



Thelma L. Poston

August 4, 1930 - May 22, 2014

Thelma Lillian Kirkland Poston passed away suddenly at 12:21 pm on Thursday, May 22, 2014, at the age of 83 years. She was born on August 4, 1930 in Camden, SC and was the youngest of ten children born to Everett Kirkland and Louise Brown Kirkland.

Thelma attended Hampton University from 1947 to 1948. She pledged Delta Sigma Theta sorority during her freshman year. She transferred to Wayne State University in Detroit, MI where she met Carl Cardwell Poston, Jr., a law student at the same school.

Carl and Thelma were married November 15, 1953. They moved to Saginaw, MI in 1955 where Carl started a law practice. They raised four boys in Saginaw: Carl III, Keith, Kevin and Craig. After raising her boys, Thelma formed the Thelma Poston Real Estate company. She joined the Saginaw Board of Realtors in 1970, becoming the first black woman ever to do so.

In 1979, she brokered a real estate deal which allowed five African American men, including her husband, Carl Caldwell Poston, Jr., to create the first subdivision since the early 1960's on the east side of Saginaw. Throughout the years, Thelma was known for her natural business savvy, her kind heart, and her competitive spirit. She was also known as an exceptional golfer. She won countless tournaments and always played from the men's tee. In 1967,

Thelma became a founding member, along with 11 other dignified women, of Saginaw's Alumni Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. The Delta's later named their annual golf tournament in Saginaw in her honor: The Thelma Poston Annual Golf Classic.

Thelma served on several community boards and received many awards over the years, too numerous to mention. Thelma and her husband Carl were honored in November of 1989 by the Coleman Temple Church of God in Christ as "Saginaw's Living Legend" couple for more than 30 years of community service. The couple celebrated their 50th wedding Anniversary in November of 2003, as was featured in Jet Magazine. Carl and Thelma were happily married for 59 years until Carl's passing on February 18, 2013.

Thelma and Carl were both long time members of Bethel AME Church in Saginaw. Together, they represented a strong family, which promoted education, moral principles and values, and good business practices.

Family hour will take place at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 7, 2014 at Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church, 535 Cathay Street. Rev. P. David Saunders, Pastor, with the funeral service commencing at 11:00 a.m. Rev. Thelma Williams will officiate with interment in Forest Lawn Cemetery. Friends may call at the Evans & Browne's Funeral Home, 441 N. Jefferson Ave., on Friday from 2:00 until 8:00 p.m. The family will be present at 7:00 p.m. for a Delta Sigma Theta service.

Cemetery Details

Forest Lawn Cemetery

3210 S. Washington Avenue
Saginaw, MI

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 6. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Evans & Browne's Funeral Home
441 N. Jefferson Avenue
Saginaw, MI 48607
(989) 754-0481
evansbrownes@gmail.com
<https://www.evansbrownesfuneralhome.com>

Funeral Service

JUN 7. 11:00 AM (ET)

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

Family Hour

JUN 7. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

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

Tribute Wall

VB

“ Vicki Bradley lit a candle in memory of
Thelma L. Poston



Vicki Bradley - June 29, 2021 at 10:14 PM

TF

“ The Abernathy Family lit a candle in memory
of Thelma L. Poston



The Abernathy Family - June 09, 2014 at 08:51 PM

TF

“ The Abernathy Family lit a candle in memory
of Thelma L. Poston



The Abernathy Family - June 09, 2014 at 08:50 PM

MR

“ MARIE ROBINSON lit a candle in memory of
Thelma L. Poston



MARIE ROBINSON - June 07, 2014 at 07:15 AM

DO

“ Dorothy Omar lit a candle in memory of
Thelma L. Poston



Dorothy Omar - June 07, 2014 at 12:08 AM

LO

“ Leah O'Daniels lit a candle in memory of
Thelma L. Poston



Leah O'Daniels - June 06, 2014 at 05:17 PM

LO

To the Poston Family,

I will never forget the day that Thelma was showing my husband and I a house when she turned to me and asked me if I thought I might want to sell real estate. I was surprised that she asked me but told her yes that I would try it. I began my real estate career in 1975 and worked with Thelma for 17 years. I believe that God puts people in our lives for a reason and Thelma was that person for me. She took me under her wing and taught me everything that I know about the real estate business. What I most admired about Thelma was that she never took no for an answer when a lender told her that a buyer didn't qualify for a home. She went over and above what was necessary to get families into the home of their dreams. There are hundreds of families in Saginaw who were able to purchase homes because of her willingness to challenge the system. Thelma was respected by her fellow Realtors and was at the top of the list as one of the best in the business in the city of Saginaw.

I will not be able to attend Thelma's home-going celebration because I am now living in Houston but please know that you are in my prayers. God bless you all. Leah O'Daniels

Leah O'Daniels - June 06, 2014 at 06:22 PM

JB

“*Joyce Barlow lit a candle in memory of
Thelma L. Poston*



Joyce Barlow - June 06, 2014 at 04:27 AM

DC

“*Doretha Cheatom lit a candle in memory of
Thelma L. Poston*



Doretha Cheatom - June 05, 2014 at 07:52 PM

TF

“*The Hall Family lit a candle in memory of
Thelma L. Poston*



The Hall Family - June 05, 2014 at 12:44 PM

LF

“*Lorenzo Lewis and family purchased the Dreams
From the Heart Bouquet for the family of Thelma
L. Poston.*



Lorenzo Lewis and family - June 05, 2014 at 10:48 AM

BM

“ *Thelma, You were a great boss and an even greater friend. Always encouraging, and there to assist. At my brother's funeral you supported me all you could with Carl at your side. Will always remember you with love and affection, Brenda Montgomery*

Brenda Montgomery - June 05, 2014 at 06:38 AM

FL

“ *Fermer & Jackie Lewis lit a candle in memory of Thelma L. Poston*



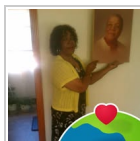
Fermer & Jackie Lewis - June 04, 2014 at 05:39 PM

SF

“ *Staci Ferguson lit a candle in memory of Thelma L. Poston*



staci ferguson - June 03, 2014 at 11:57 AM



“ *Mittie Buchanan-Russell lit a candle in memory of Thelma L. Poston*



Mittie Buchanan-Russell - June 02, 2014 at 02:54 AM

RA

“ Rosie Anderson lit a candle in memory of
Thelma L. Poston



Rosie Anderson - June 01, 2014 at 09:23 PM

BP

“ Barbara Payton lit a candle in memory of
Thelma L. Poston



Barbara Payton - June 01, 2014 at 09:34 AM

EM

“ To the Poston family, sorry to hear of her passing , she was a
wonderful woman in all respect! I pray that God will give each of you
the strength to get thru this time of loss.

Edward E. Mason - May 31, 2014 at 10:35 PM

MS

“ Myra Selby lit a candle in memory of Thelma
L. Poston



myra selby - May 31, 2014 at 07:32 AM

SO

“ *Sonacarruth lit a candle in memory of Thelma L. Poston*



sonacarruth - May 30, 2014 at 01:20 PM

SO

To the Poston family saddened to hear of your loss such a great woman of great stature in our community, a great inspiration to all who knew or heard of her achievements..To GOD be the GLORY

sonacarruth - May 30, 2014 at 01:24 PM

DW

“ *Deborah Williams lit a candle in memory of Thelma L. Poston*



Deborah Williams - May 29, 2014 at 07:44 PM

RL

“ *Ruth Lynette purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Thelma L. Poston.*



Ruth Lynette - May 28, 2014 at 02:39 AM

CJ

“ Chris&Wayne Jernigan sent a virtual gift in memory of Thelma L. Poston



Chris&Wayne Jernigan - May 27, 2014 at 01:52 PM

SM

“ Sam And Deborah Mack lit a candle in memory of Thelma L. Poston



Sam and Deborah Mack - May 27, 2014 at 09:33 AM

SM

Our prayers at with the Poston's family at this difficult time. God bless each of you. Sam & Deborah Mack

Sam and Deborah Mack - May 27, 2014 at 09:35 AM

LE

“ Levi And Cynthia Essex lit a candle in memory of Thelma L. Poston



Levi and Cynthia Essex - May 27, 2014 at 07:02 AM

DA

“ *Dona Austin-Bigby lit a candle in memory of Thelma L. Poston*



Dona Austin-Bigby - May 26, 2014 at 10:21 PM

EK

“ *Eric & Reida Kirkland lit a candle in memory of Thelma L. Poston*

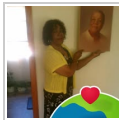


Eric & Reida Kirkland - May 26, 2014 at 05:43 PM

ER

*It was with deep sadness I received word of the passing of Aunt Thelma. It is God who can speak the words that calm the sea, still the wind, and ease the pain. Carl, Keith, Kevin & Craig it is with my sincere sympathy in your loss. May the promise in God's word be with you today, your peace tomorrow and your comfort always. Keeping you in our thoughts and prayers at this difficult time wishing you peace of mind and heart.
Your cousin Eric.*

Eric - May 26, 2014 at 06:13 PM



amen

Mittie Buchanan-Russell - June 02, 2014 at 02:56 AM

CJ

“ *Carrie Jacksson-Zackrie lit a candle in memory of Thelma L. Poston*



Carrie Jacksson-Zackrie - May 26, 2014 at 04:27 PM

DA

“ *Debra Austin lit a candle in memory of Thelma L. Poston*



Debra Austin - May 25, 2014 at 11:27 PM

LR

“ *Lynette Ruth lit a candle in memory of Thelma L. Poston*



Lynette Ruth - May 25, 2014 at 09:50 PM



“ *R.I.P. Ma'am.*

Joselyn Jordan - May 25, 2014 at 03:08 AM

CL

“ I would like to send my deepest condolences to the family of Ms. Thelma Poston, as well as a word of encouragement and hope found in the bible at Rev 21:4, “And he will wipe out every tear from their eyes, and death will be no more, neither will mourning nor outcry nor pain be anymore.” What a joyous time this will be. I pray that you and your family find comfort in God’s Word during your time of sorrow.

My thoughts and prayers are with you.

Clara/www.jw.org

Clara - May 24, 2014 at 08:13 AM

MM

“ To the family of Mrs. Thelma Poston, Our prayers and thoughts are with you. Mrs. Poston was our realtor when we bought our first home. She was a very nice person. God bless and strengthen the family during this time of your loss.

Moty and Geraldine McKinney



Moty and Geraldine McKinney - May 23, 2014 at 11:46 AM

VJ

“ Vanessa Johnson lit a candle in memory of Thelma L. Poston



Vanessa Johnson - May 23, 2014 at 11:14 AM

HJ

“ *Houston And Elaine Jackson, Jr. lit a candle
in memory of Thelma L. Poston*



Houston and Elaine Jackson, Jr. - May 23, 2014 at 06:39 AM

DS

“ *Dora Shaw-McDole lit a candle in memory of
Thelma L. Poston*



Dora Shaw-McDole - May 22, 2014 at 04:38 PM