



Mother Pearline Buchanan

October 11, 1931 - April 5, 2011

Mother Pearline Buchanan serenely went home to be with the Lord surrounded by her family in prayer and worship on Tuesday, April 5, 2011. She was born in Senatobia Mississippi on October 11, 1931 the eldest daughter of twelve children born to Deacon James Arthur Smith and Mother Pearlie Ann Smith. Mother Buchanan grew up in West Helena, Arkansas assisting her mother with the care of her younger siblings. Upon graduation from West Helena High School she moved to Chicago to help attend to the needs of her family there. Mother Buchanan had aspirations of one day becoming an Elementary School teacher and attended Nazareth College with that goal in mind.

Saved as a young girl, Mother Buchanan dedicated herself to a sanctified life of prayer and fasting. When she was not helping her family she could often be found in church singing in the choir or working in the kitchen. It was because of church that she met Evangelist John Howard Buchanan, an upcoming preacher on the revival circuit. The two married in 1953 and as a result of this union 5 children were born.

Mother Buchanan was the First Lady of Prayer Garden Church of God in Christ, a little church on Mills St. that became birthplace of many churches, pastors, evangelists, and ministers. The ministry was often doing things new to African American churches during that time such as radio broadcasts,

commercials, and feeding ministries. As First Lady of Prayer Garden Church of God in Christ, Mother Buchanan worked tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure that the work of the ministry went forth. A woman of hospitality Mother Buchanan would often be found preparing meals for visiting preachers, caring for the young children in the church, and ensuring that everyone was taken care of. She purchased Christmas gifts for the entire church every year and held an Annual Breakfast in her home at the start of each year.

Mother Buchanan operated in teaching, intercession, deliverance and administrative gifts. Many souls have been prayed through because of her passionate altar work and delivered by her powerful messages. She has worked in virtually every department and auxiliary in the Church of God in Christ including; Sunshine Band, Purity Class, YWCC, Prayer and Bible Band. Mother Buchanan joined St. James Church of God in Christ in the late seventies and worked tirelessly by the side of her former pastor the late Supt. Levarn Smith Sr. for over 20 years. While at St. James, Mother Buchanan founded the Annual Women's Day celebration. Initially to help with heating expenses during the winter months this 3 day event remains a staple at St. James due largely to Mo. Buchanan's administrative and organizational skills. She was known for her peacemaking ability among those who worked with her in ministry.

Mother Buchanan possessed a strong work ethic which led her to work at Upjohn Nursing Home, Happy Hour Daycare Center and eventually become an entrepreneur. Mother Buchanan opened Home of Refuge Adult Foster Care Home in the eighties while working at Upjohn Nursing Home because of her desire to help others. She cared for the residence of her facility as if they were her own children doing virtually everything herself. Many of the residents affectionately called her "Mama Pearl". Despite never learning to drive, she ran this business up until her retirement in 1995.

Mother Buchanan was preceded in death by her parents, Deacon James and Mother Pearlle Smith; two brothers, Elder Floyd B. Smith, Sr. and Supt. Levarn Smith Sr., a sister, Jeweldean Smith, and one grandson Jermaine Roden.

Mother Buchanan leaves to cherish her memory 5 children, Michael (Linda) Buchanan, Joyce Smith, and Jerome Buchanan all of Kalamazoo, Beverly (Alan) Render of Colorado Springs, CO, and Cinovia (Jerry) Nelson of Grand Rapids; 26 grandchildren 2 of which currently serve in the United States Armed Forces, her beloved God-son Pastor J. Gregory (Chevelta) Smith, 4 brothers, Mayweather (Carol) Smith, Pastor John A. (Catherine) Smith, Minister Melvin (Lula) Smith Sr., all of Kalamazoo, MI, and Carl Edward (Diana) Smith, of Brandy Wine, MD; 4 sisters Florene (Calvin) Roden, Gloria (Irving) Smith, Jean (Willie) Paige and Beverly (Jonathan) Wilson, all of Kalamazoo, MI; 1 aunt, Clarice McConnel, of Memphis, TN; and Abundant Faith Church, Pastor Amere and Lady Kenya May, and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends. She was a lover of the Word of God and the people of God. She lived by her favorite scripture Isaiah 1:19, ?If ye be willing and obedient ye shall eat the good of the land.?

The family requests in lieu of flowers, contributions are made to Rose Arbor Hospice Residence, Alliance Senior Day Care, or the Alzheimer?s Association of Kalamazoo.

Cemetery Details

Mt. Ever-Rest Cemetery

3941 S. Westnedge Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 8. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Progressive Deliverance Ministries Church Of God In Christ
1527 N. Edwards
Kalamazoo, MI

Visitation

APR 9. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

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

Service

APR 9. 12:00 PM (ET)

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

Tribute Wall



“ *Mother Pearlina Buchanan*

October 23, 2023 at 06:06 AM



“ *Mother Pearlina Buchanan*

October 06, 2023 at 10:42 AM



“ *Rubynell Walker-Barbee lit a candle in memory of Mother Pearlina Buchanan*



Rubynell Walker-Barbee - April 09, 2011 at 08:29 AM



“ *I will always remember Mother Pearlina as a dear and kind woman. She always greeted our family with a big smile. I pray that God comfort her brothers and sisters and her children and may her life forever be remembered as blessed by God.*



Marcia Jones - April 07, 2011 at 03:35 PM