



## Ms. Edna Earl Russell

March 7, 1936 - December 10, 2008

Edna E. Russell was born March 7, 1936 in Okolona, MS to the parents of Robert and Jeffie (Fields) Dunigan. Edna was baptized at an early age into the faith and fellowship at Mount Zion Baptist Church, where she was actively involved in numerous auxiliaries and ministries. Until her passing she served faithfully on the Nurses' ministry and previously served as a Sunday School and Vacation Bible School Teacher, an Usher, and a member of Trinity Choir. Edna was formerly employed by Borgess Hospital and Nazareth College until it closed and retired from the Family Health Center. Since retirement, Edna was serving as a Foster Grandparent with Senior Services, Inc. Edna was an avid walker and enjoyed many hours of reading which included studying the Bible. Her favorite scripture was Psalm 121. She served on many civic and community committees and boards as her way of giving back to others. Edna was preceded in death by her parents, her brother Paul, daughter Beverly, and son Darryl. She leaves to rejoice in her memory a grandson Darius Willis; two great grandsons Darius Jr. and Jarius; one great granddaughter Tashanya Pettiford-Willis; two sisters Clara Stewart and Florest (Carl) Wilson; two brothers Robert (Valerie) Dunigan Jr. and Charles (Ann) Dunigan; two aunts Ruby Weekly of Kalamazoo and Matilda Pulphus of Chicago; one uncle Houston Dunigan; sister-in-laws Billie Mae Dunigan, of Kalamazoo; and Peggy Diane Dunigan of Detroit; best friends Helen Truss and Sandra Hughes; special cousin Janice Ezell and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.



# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 16. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Harper Funeral Home Inc.  
521 Douglas Avenue  
Kalamazoo, MI

## Service

DEC 17. 12:00 PM (ET)

Mt Zion Baptist Church  
120 Roberson Street  
Kalamazoo, MI

# Tribute Wall



“ *Ms. Edna Earl Russell*

October 23, 2023 at 06:06 AM



“ *Ms. Edna Earl Russell*

October 06, 2023 at 10:42 AM



“ *My dear friend, I haven't cried since the night I was told you went to claim your mansion in heaven. I believe in my heart that you will always be my friend, guiding me, fussing at me, and loving me. I left a message in your hands, and I ask that on judgement day, the Lord send you to find me. I know you're running around meeting, greeting folks, and praising the Lord. However, if you get a chance, spend some time with my Clarences and my Grandmother Helen. Your friend, Jere RN*”

December 30, 2008 at 09:28 PM



“ *Flo and Carl and family,  
So sorry for your loss. We knew Edna as well, from when Melissa was having her medical issues and was seeing Dr. James at the Family Health Center.*

*What a great lady she was!*

*Big Hugs and Lots of Prayers,  
Tina*”

December 19, 2008 at 09:57 AM



“ *Wait on the Lord; Be of good courage, And He shall strengthen your heart; Wait, I say, on the Lord!*

*Psalm 27:14*

*Waiting in difficult times can be excruciating. While God understands our desperate pleadings, He desires that we continue to place our confidence and trust in Him, regardless of how long the wait; trusting that we are moving forward to new things that He desires for us.*

*On behalf of the Callie Moore Family, we extend our love and heartfelt condolence to you in the loss of your loved one and for us, the loss of a beloved family member. We wish we could be with you physically, but know we will always be one with you all in spirit. My God continue to bless you all and keep you.*

*Wait on the Lord.##imported-begin##Callie L. Moore (Dunigan)##imported-end##*

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December 18, 2008 at 02:59 PM



“ *I am so sorry for your loss. You are in my thoughts and prayers.##imported-begin##LaDora Smith##imported-end##*

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December 17, 2008 at 12:01 PM



“ *Edna, peace & joy! You will be sorely missed!##imported-begin##Joyce Alexander##imported-end##*

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December 17, 2008 at 08:29 AM



“ WE LOVE YOU & YOU WILL ALWAYS BE IN OUR HEARTS, GOD BLESS##imported-begin##HERB & MARLIS COLEMAN - FLINT,MI##imported-end##

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December 17, 2008 at 12:18 AM



“ To myself and my daughter Alexia you will always be Grandma Edna! I remember last year when she refused to eat anything at school! You told her that you would sit by her and she began to eat! You will truly be missed you are and were a great woman! You touched many lives! You made my daughter comfortable and feel safe in her first year of school! We are going to miss you so much Grandma Edna! You are in a better place now and thank you for showing myself and my daughter and all others your kind heart! God bless your family they were blessed to have your presence here on Earth as we all were! May your kind and caring heart be passed on throughout your family through many years to come! Love you Always Grandma Edna! Love Sarah and Alexia!##imported-begin##Sarah James##imported-end##

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December 17, 2008 at 12:04 AM



“ Our Dear Friend, Edna,  
You will truly be missed. We've known you for many, many years as a sister in Christ, here at Mt. Zion Baptist Church. We will forever have fond memories of prayers we've heard you pray, songs we've heard you sing, and your faith in your Lord and Savior. Tommy & Diane Jones##imported-begin##Tommy & Diane Jones##imported-end##

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December 16, 2008 at 09:37 PM



“ My Dear Sweet Edna, I will always miss you. Never will I forget the excitement we generated in Sunday School! Oh how glad I am we were all together this summer when I visited. What fun we had.  
Much Love,  
Donna & Family##imported-begin##Donna Russau, North Carolina##imported-end##

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December 16, 2008 at 08:39 PM



“ My prayers are with you and your family. I know this is a hard time but we must remember that he will not give us more then we can bare. She is now with our father where there is no more pain, crying or sorrow. She is happy and at peace.  
  
Love Liz##imported-begin##Elizabeth Hailey-Smith##imported-end##

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December 16, 2008 at 07:36 PM



“ To the family my prayers are with you all. May the Lord bless and keep you always. It is God who carries you in these sad and sorrowful times. Look to Him for strength.##imported-begin##Sharon A. Brooks##imported-end##

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December 16, 2008 at 07:35 PM



“ We love and care about you all. Know that we are praying for you.##imported-begin##The Winfield Family##imported-end##

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December 16, 2008 at 06:43 PM



“ *To my Dunigan Clan!  
Lord, Lord! Heaven sure has a lively one to orient! I will ALWAYS remember how Edna would keep me laughing AND she would always have a good challenge for me. It is such a blessing to remember "to be absent from the body is to be present with our Lord!"  
Love y'all!  
Annette (your Baton Rouge Child!)*##imported-begin##Annette Yancy##imported-end##

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December 16, 2008 at 04:08 PM



“ *To the family of Miss Edna Russell  
I am deeply sadden by the sudden death of Edna. Trust in the lord with all your heart and he will direct your path. I will keep you in my prayers.*

*Jo Ann Embrey*##imported-begin##Jo Ann Embrey##imported-end##

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December 16, 2008 at 01:24 PM



“ *To Florest and Carl Wilson and the rest of the Dunigan family: I know you are people of great faith and prayer. My prayer for you in this hour is that you are flooded with the peace and comfort you continually give to so many of us by your kind words; through God's Word, your sincere giving hearts and friendship. I love you so much. I know the Fathers love IS sustaining you and for that I am grateful.*##imported-begin##Andrelle Perry, Fort Worth, Texas##imported-end##

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December 16, 2008 at 12:53 PM



“ While there are no words to help ease the loss that you bear, know that you are close in every thought and prayer.  
"To live in hearts we leave behind, is not to die."##imported-begin##Tina, Paul and Katrina Echols##imported-end##

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December 16, 2008 at 11:46 AM



“ Florest,  
Although we never met in person but are the best of friends thru God. We send our deapest sympathy to you and the rest of your family. I know that nothing is to hard for God. I know that he will see you and the rest of your sibilings thru this time of bereavement. My plans were to suprise you and be there but due to the weather I couldn't make it but know that our prayers are with you and the family.  
Love u much  
The Graves family of Chicago##imported-begin##Archie, Thyra and Precious Graves##imported-end##

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December 16, 2008 at 10:55 AM



“ Words can not express the love I feel for your family. We all loved Edna but God loved her best. She will for ever be in my heart. May God bless and Keep you all during this time of sorrow.##imported-begin##Debra M. Fox##imported-end##

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December 16, 2008 at 12:51 AM



“ Ms. Edna will be missed so much. May God be with the family at this time.##imported-begin##Dave, Irma, David, and Melissa Johnson##imported-end##

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December 16, 2008 at 12:34 AM



“ We are keeping you all in ours prayers and are sorry for your lost. May God give you strength and may you know that your loved one is in a better place now with the Lord. Know that you are all loved and cared for and that if we can be of any help just call.

*Sincerely with love,*

*The Moragne Family,*

*Cunningham's*

*Grice*

*Lumpkin*

*Seaberry Families##imported-begin##Amerriel Overton*

*Cunningham, Marilyn Grice, Ramona Lumpkin##imported-end##*

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December 15, 2008 at 05:27 PM



“ Love you Aunt Edna(WG) you will be missed and always loved. Love Rook##imported-begin##Scottie Wilson##imported-end##

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December 15, 2008 at 05:12 PM



“ Aunt Edna, I only met you once but you made a lasting impression on my heart. You will truly be missed.

Love

Carolyn Williams##imported-begin##Carolyn Williams##imported-end##

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December 15, 2008 at 10:25 AM



“ Edna

Geez, you have gone on to glory! I will miss our monthly lunches - you and Helen "teaching" me about life makes me look forward to getting "wiser and older" .... Thanks for the memories! I love you##imported-begin##Angela Buchanan Tabron##imported-end##

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December 15, 2008 at 10:21 AM



“ To Edna's family,

I worked with Edna years ago at Borgess in the Continuing Ed Dept. Edna always made me laugh. She was such a good person. Kind and giving. Although we lost touch over the yrs, I will always remember her with fondness. Please accept my sincere & heartfelt sympathy.

Mary##imported-begin##Mary Panse##imported-end##

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December 15, 2008 at 01:14 AM



“ we are so sadden to hear of your lost,we pray that god will give you comfort.if there is any thing we can do please let us know,may god bless you##imported-begin##andrew & dawn wilkerson##imported-end##

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December 15, 2008 at 12:54 AM



“ Family of sister Edna, we are so sorry for your loss. I want you to know that you and your family are in our prayers and we will hold you in our heart. Be encouraged and know that God holds her in his arms and peace is her covering. May God bless you all. Marion & Anita Grinston##imported-begin##Marion & Anita Grinston##imported-end##

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December 14, 2008 at 06:40 PM



“ With fond memories of much laughter shared at Nazareth College. You could always count on Edna to lift your spirits. May she know eternal peace.##imported-begin##Sr. Ginny Jones##imported-end##

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December 13, 2008 at 02:30 PM



“ It is with a heavy heart and tearful eyes that I offer my condolences to the family of Edna Russell. Nevertheless, I will celebrate the spirit filled, wonderful life and memories of Edna. Her earthly journey has ended, but oh what a glorious eternal celebration with love ones, friends and family has begun. Until we all are celebrating together on the glorious day, I will miss her earthly presence.##imported-begin##Arthur Wilkerson##imported-end##

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December 13, 2008 at 01:47 PM



“ to the family i am so sorry for your lost and i am praying that god will help you with the pain of your lost . I will never forget edna she will always be sister russell to me. everytime i walked in the church and seen her she would always greet me with a smile and a hug i will trully miss her.##imported-begin##Anna Moore##imported-end##

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December 13, 2008 at 11:21 AM



“ Edna you will be miss.

Melinda##imported-begin##Melinda Rice##imported-end##

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December 13, 2008 at 11:06 AM



“ We will miss you.##imported-begin##Arthur R. James##imported-end##

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December 13, 2008 at 08:49 AM



“ *My dear friend and NS--you know what that means, :-)*

*You know that I love you. We had some good times at FHC, in Hallway 4. We argued together, laughed together, but now, I had to cry by myself. I will always remember you and the lessons that you taught me. We finally learned the lessons that GOD wanted us to learn, and we moved on. We impacted alot of young women in Hallway 4 and I know we saved many babies lives. Be with God now, and the tears are done for me....cause I know you would fuss at me if I keep crying.*

*I know you are with your son, brother, and parents.*

*Thanks for being there for me and I will see you again.*

*Love you,*

*Jere Scott and Family###imported-begin##Jerelyn Scott###imported-end##*

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December 12, 2008 at 06:44 PM