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Funeral, Anderson, 2012-03-24

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Inheriting Her Crown



*Bessie
Anderson*

"May the Work I've Done Speak for Me"

Forever Love · Oraer of Service

Remembering Her Life



Forever Love...



T

Samuel & Bessie Anderson

Celebration of Life

Bessie S. Anderson

SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 2012

Wake 11 AM · Homegoing Service 12 Noon

FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH

402 Clinton Street · Buffalo, NY 14204

Reverend David Lucas

Officiating



ORDER OF SERVICE

- Musical Prelude Robert Bowman, Organist
- Processional Clergy
- Hymn "When We All Get to Heaven"
- Scripture Readings
- Old Testament..... Psalm 9:1-2, 7-10
- New Testament..... John 14:1-8
- Prayer of Comfort
- Hymn "I Am Free"
- Expressions Family & Friends
(Please Limit Remarks to 3 Minutes)
- Poem Jacqueline Norwood (*Daughter*)
 "A Mother's Love is Forever"
- Acknowledgment of Condolences
- Reading of Obituary..... Jalita Norwood (*Granddaughter*)
- Sermonic Selection Mr. Darrell M. Saxon II
 "May the Work I've Done Speak for Me"
- Eulogy Reverend Charles Henderson
- Recessional "Soon and Very Soon"

INTERMENT

Forest Lawn Cemetery - Garden of Time
1411 Delaware Avenue · Buffalo, NY 14209

Forever Love · Order of Service

Remembering Her Life

A Mother's Love Is Forever



*As children we can't comprehend or fully realize
the meaning of our mother's love, how tender and wise.*

*The patience and forgiveness that are part of everyday,
the unexpected "little things" she does in her own way.*

*Years go by before we can look back on life
and see through older eyes and wiser hearts,
her love and loyalty.*

*And yet, it's these and other special things we'll hold so dear,
for memories of her steadfast love will keep her ever near.*

We Love You Mama Forever and Always,

Jackie and William

We love you

A decorative flourish featuring the words "We love you" in a cursive font. The word "We" is significantly larger and more ornate than "love you". The text is surrounded by intricate swirls, small hearts, and delicate lines, creating a soft and affectionate design.



Remembering Her Life



Bessie S. Anderson

January 3, 1927 ~ March 13, 2012

Bessie S. Anderson, 85, of Buffalo, New York, more affectionately known as “Bess,” transitioned from this life to eternity peacefully on March 13, 2012 at Buffalo General Hospital. The youngest daughter of twelve, Bessie was born to the late James and Sarah Nelson on January 3, 1927 in Charlotte, North Carolina. She was educated as a young woman in the Charlotte School System.

When she was eighteen, Bessie left home and moved to New York City for awhile, eventually settling in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. While there, she married and was blessed with two children, a daughter Jacqueline and a son William. Bessie later divorced and moved to Buffalo, New York with her children. She was a vibrant, young mother who was determined to make a life for herself and family. Her goals were to establish a home and secure a career, and she did just that. Beginning in 1964, Bess worked at Roswell Park Cancer Institute for twenty-five years until her retirement in 1989. Trained by the director who was her mentor, Dr. Pagan, she held the position as the only Head Laboratory Research Assistant. Bess learned quickly and worked closely with fellow doctors to perform experiments in efforts to discover cures for cancer. Her service and dedication were invaluable to them. She loved her job and was proud of her commitment.

Also in Buffalo, Bessie met and married her devoted husband of 31 years, Samuel Anderson. Together they shared a very special bond and lived a very good life. Sam had a special love for his beloved “Bess.” She was his “first lady” and meant the world to him forever more.

Growing older did not stop Bessie. Quietly, she went about her business of caring without fail for those who needed her assistance the most. She always loved young people and especially the elderly in the family, church and community. She took care of several individuals. Mary Murray was one of the recipients of Bess’ care. Bess affectionately looked after Mary, who was mentally disabled, like a daughter. Bess provided a means for Mary to attend and become a member of Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, handled her business affairs, and monitored Mary’s care and progression in her group home. Bess also cared for Alberta Skinner for over 20 years, a neighbor who lived across the street from her house. She attended to all matters in handling her business affairs as well as giving her lots of care, food and comfort. In addition, she simultaneously attended to and handled business affairs for her three older siblings, Nathaniel Nelson and Lucille Nelson, now both deceased, and Willie Mae Branch, 95, who currently resides in Charlotte, North Carolina. Bess loved doing and being of service - that was her “mission” in life. She was a giver and did it from the heart.

Bessie always stayed involved in her community. She served on several committees for the improvement of her neighborhood, shared her ideas and expressed any concerns of

Bessie Shall Live ...



*“Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life:
he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live.”*

JOHN 11:25

her neighbors that needed help or services from her district. As a result of her many years of service, in the year 2000, she was nominated for and was awarded as the first African-American woman to receive the Burt Flickinger Caregiver Award in the Greater Buffalo Area for outstanding service in caring for the elderly in her family and community. As a senior citizen herself, it made her even more amazing. Bessie cherished this recognition in which she truly deserved.

Bessie's greatest joy was serving the Lord. At a very early age, she gave her life to the Lord and became a devoted Christian woman, wife and mother. As a faithful, active member of Friendship Missionary Baptist Church of Buffalo, New York for more than thirty years, she served in various roles. She was a Sunday School Teacher, Treasurer of the Deaconess Ministry (serving with her husband Samuel Anderson as a Deacon), a member of the United Choir and the A.C. Ware Angelic Choir where she loved to sing, a Youth Advisor and served with the Missionary Ministry. She also enjoyed helping to raise funds and contributing to church projects and programs whenever she could.

Throughout her life, Bessie enjoyed her husband, children, family, friends, travel, music, dance and a special love for shopping. She loved clothes and fashion and always dressed and looked her best wherever she went. Bessie was known for her “unique” style.

As her health declined, especially in the last four years, Bessie was able to be cared for in her home. She was well cared for by her son, William, who faithfully devoted his time, energy, love and support. Nothing was too good for “Mama.” She was so sweet, thankful, and proud and knew that she was blessed.

There will never be another “Bess,” who gave all of herself without reservation. Whomever she encountered in life was touched by her warmth and generous, caring spirit. She will be missed by hundreds of people who knew her face, if not her name, and the joy she brought. She should best be remembered for her keen wit, intelligence, strength, loyalty and sense of humor. You could not be around her long before she made you laugh because she knew how to have fun. Her life was well spent doing the Lord's work and she will be remembered as a loving and compassionate mother, wife, sister, grandmother, aunt, and friend to all who knew her well.

Bessie leaves behind a loving family to mourn her passing: her husband Samuel Anderson, of Buffalo, New York; two adult children: Jacqueline Norwood of Charlotte, North Carolina and William H. Nelson of Buffalo, New York; three grandchildren: Jalita Norwood of Charlotte, North Carolina and Ionest Nelson and Keora Staley, both of Buffalo, New York; three great-grandchildren, and a host of nieces, nephews, relatives, and life-long friends including Ms. Estelle Rias, Mrs. Rhonda Thompson, and Mrs. Mable Billups, as well as several god daughters and sons.



Always in Our Hearts...



A Mother's Love is Forever · Always in Our Hearts