



Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash

September 18, 1931 - July 5, 2021

FIRST UNITED BAPTIST CHURCH IS HOSTING SERVICES FOR THE FAMILY OF MINNIE RUTH THRASHVISITATION & SERVICE TIMES ARE LISTED BELOW

*****PLEASE NOTE: MASKS ARE STILL REQUIRED WHEN ENTERING THE CHURCH. SOCIAL DISTANCING IS ALSO STILL REQUIRED*****

The Obituary

Must Jesus bear the cross alone, and all the world go free? No there's a cross for everyone and there was a cross for me! Our Mother, Minnie R. Thrash was birthed to the late William Garfield Portrum Sr. and Maggie Portrum on September 18, 1931 in Old Fort, North Carolina. After the loss of her mother at the early age of seven, her father moved his family to Allegan, Michigan in 1939 where he later remarried Deloris May-Portrum. Minnie and her siblings attended the Allegan Public School system. She was baptized along with her siblings at Grace Temple Community Church in Allegan where they were raised on strong Christian and moral values.

As a young adult and mother, she moved to Kalamazoo, Michigan in 1958 where she single-handedly raised her five children--oftentimes working numerous jobs to make ends meet to avoid the welfare system. Her home served as a gathering place where she and her sisters would sit around the

kitchen table to socialize with other women and friends to discuss tough issues during a difficult era. As young children growing up with our cousins, we were always amazed with the level of wisdom, knowledge and responsibility that has helped mold us to become the adults we are today.

In May of 1971, she was hired by the UpJohn Company (now Pfizer) where she worked as a Pill Packager for 21 years until she retired in 1992. Our Mother was an amazing woman that loved her family unconditionally and served as a mother figure to her nieces and nephews after the loss of her sister, Beatrice Hicks. Whoever she came into contact with, she poured into their lives and served as a positive influence, which are too many people to mention. Spending time with family and friends was a favorite past time for her. She enjoyed dancing, drawing, playing cards, bingo and trips to the casino. She also loved fashions and would dress to the nines! Mom was a member of Galilee Baptist Church and served in the food pantry and sang in the Inspirational Choir. She was also a member of First United Baptist Church where she also sang in the choir and served in other ministries before joining Galilee.

Minnie departed from her earthly vessel surrounded by family on Monday, July 5, 2021, in her home peacefully under the care of Hospice of SW Michigan after a lengthy illness.

She was preceded in death by her parents, William Garfield Portrum Sr. and Maggie Portrum; bonus Mother, Deloris May Portrum; Grandchild, Michelle Thrash and Great Grandchild, Daymeon I. Little; Brothers Walter Portrum Sr., Larry Portrum, Melvin Portrum and William Portrum Jr.; Sisters, Beatrice Hicks and June Reid; two special nieces, Phyllis Hicks-Mills and Gail Hicks-Taylor; and a special cousin, Alice Gilbert.

She leaves to cherish her memories: her Children, Kathryn (Lonnie Sr.) Haley;

Charlene Taylor; Pamela (William) Roland; Ricky (Yvonne) Thrash; Rhonda (Robert "Sam") Little; one Sister, Janice Batiste of Los Angeles, CA; Grandchildren, Ennis II (Kim), Monique, Lonnie Jr. Daymeon, Marvella (Anthony), Nicole (Anthony), Ebony, Tyron Sr., Ricky Jr. (Ashlee), Dominick (Andrya), Terrence (Deanna), Rateya (Keith), Romeo (Amanda), Keisa and Kareem; Great Grandchildren: Whitney, Heaven, Ennis III, Shaquayla Haley, Jeremiah, Laila, Madison, Myles, Aneah, Ariyanna, Damien Jr. Jaylen, Leah, Brooklyn, Ricky III, Jett, Te'asia, Keith Jr. Tyron Jr Keynijah, Anijah, Mya, Jayden, Carter and Eliana; Great Great Grandchildren, Trevon, Ava, Darrion, Maliah and Armon; special Niece and nephews: Crystal, Tommie, Melvin, Randy and Eric. Also, a host of nieces and nephews to include greats, cousins, other relatives and friends left to cherish her legacy.

To our dear Aunt Mary Francis, we know that Mom's transition will be extremely difficult for you. Please know that we love you and will pray for your strength.

Cemetery Details

Mt. Ever-Rest Cemetery

3941 S. Westnedge Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI

Previous Events

Walk Through Visitation For Family & Friends

JUL 13. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Harper Funeral Home - Chapel
521 Douglas Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI

A Service in Loving Memory

JUL 14. 11:00 AM (ET)

First United Baptist Church
821 S Burdick Street
Kalamazoo, MI

Tribute Wall



“ Harper Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash



Harper Funeral Home - July 12, 2021 at 06:53 PM

GR

Very nice video to cherish your memories Gloria Hughes Rhymes

Gloria Hughes Rhymes - July 13, 2021 at 08:38 AM

EH

Sending prayers love and heartfelt condolences to this beautiful family.

Evelyn Henry - July 14, 2021 at 01:31 PM

AT

My condolences to the family

Alice Taylor - August 18, 2021 at 07:33 AM



“ Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash

October 23, 2023 at 06:06 AM



“ Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash

October 06, 2023 at 10:42 AM

CB

“ *Carrie Baker lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash*



Carrie Baker - September 04, 2021 at 04:28 PM

LB

“ *Lisa Barbee lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash*



Lisa Barbee - August 21, 2021 at 06:30 PM

AT

“ *Alice Taylor lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash*



Alice Taylor - August 18, 2021 at 07:19 AM

CO

“ *Cheryl Owens-Nebedum lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash*



Cheryl Owens-Nebedum - August 17, 2021 at 12:44 PM

ES

“ *Ellen Spencer lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash*



Ellen Spencer - August 08, 2021 at 04:19 AM

EC

“ *Evelyn Maxine Chambers-Ware lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash*



Evelyn Maxine Chambers-Ware - August 02, 2021 at 07:29 PM



“ *Deb Jamison lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash*



Deb Jamison - July 23, 2021 at 12:37 AM

KG

“ *Karen Gray lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash*



Karen Gray - July 21, 2021 at 11:08 AM

T.

“ *T.Williams&family lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash*



T.Williams&family - July 20, 2021 at 09:01 AM

KF

“ *Our Condolences to the family. Our prayers are with you. God Bless you all.*



Kevin and Patricia Ford - July 15, 2021 at 09:39 AM



“ *Modean Reeves lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash*



Modean Reeves - July 13, 2021 at 11:40 PM

KF

“ *Karen Johnson Foster & Johnson Family lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash*



Karen Johnson Foster & Johnson Family - July 13, 2021 at 10:18 PM

TF

“ *The Glenn Charles Family lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash*



The Glenn Charles Family - July 13, 2021 at 07:00 PM



“ *Pam thinking of you in your time of grief*

deacon Joe schmitt

Joe Schmitt - July 13, 2021 at 05:17 PM

TA

“ *Tina Avery lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash*



Tina Avery - July 13, 2021 at 04:31 PM

KD

“ *Kevin Dunigan sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash*



Kevin Dunigan - July 13, 2021 at 04:04 PM

CL

“ Cathy Cole Lipsey lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash



Cathy Cole Lipsey - July 13, 2021 at 04:00 PM

YR

“ Yvonne Heltzel Reese lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash



Yvonne Heltzel Reese - July 13, 2021 at 03:56 PM

LF

“ Lipsey Family sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash



Lipsey Family - July 13, 2021 at 03:56 PM

HW

“ Helen Word lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash



Helen Word - July 13, 2021 at 02:52 PM

NN

“ *Best wishes to Pam and her family. Nelson Nave*

Nelson Nave - July 13, 2021 at 02:35 PM

KC

“ *Miss Minnie was a warm, understanding, and wise woman, generous to me with her kindness and welcoming demeanor. How I wish I had known her earlier in my life. When we did meet at an Kalamazoo Junior Girls event, she instantly wanted me to sit with her, and how lucky I was to be near her loving presence. Rest in Peace, lovely lady.
Sincerely,
Karen Chadwick*

karen chadwick - July 13, 2021 at 01:44 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash.*



July 13, 2021 at 10:24 AM

GF

“ *Gwendolyn Hooker & Parks Family purchased the Rainbow Of Remembrance Spray for the family of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash.*



Gwendolyn Hooker & Parks Family - July 13, 2021 at 10:22 AM

GR

“ *Very sorry for your lost may the Lord our God be with you all to make you strong with his healing touch my Blessing to you all Gloria Rhymes*

Gloria Hughes Rhymes - July 13, 2021 at 08:23 AM

LS

“ *Lola Streeter lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash*



lola streeter - July 12, 2021 at 11:22 PM

KO

“ *Sending condolences to the Thrash family from the Oziers*



Kathie Ozier - July 12, 2021 at 08:14 PM

FF

“ *Frank & Betty Ford lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash*



Frank & Betty Ford - July 12, 2021 at 05:02 PM

PG

“ *My prayers and condolences to Minnie family. Lots of memories.*

Pauline Gardner - July 12, 2021 at 02:52 PM

JE

“ *JACQUELINE EZELL sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash*



JACQUELINE EZELL - July 12, 2021 at 02:25 PM

RL

“ *Our sincere condolences to Mr. Ricky Thrash and the entire family. We are praying comfort for you all, God will see you through this time. God Bless, "The LIGGINS Family."*

Rebecca Liggins - July 12, 2021 at 02:13 PM

SW

“ *In Loving Memory of Grandma Minnie! From the Day that I met you when I was 16 years old playing softball with Kat, you accepted and showed me love as if I was your blood granddaughter. I will always remember you in my heart and my thoughts.*

Momma Kat, Rhonda, Charlene, Ricky, and Pam, you all are in our thoughts, in our prayers, and you all have our deepest condolences!

Love you, Sue (Maurice), Terri (DeOndre) & Family!

Sue Warren - July 12, 2021 at 01:34 PM

LF

“ Love you, Sue (Maurice), Terri (DeOndre) & Family! purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash.



Love you, Sue (Maurice), Terri (DeOndre) & Family! - July 12, 2021 at 01:23 PM

SW

“ Sue Warren lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash



Sue Warren - July 12, 2021 at 12:57 PM

GD

“ Greg Davis sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash



Greg Davis - July 12, 2021 at 12:24 PM

EG

“ Edith Gardner lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash



Edith Gardner - July 12, 2021 at 12:17 PM

RA

“ *Ramona sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash*



Ramona - July 12, 2021 at 09:37 AM

DW

“ *Love and prayers to our family. We will cherish all the fond memories of Minnie .she was a wonderful sister in law ...love to my nephew Ricky and all the nieces ...God bless you ...aunt Tena ,diana,lloyd,Della and the little ones 🙏*

Diana williams - July 11, 2021 at 08:45 PM

PJ

“ *Paulette Julian lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash*



Paulette Julian - July 11, 2021 at 02:07 PM

DI

“ *Love and prayers to our family...I will cherish all the memories of Minnie who was a loving sister in law ...love to my nephew Ricky and all my beautiful nieces ...our thoughts and prayers are with you love aunt Tena, diana, lloyd, Della, and the little ones... 🙏*

Diana - July 11, 2021 at 01:44 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash.*



July 11, 2021 at 01:39 PM



Barbara Phillips

“ *Barbara Phillips sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash*



Barbara Phillips - July 11, 2021 at 11:48 AM



TF

“ *The Fields Family sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash*



The Fields Family - July 11, 2021 at 07:45 AM



GF

“ *GLORIA CLOPTON AND FAMILY lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash*



GLORIA CLOPTON AND FAMILY - July 11, 2021 at 07:44 AM

EF

“ Earline Fields sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash



Earline Fields - July 11, 2021 at 07:42 AM

DW

“ Love and prayers to our family I will cherish all the memories...Minnie was a wonderful sister in law to me love to my nephew Ricky and all the beautiful daughters may God comfort you alllove aunt Tena Diana David Lloyd Della and all the little ones



Diana williams - July 10, 2021 at 07:48 PM

KD

“ Kevin Dunigan sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash



Kevin Dunigan - July 10, 2021 at 07:17 PM

TP

“ Heartfelt sympathy and prayers to the Thrash family



Theresa L Powell - July 10, 2021 at 02:14 PM

EF

“ *My Condolences to the family I will keep you in my prayers RIP Mrs Minnie*



Earline Fields - July 10, 2021 at 11:15 AM



“ *Sherry Anderson lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash*



Sherry Anderson - July 10, 2021 at 10:06 AM

LM

“ *Lori Miller/ Priscilla Miller lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash*



Lori Miller/ Priscilla Miller - July 10, 2021 at 07:00 AM

NH

“ *Neal And Barb Higgins lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash*



Neal and Barb Higgins - July 09, 2021 at 09:14 PM

GG

“ *Guenetta Gordon lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash*



Guenetta Gordon - July 09, 2021 at 09:00 PM

JE

“ *Jacqueline Ezell sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash*



jacqueline ezell - July 09, 2021 at 03:14 PM

JD

“ *Jack Dunigan sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash*



Jack Dunigan - July 09, 2021 at 01:40 PM

JD

“ *Jack Dunigan lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash*



Jack Dunigan - July 09, 2021 at 01:38 PM

SW

“ Sue Warren lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash



Sue Warren - July 09, 2021 at 12:36 PM

DF

“ Dallas Boards And Family lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash



Dallas Boards and family - July 09, 2021 at 09:35 AM

PJ

“ Paulette Julian lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash



Paulette Julian - July 09, 2021 at 09:16 AM

TA

“ Tena Avery sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash



Tena Avery - July 09, 2021 at 09:05 AM

PF

“ *Palm And Avery Family lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash*



Palm and Avery Family - July 09, 2021 at 09:03 AM

JL

“ *Jackie Little sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash*



Jackie Little - July 09, 2021 at 08:40 AM

DV

“ *Condolences to the family. Sending love and prayers. Love Delores Vines (Green).*



Delores Vines - July 09, 2021 at 07:48 AM

ML

“ *Malinda Ligon-Whitley lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash*



Malinda Ligon-Whitley - July 09, 2021 at 12:11 AM

JH

“ Jerry Harris lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash



Jerry Harris - July 08, 2021 at 11:59 PM

CF

“ Charleston Family sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash



Charleston Family - July 08, 2021 at 11:36 PM



“ Eddie and Bernadette Reid



Bernadette Ballard-Reid - July 08, 2021 at 11:13 PM

FF

“ Frank & Betty Ford lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash



Frank & Betty Ford - July 08, 2021 at 07:12 PM

SW

“ *Sonia Wilkerson lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash*



Sonia Wilkerson - July 08, 2021 at 07:06 PM

RF

“ *Ms. Minnie was a beautiful and classy woman who will be missed by all. I fell your loss and my deepest condolences go out to you all.*

Royetta Fry-Walker - July 08, 2021 at 06:48 PM

LS

“ *Lola Streeter lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash*



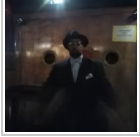
lola streeter - July 08, 2021 at 05:48 PM

FA

“ *Faith Annette lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash*



Faith Annette - July 08, 2021 at 05:00 PM



“ JoAnne & Renaford Owens Jr. offer sincere condolences to the family of Minnie Thrash.



Renaford Owens Jr. - July 08, 2021 at 03:15 PM



“ Patterson Family sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash



Patterson Family - July 08, 2021 at 10:34 AM



“ RJ & Anita Wilkerson sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash



RJ & Anita Wilkerson - July 08, 2021 at 10:32 AM



“ Cynthia Smith lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash



Cynthia Smith - July 08, 2021 at 10:21 AM

LC

“ *Lillie Cotton lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash*



Lillie Cotton - July 08, 2021 at 08:33 AM

MV

“ *Mignon Alicia Vincent lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash*



Mignon Alicia Vincent - July 08, 2021 at 07:53 AM

AS

“ *Our prayers and condolences are with you and your family* 🙏🙏🙏



Anthony and Gwen Smith - July 08, 2021 at 07:51 AM

GW

“ *GEORGIA WILLIAMS lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash*



GEORGIA WILLIAMS - July 08, 2021 at 07:36 AM

GF

“ *GEORGIA WILLIAMS & FAMILY lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash*



GEORGIA WILLIAMS & FAMILY - July 08, 2021 at 07:35 AM

AR

“ *ArleneBuchanan lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash*



ArleneBuchanan - July 08, 2021 at 06:55 AM



“ *Sherry Anderson lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash*



Sherry Anderson - July 07, 2021 at 11:39 PM

RL

“ *Ramona Lumpkin sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash*



Ramona Lumpkin - July 07, 2021 at 11:20 PM

SG

“ Shirley Gordon sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash



Shirley Gordon - July 07, 2021 at 10:59 PM

MF

“ Sending sincere condolences. My prayers are with you. Remember all the happy memories you've shared.



Modean Reeves and family - July 07, 2021 at 09:46 PM

RF

“ May God be with you all. Mrs. Minnie was a sweet classy woman. It was truly a pleasure knowing her and she will be missed by us all.

Royetta Fry-Walker - July 07, 2021 at 09:20 PM

RF

“ Royetta Fry-Walker lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash



Royetta Fry-Walker - July 07, 2021 at 09:15 PM

EJ

“ *Ethel Jones-Smith lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash*



Ethel Jones-Smith - July 07, 2021 at 08:56 PM

JP

“ *Prayers for the Thrash family.*



James and Barbara Phillips - July 07, 2021 at 07:18 PM

HB

“ *Hal & Janet Buchanan lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash*



Hal & Janet Buchanan - July 07, 2021 at 06:43 PM

TF

“ *The Daniel Family lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash*



The Daniel Family - July 07, 2021 at 06:40 PM

CH

“ *Charlene Harkness lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash*



Charlene Harkness - July 07, 2021 at 06:13 PM

FF

“ *Frank & Betty Ford lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash*



Frank & Betty Ford - July 07, 2021 at 04:48 PM

AT

“ *My condolences to the family*



Alice Taylor - July 07, 2021 at 02:52 PM

HM

“ *Helen Mills-Brooks lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Minnie Ruth Thrash*



Helen Mills-Brooks - July 07, 2021 at 02:46 PM

DW

Love and prayers to our family we will cherish all the memories...mimic was a wonderful sister in law to melove to my nephew Ricky and all the beautiful daughters love aunt Tena Diana David Lloyd Della and the little ones god bless you 🙏

Diana williams - July 10, 2021 at 06:28 PM

DI

My love and condolences goes to Mrs Ruth Minnie Thrash a loving neighbor who would sit outside with me sharing sweet memories of her family.....you will never be forgotten....R.I. H.

DiannaJackson - July 12, 2021 at 05:49 PM

DH

I only knew her from word of a friend. "she was warm, wise, loving and generous of spirit. That says it ALL. WE lost another good one. My heart-felt condolences to her family, friends WE the Community.

David Hoffman - July 13, 2021 at 05:55 PM