



Ms. Ressie M. Brown

September 10, 1933 - January 9, 2014

On Thursday, January 9, 2013, our beloved mother, Ressie Mae Belcher Brown ascended to achieve her final victory through the grace and mercy of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. She is now at peace. The Lord chose to first bless us with her on September 10, 1933 in Schaal AK, the daughter of William Thomas and Willie Mae Belcher. "Rez", the name loving bestowed upon her by her only son, was born into a strong Christian home where she began her relationship with Christ at a very early age. She was established in her first church home at Tabernacle CME where she was baptized. She began her education in the only "colored" school in Schaal, a one-building structure combining all grade levels from kindergarten to 12th grade. She graduated and entered Arkansas AM&N at age 15, intending to become a college professor. After a few short years she took a leave from school, meeting and marrying Clifford Brown, Sr. August 17, 1952 while visiting her sister, Marjorie in Kansas City, MO. Through this union, Pamela, Karen, Susan, Carla and Clifford II were delivered; all born in Kansas City where the couple lived. Ressie worked as executive secretary for the Boys Club and attended Gregg Tabernacle AME Church.

In 1974, the family relocated to Kalamazoo, MI. She was employed at South Central Planning Council as a housing planner, and then became a Home School Interventionist through Kalamazoo Public School while studying for her BA in Education. After obtaining her degree she became an Elementary

School Teacher. She retired from the Kalamazoo Public School system after 20 years. She was very active in her church home, Allen Chapel AME where she was a Sunday School Teacher, Class Leader and YPD Director and in the Missionary Society. Her missionary visit to Haiti deeply affected her worldview and compassion. Ressie believed her moral duty was to serve her community and modeled social justice. She served two terms as president of the board for the Douglass Community Association at the time of the building of the current site. She actively volunteered for the NAACP and the now defunct Black Civic Theatre. She was also a member of the Young Matrons Club at Allen. She was a volunteer and worker for the Democratic Party, volunteering at the KCDP working on Mary Brown's campaigns. She was a member of the Dulcette Club, Saturday Eves Book Club, very active with the NAACP and also a member of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

Rez possessed a truly loving spirit and Christian soul. Her faith gave her the calm, peace and charity to accept the correctness of all the children of God without judgement, and in love.

Preceding her death are: 1 Sister, Inolia Stamps, and her parents, Willie T. and Willie Mae Belcher.

She leaves to cherish her in loving devotion five children, Pamela Goodacre, Susan Clark, and Carla Waller all of Kalamazoo; Karen Brown of New York, New York; and Clifford Brown II of Jacksonville, FL; Son-In-Law, James Goodacre of Kalamazoo; Daughter-In-Law, Lizetta Brown of Jacksonville, FL; 1 Sister, Marjorie Johnson of Kansas City, MO; 3 Brothers, Leon Belcher of Houston, TX; Cave Sterling Belcher of Kansas City, MO, and James Belcher of St. Louis, MO; 2 Sisters-In-Law, Mary Belcher of Houston, TX, Daphne Belcher of St. Louis, MO; Grandchildren: Michael Ramsey and Tameka Ramsey (Granddaughter in Law); Tafari Brown and Brandy Brown (Granddaughter in Law); Tariq Brown, Steven Clark and Jasmine Anderson

(Granddaughter in Law); Silver Clark, Stuart Clark, Timothy Lydale Waller; Nathaniel Waller and Nicole Waller (Granddaughter in Law); Takara Flournoy, Clifford Brown III, and Kai Brown; Great Grandchildren: Zakiya Brown, QuaVeionta Glenn, Michael Ramsey Brown, Avery Pratt, Alexander Pratt, Taya Brown, Jayla Clark, Steven Eric Clark II, Emmanuel Waller, Solomon Waller, Zion Flournoy, Xavier Flournoy, and Olivia Flournoy; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, relatives, extended family and friends.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 17. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Harper Funeral Home - Chapel
521 Douglas Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI

"Ivy Beyond The Wall Ceremony"-presented by Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

JAN 17. 6:30 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Harper Funeral Home - Chapel
521 Douglas Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI

Visitation

JAN 18. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Allen Chapel A.M.E. Church
804 W. North Street
Kalamazoo, MI

A Service in Loving Memory

JAN 18. 3:00 PM (ET)

Allen Chapel A.M.E. Church
804 W. North Street
Kalamazoo, MI

Tribute Wall



“ *Ms. Ressie M. Brown*

October 23, 2023 at 06:06 AM



“ *Ms. Ressie M. Brown*

October 06, 2023 at 10:42 AM



“ *Please accept my condolences for the loss of your dear loved one. Take comfort in knowing that our heavenly creator, Jehovah, will soon remove all pain, sorrow, and death forever! Revelation 21:3,4. May this promise be of comfort as you gain the strength and inner peace to cope with the days ahead, knowing that Jehovah is by your side. Philippians 4:13.*

D. Johnson - January 21, 2014 at 09:59 AM



“ *Dear Family, I am sorry for your loss and wanted to express my sincere condolences. May it comfort you to know that Almighty God Jehovah (Psalm 83:18), promises to "swallow up death forever and wipe the tears from all faces" (Isaiah 25:8). It is my hope that your family draw strength and comfort from these words.*



Neighbor - January 21, 2014 at 05:16 AM

MB

“ I worked with Ressie at the school for pregnant teens at Old Central High School in 1975-76. She was a good friend and worker.

Maggie Bresz - January 20, 2014 at 01:25 PM

CJ

“ Carl H. Jaynes purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Ms. Ressie M. Brown.



Carl H. Jaynes - January 17, 2014 at 08:13 AM



“ Karest Willis-Brown lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ressie M. Brown



Karest Willis-Brown - January 16, 2014 at 04:03 PM

Eraina
Ross-
Aseme

“ Sorry to hear of your loss, Sis. Marjorie Johnson & Sis. Lois Palmer & family. May God give you comfort and peace during this time.

Pastor Eraina M. Aseme, Gregg Tabernacle AME Church, KCMO

Eraina Ross-Aseme - January 16, 2014 at 07:19 AM

FC

“ *Franklin Mc Carroll lit a candle in memory of Ms. Ressie M. Brown*



Franklin mc Carroll - January 15, 2014 at 02:08 PM

FC

May this sorrowful time allow you to reflect upon all the joy that you once shared with your departed loved one.

Franklin mc Carroll - January 15, 2014 at 02:21 PM

IR

“ *To The Brown Family,*

Our prayers are with you during your time of sorrow.

Ida & Frank Robinson



Ida Robinson - January 14, 2014 at 08:15 PM

YM

“ To the Brown Family and My Dearest Friend who is like a sister to Me...Susan Clark, Steven, Silver,Steward you all have my deepest sympathy and condolences in the loss of your Mother/Grandmother. I also called Nana because she was a Nana to us all. I often visited Nana when I lived in Kalamazoo, She was a Beautiful woman, beautiful heart and spirit and she often shared her wisdom and kept us all laughing alot. She will be Missed... RIHeaven Nana Gone But Never Ever Forgotten! Love You All.

Yvonne Moore
Eastpointe, Michigan

Yvonne Moore - January 14, 2014 at 09:04 AM

EC

“ My deepest sympathy and condolences to the Brown family.

Ellen Chapman - January 11, 2014 at 02:41 PM

DI

Im truly sorry to hear about your lost. Ressie will definitely be missed by so many. One thing that helps me deal or cope with losing a loved one is the scripture John 5:28,29. It states, " Do not marvel at this, because the hour is coming in which all those in the memorial tombs will hear his voice and come out, those who did good things to a resurrection of life....." Soon we will be able to see Ressie again because God (Jehovah) promises a resurrection hope. I hope this gives some comfort.

Dion - January 14, 2014 at 06:37 AM