



Ms. Betty L. Ratliff

May 5, 1920 - February 17, 2017

Betty Ratliff (Lovingly known as “Aunty Betty”) began her walk of life on May 5, 1920 in Aberdeen, Mississippi. She was the sixth of nine children born to Elijah and Isabella Dawkins. Her fondest childhood memory was moving into a big, new house at the age of 9.

Betty accepted Christ at an early age at the Leagues Chapel Methodist Church. Betty graduated high school in Aberdeen. In 1950, she moved to Cleveland for better job opportunities in the north where she found work in a nursing home. Betty was a true southern “lady”, the personification of class. She walked with her back straight and her head held high. In 96 years, she lived what most of us will only be able to read about in books.

Betty was married for many decades to Rev. Charles Ratliff, who preceded her in going home. She admired him for his big personality. She and Rev. Ratliff were some of the founding members of their beloved Greater Mt. Ararat Baptist Church. They created the annual church birthday fundraising program that is still active to this day. She was a deaconess, chairman of the culinary ministry and sang in the choir. She loved the Lord.

Betty was employed by Dr. and Mrs. Baron, who became lifelong friends. Betty was a loving and caring quiet person who always greeted you with a smile. Her favorite holiday was Thanksgiving, when she faithfully hosted the family dinner for many years. Betty was an aunt to many, whether related by blood or love and will be greatly missed.

Betty peacefully and quietly went home to the Lord on Friday, Feb. 17, 2017 in

her sleep. She leaves fond and loving memories in the hearts of those who knew and loved her: Nieces-Luvenia Thomas, Linda Fomby, Dorita Clark, Wanda Lowe, Angela Fain, Rhonda Fletcher, Tierra Fulton; Nephews-Curtis Collins, Joe Daniels, Robert Fletcher, Craig Thomas, Ricardo Thomas, Andre Fomby, Jamal Fomby, Rah-Shun Fomby. Stepchildren-James Ratliff, Roy Ratliff, Jerry Ratliff, Shirley Ratliff. Goddaughters-Jenifred Burnett, Rhonda Chapman and Kimberly Burnett and Special Friends-Leon and Rebecca Russell and Ronnie, as well as, other devoted relatives, friends and concerned neighbors.

Cemetery Details

Evergreen Memorial Park

5505 Northfield Rd
Cleveland, OH 44146

Previous Events

Wake

FEB 25. 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

Greater Mt. Ararat Baptist Church
13023 Crennell Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44015

Funeral Service

FEB 25. 10:00 AM - 11:15 AM (ET)

Greater Mt. Ararat Baptist Church
13023 Crennell Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44015