



Mother Catherine Ruth White

July 23, 1924 - November 15, 2013

Mother Catherine R. White was born to the union of John and Myrtle Coleman, Sr. on July 23, 1924 in Beloit, WS. She was the second oldest of four children. She graduated from Beloit High School. The family relocated to Kalamazoo, where she met and married Albert L. White in 1942. They had two daughters, Donna and Pam.

Mother White received Christ at an early age and exemplified His heart and hands throughout her lifetime. She shared and instilled her belief in Christ with her family and the many lives she touched.

Greater Faith Fellowship Church recognized that she was a pioneer and trailblazer and awarded her for outstanding service and dedication. She served the church as a trustee, choir president, organist and minister of music, as well as a missionary and certified evangelist.

Her professional career was at Michigan Bell. She was the first Black service representative, then became manager of Personnel and retired as the Assistant Manager of Corporate Affairs.

She contributed to her community in many ways. Among her accomplishments are the following: she received the NAACP Merit Award, was YWCA President and Executive Board Member, B'Nai Brith Woman of the Year, Davenport College Advisory Board Member and received outstanding recognition for contributions to the D.E. and Office Co-Op Program.

Early in the morning on Friday, November 15, 2013 she departed this life after a long illness. She was preceded in death by her parents and two siblings: John Coleman, Sr. and Jaquetta Starr.

Surviving are two daughters: Donna White-Ward (Cedric) of Kalamazoo, MI and Pam Logan (George) of Kansas City, MO; a brother, Donald Coleman (Vickie) of Baltimore, MD;

three grandchildren, Whitney Townes, Traysi White and Cliff Julian; six great-grandchildren, six great- great grandchildren, and a host of nieces, nephews, extended family and friends.

Cemetery Details

Riverside Cemetery

1015 Gull Road
Kalamazoo, MI 49048

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV **21**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Harper Funeral Home, Inc.
521 Douglas Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI 49007
(269) 342-1000
info@harperfuneral.com
<https://www.harperfuneral.com>

A Celebration of Life

NOV **22**. 1:00 PM (ET)

Tabernacle Church Of God In Christ
3210 Virginia Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI

Tribute Wall



“ *Mother Catherine Ruth White*

October 23, 2023 at 06:06 AM



“ *Mother Catherine Ruth White*

October 06, 2023 at 10:42 AM

CM

“ *I will always remember her playing the Hammond organ and her beautiful grand piano I will always love her!*

Caprice Hunt McIntee - September 08, 2020 at 02:07 AM

WS

“ *I just recently learned of Mother White's passing and extend my deepest sympathies to the family. Ms. White was a dear friend to my mother and I came to cherish her friendship as well. She and my mom remained friends for many years, traveling to each other's homes after the White's moved from Beloit to Kalamazoo until my mom passed. I'm sure they will resume their friendship in Heaven.*

*Wanda Sloan,
Beloit, WI*



Wanda Sloan - March 04, 2016 at 03:00 PM

FE

“ *I only came to know of the lovely Mother Catherine Ruth White's leaving us recently but that doesn't take away from the stamp she will forever have on my heart. From the very first time I spoke to her to the last twinkle I saw sparkle in her eyes, I will always remember her kindness, her love for the Lord and how she measured life in terms of blessings, not bad fortune. She was and always will remain truly a great lady!*

Fareen Effendi - January 08, 2014 at 09:41 PM

GH

“ *She will be missed by many she was indeed a blessing to all. Garry and sandra hester*

Garry and sandra hester - December 20, 2013 at 07:40 PM

IR

“ *To The White Family*

Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Thank you for sharing an awesomely beautiful lady who was a perfect example of class, grace and God's love. Even though God said her work here was done, know she will continue in heaven smiling down on all of us.

Ida Robinson

Ida Robinson - November 23, 2013 at 02:27 PM



CT

“ *To the family of Mother Catherine R. White...*

Praying for the White Family that comfort and renewing of your strength rest upon you.

Mother White was a true soldier in works for the Lord. Heaven received a jewel.

Catherine Taylor and Family

Catherine Taylor - November 22, 2013 at 08:55 AM

TF

“ *The Lee Family lit a candle in memory of Mother Catherine Ruth White*



The Lee Family - November 21, 2013 at 09:03 PM

JB

“ *J.L. & Terry Buchanan lit a candle in memory of Mother Catherine Ruth White*



J.L. & Terry Buchanan - November 21, 2013 at 07:56 PM

BP

“ *Barb Phillips lit a candle in memory of Mother Catherine Ruth White*



Barb Phillips - November 21, 2013 at 07:34 PM

MP

“ *To the White family:
Prayers are being lifted up to you and your family.*

Mollie Peterson



Mollie Peterson - November 21, 2013 at 07:03 PM



“ *Karest Willis-Brown lit a candle in memory of Mother Catherine Ruth White*



Karest Willis-Brown - November 21, 2013 at 03:47 PM

PG

“ *Pauline Gardner lit a candle in memory of Mother Catherine Ruth White*



Pauline Gardner - November 21, 2013 at 03:28 PM

CH

“ *My thoughts and prayers to the White Family. Your mother/grandmother was such an inspiration to many. Her faith was solid and she led by example. Heaven has gained a true saint. May God hold you and keep you all close.*
Connie Harris

Connie Harris - November 20, 2013 at 09:02 PM

MW

“ *Minister Flora Walker sent a virtual gift in memory of Mother Catherine Ruth White*



Minister Flora Walker - November 20, 2013 at 08:44 PM

TF

“ *To the Family of Catherine R. White,*

We extend our sincere sympathy to you during this difficult time. May your memories of your loved one bring you comfort during this time and in the days to come.

Henry, Arnedo, Marian, Lamia and Angelo Logan -- Fulton MO.



The Logan Family - November 20, 2013 at 08:01 PM

DB

“ *DaNetta Blake lit a candle in memory of Mother Catherine Ruth White*



DaNetta Blake - November 19, 2013 at 07:23 AM

JL

“ *To the White Family,*

I have always admired your mother she was truly a child of God who devoted her life to the Lord and to her family. She'll truly be missed she always led by precept and example. Your family will be in my prayers.

Love,

Joanne Lee & family



Joanne Lee - November 17, 2013 at 10:40 PM

SN

Pam and Family, So sorry to hear of your mother's passing, May she Rest In Peace. I used to enjoy stopping at her house with you to make a quick visit with her and your grandma. Our thoughts are with you during this time of sorrow. We also lost my mom a few months ago.

Sue and Dave Newhouse/Vicksburg - November 23, 2013 at 08:12 AM