



Mrs. Vealea Washington

September 30, 1932 - August 23, 2018

Mrs. Vealea Washington, our beloved wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and great-great-grandmother made her transition to her eternal home on Thursday, August 23, 2018 at the age of 85 years. Mrs. Washington was born on September 30, 1932 in Mayersville, Mississippi to Annie Laura (Green) Love and London Williams.

Mrs. Washington earned an undergraduate degree in Sociology from Loyola University (Chicago) and degrees in Religious and Theology Studies from the Urban Bible College, completed courses at Moody Bible Institute of Chicago, IL, and the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education. She also completed courses at Helene Curtis Cosmetic and Professional Guilds.

Having moved to Saginaw, MI from Chicago, IL in the 1950's she was a Social Worker and a Cosmetologist. She was a graduate of Saginaw Beauty College as a Licensed Cosmetologist, later owning and operating her own beauty salon. Mrs. Washington was an avid reader, enjoyed spending time with her family and had a love of writing. Her favorite scripture was Psalms 27:1 "The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?"

As a firm believer in Christ, a prayer warrior, a beloved sage, Mrs. Washington faced each day fueled and inspired by the words Paul penned in Philippians 4:13 "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." She had been a faithful and loyal member of Zion Missionary Baptist Church since 1964 serving in various capacities throughout the years, including a Sunday

school teacher, President of the Mission Department, Director of the Youth Department, Director of Christian Education, Superintendent of the Sunday School Department, Director of Vacation Bible School, Director of the Evangelism Department, a dedicated member of the Zion Mass Choir, the Women's Auxiliary and the Ministers Wives and Widows. She had been an active member of both the Saginaw Valley Baptist District since 1959 and a lifetime member of the Wolverine Baptist Convention USA, Incorporated. She served both organizations faithfully and spiritually. She was the first Secretary of the Congress of Christian Education for the Saginaw Valley Baptist District and Worship Leader for 33 years. She served as the historian and wrote the history of the Saginaw Valley Baptist District Association. She was also the Youth Representative of the Wolverine Baptist Convention USA, Inc. and a longtime member of Church Women United, having served as a past President and the Spiritual Leader. Mrs. Washington served on numerous boards, committees and task forces throughout the Greater Saginaw Community, including Saginaw Valley County Substance Abuse, Task Force on Aids, YWCA, NAACP (life member), Mental Health Chapter-Alcohol Information Board, Stop the Flow of Drugs, and Operation PUSH. She was also a member of the Saginaw Police Community Relations Commission from 1972 to 1989. She retired as Chair of the Commission in 1989 after 5.5 years at the helm and was recognized by Mayor Delbert J. Sherman and the City of Saginaw for her leadership and programs aimed at helping young people solve their problems to become productive citizens of the City of Saginaw. She received many honors and recognitions throughout her life including recognition from the Michigan House of Representatives, Kiwanis and Church Women United.

Mrs. Washington leaves to cherish her memory, her husband of nearly 60 years, the Reverend Arthur L. Washington; special daughter-in-law, Annette Merrill, Lansing, MI; three beloved step-children, Diane (William) McLaunce, Debra Wood, one whom she raised, George (special daughter-in-law, Viola) Washington, Shreveport, LA; beloved aunt, Ersell (Frank) Crayton, Gary, IN;

sisters-in-law, Josephine Bradley, Pauline Luke and Ann (James) Donald, all of Saginaw, MI brother-in-law, Rev. Otis (Bonnie) Washington, Saginaw, MI; six beloved granddaughters, Attorney Coffiann Hawthorne Merrill, Lansing, MI, Jamaika Hawthorne Merrill, Washington, D.C., Melinda Walker, Ann Arbor, MI, Lisa (Eligah) Jackson, Lansing, MI, Regina Washington, Shreveport, LA; special grandson whom she raised, DeVorious Laster, Saginaw, MI; a special great-grandson, John Riggins, Lansing, MI; ten other great-grandchildren, Maya Brown, Ann, Arbor, MI, Taurean Jackson, Kendall Jackson, Austin Jackson, Courtney Jackson, all of Lansing, MI, Arielle Laster, Saginaw, MI, Shaniqua Washington, Veleria Washington, Niya Washington, all of Shreveport, LA; five great-great-grandchildren; a host of godchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives and friends.

Mrs. Washington was preceded in death by her parents, Annie (Green) Love and London Williams; her beloved grandmothers, Fanny Williams and Eliza Boyd; beloved son, Gregory Merrill (she missed him immensely); beloved step-sons, A.C. Washington (whom she raised) and Tommy Washington. Her priceless wisdom, comforting nature, sassy wit, and her flair for those beautiful Sunday-go-to-meeting hats will be sorely missed for many years to come by her family, friends and all who knew and loved her.

Family hour will take at 10:00 a.m. Friday, August 31, 2018 at Zion Missionary Baptist Church, 721 Johnson Street, Saginaw, MI 48607 with the funeral service commencing at 11:00 a.m., Rev. Rodrick Smith, Host Pastor. Pastor Emeritus Dr. Roosevelt Austin, Sr. will officiate with burial in Forest Lawn Cemetery, 3210 S. Washington Ave., Saginaw, MI 48601. Friends may call at the church from 9:00 a.m. until time of service.

Cemetery Details

Forest Lawn Cemetery

3210 S. Washington Avenue
Saginaw, MI

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 31. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Zion Missionary Baptist Church
721 Johnson Street
Saginaw, MI 48607

Family Hour

AUG 31. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Zion Missionary Baptist Church
721 Johnson Street
Saginaw, MI 48607

Funeral Service

AUG 31. 11:00 AM (ET)

Zion Missionary Baptist Church
721 Johnson Street
Saginaw, MI 48607

Tribute Wall

DD

“ *Debra Dillard lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vealea Washington*



Debra Dillard - September 10, 2018 at 09:34 PM

DD

My condolences to Pastor Washington and family.

Debra Dillard - September 10, 2018 at 09:34 PM

DM

“ *Derrell Martin lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vealea Washington*



Derrell Martin - September 07, 2018 at 10:58 PM

TT

“ *Tricia Truss lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vealea Washington*



Tricia Truss - September 05, 2018 at 04:14 PM

SW

“ *Sheila Woods lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vealea Washington*



Sheila Woods - August 31, 2018 at 08:29 AM

SV

“ *Shelva Scott - Veal lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vealea Washington*



Shelva Scott - Veal - August 30, 2018 at 08:45 PM

JW

“ *Joanie Williams lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vealea Washington*



Joanie Williams - August 30, 2018 at 05:31 PM

RO

“ My sincere heartfelt condolences to Pastor Author Washington and Zion Baptist Church family. Dr. Washington one of the best teachers at American Baptist College, Saginaw extension.

She always had words of encouragement and,"nuggets of knowledge to share."

I can still hear her voice saying;

"Reverend whatever you learn make sure you know it all too pieces!"

I thank God for her teaching ministry.

Rev. Peter R. Owen - August 30, 2018 at 05:04 PM

OC

“ OPAL COLEMAN lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vealea Washington



OPAL COLEMAN - August 30, 2018 at 02:23 PM

WS

“ My condolences to my friend, Rev. Arthur Washington, and the entire Washington family.

I'm praying with and for you Reverend, I've been there only a very short time ago. I also know that you know that The Lord is with you.

Sincerely,

Rev. Samuel G. Orange, Sr.

New Inspiration MBC



W.Brooks c/o Pastor Samuel Orange, Sr. - August 30, 2018 at 01:38 PM

LD

“ *Lily Dixon lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vealea Washington*



Lily Dixon - August 30, 2018 at 01:05 PM

LD

Sister Washington was another Dynamic Black Woman that I met when I moved to Saginaw 50 years ago. She was friendly. outspoken and always knew what she was talking about. She would help you in anyway that she could and was one of the best Bible Study teachers you could have. I loved to hear her speak. I pray that God comforts her husband Rev Washington and family during these times. Lily Dixon

Lily Dixon - August 30, 2018 at 01:13 PM

BS

“ *Bobby & Ethel Shaw lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vealea Washington*



Bobby & Ethel Shaw - August 30, 2018 at 11:38 AM

MT

“ *Mary Taylor lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vealea Washington*



Mary Taylor - August 30, 2018 at 06:27 AM

DB

“ Deacon Larry & Marilyn Bowman lit a candle
in memory of Mrs. Vealea Washington



Deacon Larry & Marilyn Bowman - August 29, 2018 at 09:06 PM

YH

“ Yvette Hopkins lit a candle in memory of Mrs.
Vealea Washington



Yvette Hopkins - August 29, 2018 at 08:41 PM

MF

“ Mrs.Arthrene Banks & Family lit a candle in
memory of Mrs. Vealea Washington



Mrs.Arthrene Banks & Family - August 29, 2018 at 07:34 PM

MF

“ Ms.Ann Ford& Family lit a candle in memory
of Mrs. Vealea Washington



Ms.Ann Ford& Family - August 29, 2018 at 07:32 PM

RR

“ Deacon Carl and Rosemary Ruth



Rosemary Ruth - August 29, 2018 at 05:30 PM

AG

“ Annie Gibson lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vealea Washington



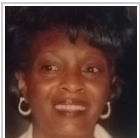
Annie Gibson - August 29, 2018 at 02:21 PM

HW

“ May God be with you all during this time of sorrow. Sis. Washington fought a good fight, she finished her course. My thoughts and prayers are with you.
Hazel Wilson in Collinsville, MS



Hazel Wilson - August 29, 2018 at 12:56 PM



“ Elizabeth Hudspeth lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vealea Washington



Elizabeth Hudspeth - August 29, 2018 at 10:20 AM

JN

“ Jennifer Neloms lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vealea Washington



Jennifer Neloms - August 29, 2018 at 08:27 AM

HS

“ Helen Scott lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vealea Washington



Helen Scott - August 28, 2018 at 05:19 PM

JW

“ Juanita N Witherspoon lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vealea Washington



Juanita N Witherspoon - August 28, 2018 at 04:31 PM

DS

“ Dora Shaw-McDole lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vealea Washington



Dora Shaw-McDole - August 28, 2018 at 04:02 PM

KC

“ Karen Cork lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vealea Washington



Karen Cork - August 28, 2018 at 08:58 AM

LC

“ LEON JACKSON And CHERYL COOPER lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vealea Washington



LEON JACKSON and CHERYL COOPER - August 28, 2018 at 03:56 AM

DJ

“ Doris Jones sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Vealea Washington



Doris Jones - August 27, 2018 at 11:25 PM

AM

“ Alma And Mosella lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vealea Washington



Alma and Mosella - August 27, 2018 at 11:05 PM

RW

“ *Rev Jodie & Patricia A Williams sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Vealea Washington*



Rev Jodie & Patricia A Williams - August 27, 2018 at 10:48 PM

PR

“ *Pastor Terry Randolph and the Gethsemane MBC would like to extend our sincere condolences to the family. May God continue to bless and comfort you during this transitional period of your love one.*

Pastor Randolph - August 27, 2018 at 09:30 PM

RP

“ *Rev. Eddie Parker lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vealea Washington*



Rev. Eddie Parker - August 27, 2018 at 07:43 PM

LD

“ *Lily Dixon sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Vealea Washington*



Lily Dixon - August 27, 2018 at 06:21 PM

DL

“ Deacon Robert And Linda.Veasley sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Vealea Washington



Deacon Robert and Linda.Veasley - August 27, 2018 at 04:47 PM

KG

“ Katherine Feltson Graves lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vealea Washington



Katherine feltson Graves - August 27, 2018 at 03:23 PM

SW

“ Sara Walker lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vealea Washington



Sara Walker - August 27, 2018 at 12:23 PM

DM

“ Deon Mayes lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vealea Washington



Deon Mayes - August 27, 2018 at 10:38 AM

SH

“ My condolences to the Washington family in the loss of Mrs. Vealea Washington.



Shelaine Hankins-Parrish - August 27, 2018 at 07:17 AM

DA

“ Dona Austin-Bigby lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vealea Washington



Dona Austin-Bigby - August 26, 2018 at 08:00 PM

DS

“ Denise Steele lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vealea Washington



Denise Steele - August 26, 2018 at 07:46 PM

CW

“ Calvin And Delores Williams lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vealea Washington



Calvin and Delores Williams - August 26, 2018 at 02:05 PM

JF

“ Joe Stephens And Family lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vealea Washington



Joe Stephens and Family - August 26, 2018 at 01:26 PM

LM

“ Larry & Pamela Monroe lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vealea Washington



Larry & Pamela Monroe - August 26, 2018 at 01:25 PM

DM

“ Sincere Condolences



Deborah Morris-Williams - August 26, 2018 at 10:21 AM

DL

“ Deacon Robert And Linda.Veasley sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Vealea Washington



Deacon Robert and Linda.Veasley - August 25, 2018 at 09:29 PM



“ *Diane (Burns)Blackmon lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vealea Washington*



Diane (Burns)Blackmon - August 25, 2018 at 06:52 PM



“ *I enjoyed working with Sis Washington in years past. She was of spiritual benefit to young people as well as myself. My condolences to the family.*

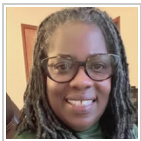
Mary (Georgia) Nettles - August 25, 2018 at 06:34 PM



“ *Annie Lavender lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vealea Washington*



Annie Lavender - August 25, 2018 at 04:44 PM



“ *I will never forget the Christian teachings and experiences Sister Washington offered to me as a youth.*



Susann Wilson-Moody - August 25, 2018 at 12:02 PM



From Church Women United you will be greatly missed

Annie Lavender - August 25, 2018 at 04:47 PM

SN

“ *Sister Washington was a positive influence on many people. She had a strong spiritual foundation and sang God's praises wherever she went. I admired her strong resolve and ability to see good in spite of trials and tribulations. Sister Veola helped me to know the Lord and I loved her. May her legacy of love and Christian stewardship remain. We extend our heartfelt condolences to the family.*

Shirley Nuckolls - August 25, 2018 at 10:55 AM

CC

“ *Carolyn Currie lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vealea Washington*




Carolyn Currie - August 25, 2018 at 09:42 AM

LR

“ *Lois Robinson lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vealea Washington*



Lois Robinson - August 25, 2018 at 12:03 AM

 Bridgett Neloms

“ *Bridgett Neloms lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vealea Washington*



Bridgett Neloms - August 24, 2018 at 11:02 PM

DM

“ *Sincere Condolences.*



Deborah Morris-Williams - August 24, 2018 at 10:52 PM

JA

“ *JJ Akins sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Vealea Washington*



JJ Akins - August 24, 2018 at 10:45 PM

DT

“ *Deacon John And Sis. Lillian Thomas sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Vealea Washington*



Deacon John and Sis. Lillian Thomas - August 24, 2018 at 10:36 PM

TA

“ *Sending prayers and condolences*



Trina A - August 24, 2018 at 10:30 PM

CP

“ Cynthia polk



Cynthia Polk - August 24, 2018 at 08:38 PM

AL

“ Annie Lowery lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vealea Washington



Annie Lowery - August 24, 2018 at 08:04 PM

MB

“ MARILYN K BURNS- BOWMAN lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Vealea Washington



MARILYN K BURNS- BOWMAN - August 24, 2018 at 04:44 PM