



## Theresa Bell

October 24, 1938 - February 28, 2011

Funeral service will take place at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 5, 2011 at Tabernacle Baptist Church, 810 Cathay Street. Pastor Thomas J. London will officiate with interment in Forest Lawn Cemetery. Friends may call at the Browne's Mortuary, 441 North Jefferson Avenue, on Friday from 2:00 until 8:00 p.m. the family will be present from 5:00 until 8:00 p.m. Our beloved mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, aunt, great-aunt, godmother and friend went home to be with our Lord on Monday, February 28, 2011 at the age of 72, after a lengthy illness. Theresa Delores Bell was born October 24, 1938 in Tuscaloosa, Alabama to Pearlie and Cora Nell Blackburn Thomas. Theresa married Sherman A. Bell, Sr. on January 22, 1954 in Ft. Wayne, IN. Theresa was a long time member of Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church where she was a member of the Gospel Chorus and Mass Choir, a Sunday School teacher and Missionary Society President. She was also a member of The Saginaw Valley District Choir and a member of Top Ladies of Distinction, the Amicae Auxiliary of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc. and a member of the Eastern Star. She loved her singing and was a member of the Cordetts. She retired from the Saginaw Public School District and was also a licensed beautician. She leaves to cherish her memory, her children, Yvonne Bell, Sherman Bell Jr., Lacrechia Bell, and Cheryl Moore, all of Saginaw, Anthony (Sarah) Bell of Cincinnati, OH, Adrienne Bell-Williams of Macedonia, OH; one sister, Julia Pringle; brothers, Robert Thomas, John (Lillian) Thomas, and Marshall (Yvonne) Thomas; special grandchild, Maranda Thomas Bell;

grandchildren, Kisha Johnson, Corey Moore, TaCrecia, Julia, Alonzia, Teressia and Janay Voltz, Marques and Andraea Williams, Sherman Bell III, Anthony Bell Jr., Antionette Burton, Angel Canty, Antaniqua Bell, Antavious Bell, and Whitney Brand; 11 great- grandchildren and several nieces and nephews; godchildren, Otha Barnett, Johnny Williams, Jr., Tara Turner, Yvette Smith and family and Elgreco Shaw; special niece, Alexis Thomas and special nephew, Darryl (Marcia) Thomas; special great-nephew, Jalen Thomas Parham; special cousins, Terry (Carolyn) Pruitt, Clenton (Sabrina) Blackburn, and Everett (Mary) Thomas; aunts, Martha McBrayer, Eura Lee Pruitt, Meckie Lewis and Valeria (Arthur) Dixon; uncle, Ed (Marie) Blackburn; special friends, Florida Davis, Wilmer Ham-McZee, Minister Leslie Lewis, Minister Doris Murray, Loudean Moultrie, Alma Wyatt, Lillie Mae Cooper, Pat McCulley and Vera Watson. She was predeceased by her husband, Sherman Bell, Sr.; parents; Pearlie and Cora Nell Blackburn Thomas; son-in-law, Bryan Williams; and four siblings, Horace Thomas Sr., Ruth Cheatham, Betty Chapman and Willie Reed.

# Tribute Wall

SG

“ *The Vonnie and entire Bell Family:*

*The loss of a mother is the loss of your best friend. I will always remember Mrs. Theresa as one my Aunt Fannie Atkins best friend, I will remember her as strong Christian woman, her meloedist voice in the Tabernacle choir, a loving mother but most of all a child of the king. Rest on Mrs. Theresa, your labor was not in vain. May God bless you all and give you strength to endure the days ahead.*

*Humbly Submitted,  
Sylvia George and Family*

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**Sylvia George** - February 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LS

“ *Adrienne - We are so deeply saddened by your loss. We are calmed by knowing that there are so many wonderful memories to see you through. You and your entire family are in our thoughts and prayers.*

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**Lyneeta Smith-Boykins** - February 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ To her children, siblings and extended family, I extend the condolences from my family to you in the passing of Ms. Theresa. Ms Theresa Bell was a mother and wife who embodied Proverb 31, "The Virtuous Woman" in her life and was a blessing to those who knew her. I pray that the Spirit of the Most High God will comfort and keep you now and in the days to come and that you, her fruit, will live for the One she dedicated her life to. Her angelic soprano voice has truly reached the ultimate height now and such a gift to us can never be silenced as long as we remember His gift to us. Serve Him as she did, love Him as she did and love each other as she did. May God Bless and keep you!!

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**Sheri Hawkins** - February 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ To the Bell and Thomas Family,

Take comfort in knowing that your Mother, Sister and Aunt is at home with the Lord. Surely T-Bell is singing in her brand new home - Heaven! I will never forget the beautiful voice God blessed her with, and the laugh that was hers! She was an inspiration to me. My Aunt, Mrs. Eva Whitt, was saddened at her passing. She looked upon Mrs. Bell as her daughter. T-Bell will be missed. Sent with my deepest sympathy and condolences to the entire family. Mary McDonald and Mrs. Eva Whitt

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**Mary McDonald** - February 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RN

“ To the family, to my family heart felt condolences from the Nashes to the family of the premier soprano in Saginaw gospel music history. We love you Mrs. Theresa Bell. Love the Nashes Family.

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**Rick Nash** - February 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MR

“ To the Bell family my prayer are with you and may God comfort and strengthen you in your time of sorrow. God is our refuge and strength a very present help in trouble. God will supply all of your need.

*Mozella Reed and Family.*

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**Mozella Reed** - February 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM

CW

“ Sharing your loss and praying that you will continue to trust God in all He does. Hold onto God and each other during these times, and know that together you'll get through this.

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**Christine Watkins** - February 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ To Von & Kishna & Family,  
Sorry for your lost, I didn't know Ms. Bell personally but everytime I saw her she had a beautiful smile on her face. She was a beautiful woman and her voice was heaven sent. May God Bless each one of you and may He continue to keep ya'll in His' arms.

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**Michelle Stewart** - February 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JJ

“ My Condolences to the entire BELL family; Lucretia (sp?), Adrienne. Jah bless. My Prayers and thoughts include you and yours. Stay with Jah (God).. 'He will see you through.' Ms. Theresa Bell was a BEAUTIFUL LADY; All the time, she was..with her cookin' self..for the Canadians too. R.I.P. See Ya Later Ma Bell.

*~Joselyn Jordan-Ford*

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**Joselyn K. Jordan-Ford** - February 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM

RH

“ To the Family of Theresa D. Bell,

*May your hearts soon be filled with wonderful memories of joyful times together as you celebrate a life well lived. Mrs. Bell was my Amicae Advisory when I was a 1985 Debutante. I always had a special place in my heart for her and the affection and guidance that she always displayed. Psalm 30:5 says .....weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning; we are blessed to know that one day we ail be in Mrs. Bell's presence again.....*

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**Robin F. Hunter** - February 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM

LM

“ *I remember Theresa as a woman that loved the Lord and was always helping others to know the Lord. A woman with vision and leadership and did not mind telling you the truth and making sure you were going in the right direction. She will be missed but God loved her more and she will hear God say "WELL DONE MY GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT."*

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**LOUDEAN MOULTRIE** - February 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SJ

“ *My deepest sympathy goes out to the Bell family and friends. Although, Theresa has passed to be with the Lord, God is still in the blessing business and with us all. Death is not always a good feeling to endure, but it is a debt we all have to pay, just keep the faith in God almighty and keep yourselves positioned for when God calls on us. God will fight our battles, but we must do our part here on earth too, by keeping his commandments and hold onto the faith. May God be with all of you.*

*Shirley Jones & Family*

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**Shirley Jones** - February 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ I send my heartfelt sympathy and prayers to the Bell family. Your Mom was a good woman with a wonderful heart, and she will be greatly missed. May GOD'S blessings be on the entire family now and always.

Mike

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**Michael Marsh** - February 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM

AH

“ My heart was deeply saddened to hear of the passing of your mother. But I quickly started remembering the precious times we all shared at Tabernacle growing up, listening to her beautiful soprano voice and her sometimes stern but honest words of encouragement brought a quick smile. I thank God for having known her and the family. Her sweet spirit will live in all our hearts forever. She was the epitome of a beautiful and strong wife, mother, grandmother, friend and Christian! Continue to trust God and give Him praise in ALL things! Love, Ann

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**Ann Hudspeth-Thomas** - February 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM

ME

“ Our condolences are sent to the family. We will remember all the pleasurable moments of smiles and singing Mrs. Bell shared with us over the years. There's no one who has hit that "high note" so heavenly. We pray that the family stays in GOD's ever loving arms forever. Be Blessed continually, In JESUS' name.

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**Mrs. Dorothy Kemp & Son E.J.** - February 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM

GC

“ Say not in grief that she is no more,  
but say in thankfulness that she was.  
A death is not the extinguishing of a light, but the putting out of the  
lamp  
because the dawn has come.

*I will always cherish your joyful laughter. Rest in peace.*

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**Grandaughter Angel Canty** - February 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BF

“ Our condolences and prayers goes out to the family of Theresa Bell  
especially Marshall & Yvonne and their family. May God continue to  
bless you and we love you.  
The Brummell-Presley family.

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**Brummell-Presley Family** - February 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ TO THE FAMILY TERESA BELL

*Thinking of you in your hour of sorrow and extending heartfelt  
sympathy.*

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**J. Jackson & Family** - February 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ *"To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose  
under the heaven: A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to  
plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted." (Ecclesiastes  
3:1-2)*

*You all are in our prayers and we love you all.*

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**Bobby and Ethel Shaw** - February 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM

GP

“ My heart goes out to the Family, MRS. bELL IS A Special lady. she will be missed. I can hear that SWEET VOICE .

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**gwendolyn perry** - February 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JR

“ Having had the honor of having shared in the life of "Ms Theresa" and her family from a child and being given the gift of knowing both she and all of her children, I would like to extend my deepest condolences to Vonnie, Sherman, and Anthony as you go through this most difficult time. Just remember God blessed you with a loving mother for many years who shared her knowledge of Christ with us all.

God Bless

Jeri Rockett

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**Jeri Rockett** - February 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM

IB

“ Dear Julia, Marshall & Thomas Family, My sincerest condolences on the Homegoing of Theresa, I didn't know her personally, but Julia talked about her sister all the time and loved her very much.(when we were young girls going to school) May God ease the pain in your hearts. Take care, Love Ingrid Barkley

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**Ingrid Barkley** - February 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM

ER

“ To Yvonne & Family.

Thinking of you and your family in your hour of sorrow and extending heartfelt sympathy.

Our prayers are with you all at this time.

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**Ernestine** - February 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM

TB

“ I am so sorry for your loss. Miss Theresa was a shining example of a strong, black woman, as well as a true follower of Christ. She was also a wonderful and faithful wife, mother and friend. As a young woman growing up in Tabernacle...Mrs. Bell was one of my examples of what a TRUE woman should be. I thank God that I got to experience her in my life and I celebrate the fact in knowing her. To the family, I pray that God will grant you peace during this difficult time. "Weeping my endure for a night but joy comes in the morning"! Love you all.

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**Thea Turner Burress** - February 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM

VT

“ I was so saddened to hear of your loss. Theresa was more than godmother to my child, she was a friend who always had an open ear and a kind word. Her loving heart was always available, even when her body wasn't as cooperative. A devoted wife, a loving mother, a doting grandmother and godmother, a supportive family member and a cherished friend, Theresa is at peaceful rest now, in the presence of God. She had the brightest smile and the most contagious laugh (which she shared often). I, as you, will miss her but I rest in the assurance, I will see her again. Family, know that her love for you was second only to her love for her God and she was very proud and honored to be a part of your lives. Love you all,

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**Veronica Turner** - February 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BR

“ *Memories of the ones we've loved  
Still cast their gentle glow  
To grace our days  
And light our paths  
Wherever we may go*

*May the Lord continue to give you strength during this time of  
sorrow.*

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**Billie Richberg** - February 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *To Lacreacia and Sherman, my heartfelt sympathy goes out to you  
at this time. May the Lord give you peace and strength at this time.*

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February 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM

AH

“ *TOO THE BELL FAMILY AND FRIENDS. YOU HAVE MY  
CONDOLENCE AND PRAYER.*

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**Alice Hunt** - February 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM

WK

“ *I AM DEEPEN SADDEN FOR OUR LOSS. I LOVE YOU ALL. WE  
ALL WE GOT. STAY STRONG.*

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**WOODROW KELLUM** - February 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM

PD

“ *family hold to Gods hand and don't let go there's nobody greater  
than God that can and will see u threw . praying for u and with. God  
Be with always*

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**Patricia Ann Davis** - February 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM

PD

“ *My love and prayers are with u all hold on to God and each other there's nobody great than God he will see u all thew. love God bless patricia davis*

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**Patricis Ann Davis** - February 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BP

“ *We are very sorry to learn of your loss. Theresa's absence on earth indicates a race well run whereas she has gone on to receive her heavenly crown.*

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**bertha I. Pruitt** - February 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM

AM

“ *To The Family of Mrs. Bell,  
I am deeply sorry to hear of the loss of your loved one. I have known her for many years. She was a sweet, kind, generous, and wonderful person. I will always remember her beautiful smile and pleasant personality. She never had a mean word to say about anyone. She will be greatly missed by all those who knew and loved her. My prayers are with the family as you morn the lost of someone so dear. Your loss hear on earth, is the Lord's gain in heaven. She is now with her heavenly father getting the much need rest she so rightly deserved. Be strong in the Lord and know that you are not alone as you go through this difficult moment.*

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**Audrey McKandes** - February 28, 2011 at 12:00 AM