  
RuthAnn Armbruster McMahon*



RuthAnn Armbruster McMahon - July 21, 2024 at 08:29 PM

PM

“ Pamela Brown Maloy lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper



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**Pamela Brown Maloy** - July 21, 2024 at 06:22 PM

JL

“ Prayers out to the Kemper family, she will always be my grade school teacher,until I see you again rest well my teacher!!!!

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**Joseph Andrew Lawrence** - July 21, 2024 at 09:46 AM

CB

“ Cynthia L Bruce-Taylor sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper



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**Cynthia L Bruce-Taylor** - July 21, 2024 at 09:44 AM

DP

“ Dennis And Gail Porter sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper



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**Dennis and Gail Porter** - July 21, 2024 at 08:04 AM

AC

“ Annie Carr lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper



Annie Carr - July 20, 2024 at 08:57 AM

SM

“ Sam & Deborah Mack lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper



Sam & Deborah Mack - July 19, 2024 at 11:49 PM

LW

“ Lori Wright lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper



Lori Wright - July 19, 2024 at 10:10 PM



“ Frank Johnson lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper



Frank Johnson - July 19, 2024 at 07:03 PM

JM

“ *My sincere condolences to the Kemper and Corley Family. Mrs Kemper was a beautiful woman with a kind heart* ❤️



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**Joy McWright** - July 19, 2024 at 06:53 PM

TB

“ *Tonja S Brown lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper*



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**Tonja S Brown** - July 19, 2024 at 04:27 PM

GW

“ *Gracie M Witherspoon lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper*



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**Gracie M Witherspoon** - July 19, 2024 at 04:27 PM

DT

“ *Condolences to the family of Ruth Estelle Kemper. Ruth was a dedicated Sorority sister and Lifetime Member of Gamma Kappa Chapter of National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa, Inc. where she formerly served as President, Treasurer, Financial Secretary, and youth advisor for young ladies (Xinos) in Grades 9-12 for many years. She was an educator and union representative for Saginaw Public Schools and dedicated member of Saginaw County Association of Retired School Personnel and the Michigan Association of Retired School Personnel. She will be missed by all who knew and loved her. Good night my sister. We will see you in the morning.*



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**Dr. Lillian V. Jones- Thomas** - July 19, 2024 at 03:38 PM

AM

“ *My sincere condolences to the Kemper family for the loss of their beloved Ruth. She was an excellent teacher who guided her students on a fantastic learning journey. She was also was a dedicated member of Zeta Omega Zeta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority. She was unselfish with her skills and talents. She will be greatly missed by many. Gone but never forgotten. Rest my friend and triumphant Soror. You fought an awesome fight and now you rest with your Heavenly Father. Prayers to family as you mourn your loss of one so dear.*

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**Audrey McKandes** - July 19, 2024 at 12:04 PM

BK

“ *Praying for the Kemper family.*



Beatrice King - July 19, 2024 at 10:22 AM

CB

“ *Ms. Kemper was a beautiful person and a wonderful teacher who blessed many students! Condolences to the family.*



Charline Bodiford - July 19, 2024 at 10:02 AM



“ *Yvette Wofford lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper*



Yvette Wofford - July 18, 2024 at 11:19 PM

OK

“ *Olivia E Kincaid sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper*



Olivia E Kincaid - July 18, 2024 at 05:51 PM

CB

“ Cynthia L Bruce-Taylor sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper



Cynthia L Bruce-Taylor - July 18, 2024 at 03:55 PM

GG

“ Georgia And Lester Genwright lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper



Georgia and Lester Genwright - July 18, 2024 at 03:18 PM

CW

“ Calvin And Delores Williams lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper



Calvin and Delores Williams - July 18, 2024 at 02:30 PM

CH

“ My sincerest condolences to the Kemper family.



Cherryl Henderson - July 18, 2024 at 11:58 AM

RB

“ Rosette Blakes lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper



Rosette Blakes - July 18, 2024 at 09:00 AM

JB

“ June Bradley lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper



June Bradley - July 18, 2024 at 08:55 AM

SM

“ Sue McDole sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper



Sue McDole - July 17, 2024 at 07:54 PM

BR

“ Bettina Redeemer sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper



Bettina Redeemer - July 17, 2024 at 06:43 PM

EF

“ Eugene & Michelle Blair And Family lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper



Eugene & Michelle Blair and Family - July 17, 2024 at 04:59 PM

? M

“ 🙏 DOLORIS L. MIXON 🙏 lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper



🙏 DOLORIS L. MIXON 🙏 - July 17, 2024 at 04:11 PM



“ Dettrea Weston lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper



Dettrea Weston - July 17, 2024 at 03:47 PM

ES

“ Ella Scott lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper



Ella Scott - July 17, 2024 at 03:19 PM

WB

“ *Walsezetta Bennett lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper*



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**Walsezetta Bennett** - July 17, 2024 at 02:58 PM

FJ

“ *Frank Johnson lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper*



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**frank johnson** - July 17, 2024 at 02:29 PM

AF

“ *Alma Johnson & Family sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper*



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**Alma Johnson & Family** - July 17, 2024 at 10:51 AM

MF

“ *Mosella Reed & Family lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper*



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**Mosella Reed & Family** - July 17, 2024 at 10:49 AM

BS

“ *Billie Stribling lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper*



billie stribling - July 17, 2024 at 08:45 AM



“ *Victor Corley sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper*



Victor Corley - July 17, 2024 at 08:44 AM

BJ

“ *Brenda Jones lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper*



Brenda Jones - July 17, 2024 at 08:43 AM

EM

“ *Ernestine Martin lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper*



Ernestine Martin - July 17, 2024 at 07:58 AM

GB

“ Gwendolyn White Bowman lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper



Gwendolyn White Bowman - July 17, 2024 at 02:04 AM

AZ

“ Prayers and condolences to the entire family.



Albert & Frances Ham Zackrie - July 17, 2024 at 01:56 AM

JC

“ Judge Terry L. Clark lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper



Judge Terry L. Clark - July 16, 2024 at 09:20 PM

VB

“ Vicki Bradley lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper



Vicki Bradley - July 16, 2024 at 09:17 PM



“ *Frank Johnson lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper*



Frank Johnson - July 16, 2024 at 08:55 PM



“ *Yvonne Corley sent a virtual gift in memory of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper*



Yvonne Corley - July 16, 2024 at 08:37 PM



“ *Knew you for many years at Bethel she supported me saginaw valley flm condolences family . Mom always spoke about kempers ice cream ship.*



Rodney Walker and Barbara Walker - July 16, 2024 at 06:08 PM



“ *Kevin Richard lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ruth Estelle Kemper*



Kevin Richard - July 16, 2024 at 05:22 PM

AM

*So sorry to hear of the death of my friend, colleague, and sorority sister. She was a multifaceted person. She was an awesome teacher who didn't mind sharing her skills and talents. Ruth loved her family deeply. She loved her daughters very much. She extremely proud of her grandson. Ruth served in various roles in Zeta Omega Zeta Chapter. She was a hard act to follow. The members of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority has lost a very triumphant Soror. She will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved her. Gone but will never be forgotten. Rest Ruth in your heavenly home with your Heavenly Father. You fought an awesome fight. Prayers to the family as they mourn this great loss of their loved one*

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**Audrey McKandes** - July 17, 2024 at 08:15 PM

VH

*Prayers, expressions of condolence and sympathy to the Kemper family as they deal with the transition of their beloved mother, sister, daughter, friend, and my Soror. Soror Kemper was always kind, poised, organized, professional, and ready to serve. She mentored many in Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. She is now resting in the arms of the Lord. We will cherish our sweet memories of her and she will never be forgotten.*

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**Valeriah Holmon** - July 19, 2024 at 11:29 AM