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*Homegoing Celebration
for
Mother Alma C. Bryant*



Sunrise-May 3, 1919



Sunset-August 11, 2016

Saturday, August 20, 2016

Visitation 11:00 AM Celebration Service 12:00 Noon

*Hopewell Baptist Church
1301 Fillmore Avenue Buffalo, NY 14211
Rev. Dr. Dennis Lee, Jr., Pastor
Rev. Raymond Pugh, Officiating*



*Celebrating the Life of
Mother Alma C. Bryant
May 3, 1919~August 11, 2016*

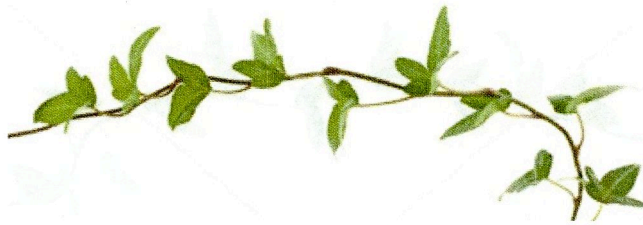
Alma C. Bryant was born May 3, 1919 in Raymond, MS to the late Albert and Ellen Chambers. She was the youngest of six children.

Mother Bryant learned early how hard life could be. Her mother died when she was just five years old and she only went as far as the fifth grade in school. Sometimes the family didn't have meat to eat. But rather than getting the best of her, these difficult circumstances helped her to understand and appreciate the value of hard work. Throughout life she earned her living as a domestic day worker. Ten years before she retired, her daughter Micki got her a job as an aide at the Erie County Detention Home on E. Ferry Street in Buffalo. When asked why she looked so much younger than her 97 years she would say it was because of hard work.

Alma's eldest daughter Cyrilann (Micki) moved to Buffalo, NY in 1955, served as a musician at several churches and became a member of Walls Memorial AMEZ Church in 1970. Alma and two daughters Robbie and Bobbie came to Buffalo in 1961 and united with the Hopewell Baptist Church under the leadership of the founder, Pastor John F. D. Lyles at 1098 Michigan Avenue. Sometime after that, Alma got a live-in job with the Thomas Buscaglia family who built the Top Supermarket chain. That employment led to a lifelong relationship and at the time of her passing she was still like family to the Buscaglia children, Tony and his wife Rose of Grand Island, NY and Louise of Ocala, FL.

Everyone who knew Mother Bryant knew that she was famous for her hospitality, generosity and GOOD COOKING, especially pound cakes, homemade rolls and collard greens! She loved life through loving people and lived life to the fullest by her continuous and unflinching service to the Lord. She also had a love for beauty and creativity and was an avid gardener.

Mother Alma C. Bryant was preceded in death by her parents, husbands, siblings: John Chambers, Willie Mae Harris, Robert Chambers, Essie Harris and Edna Sanders and daughter, Bobbie Bryant. She leaves to cherish precious memories two daughters, Cyrilann "Micki" (Walter) Clark and Robbie Wildman; grandchildren Tony (Von) Veal, Denise (Brian) Robinson, Charles (Angie) Hunt and Eric Bernard (Sheila) Hunt; great-grandchildren Ezna, Jeff, Eden, Jazz, Jada and Eric, Jr. and host of nieces, nephews, friends, neighbors and her church family.



Reflections from Your Daughters

When a face that was so dear
Is no longer here
And a voice that was loved is hushed
It seems that time went by too quickly and you and your things were too rushed.

Such was the passing of our beloved Mother Bryant. In meeting life's challenges she was a true example of Philippians 4:13. She pressed toward mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. She was ready to go to her Heavenly Home. She even said "I'm going home Thursday." So on Thursday, August 11, 2016 at 1:02 PM at the Buffalo General Hospital, the Supreme Architect of the universe called her name and said "Well done thou good and faithful servant, enter now into your rest."

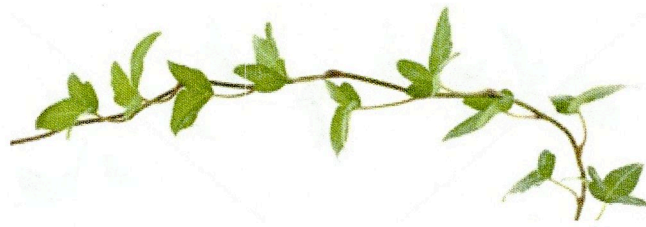
Rest in Peace Mother
With love from Micki and Robbie



Robbie

Micki

Bobbie



Order of Service

Final Viewing and Sealing of the Bier

Selection Hopewell Baptist Church Senior Choir and Male Chorus

Scripture Readings Rev. Loretta Brooks, Pastor
Walls Memorial AMEZ Church

Old Testament Psalm 91

New Testament John 14:1-6

Solo "Take Me to the King" Sis. Yolanda Wyatt

Prayer of Comfort

Selection "The Last Mile of the Way" Hopewell Male Chorus

Acknowledgements and Resolutions Deaconess Annie Hooks

Reading of the Obituary Sis. Karen Davis

Solo Dea. Darrell Saxon

Eulogy Rev. Raymond Pugh

Hopewell Baptist Church

Parting Words Daughter, Micki Clark

Recessional—Song of Farewell

PLEASE JOIN THE FAMILY FOR A REPAST IN THE HOPEWELL ANNEX
FOLLOWING THE INTERMENT

Acknowledgement

We do not know what lies ahead, but knowing that someone is standing by with love and understanding inspires us and fills us with needed confidence in God's love and in our ability to handle whatever is before us through faith.

The Bryant Family would like to thank you for your prayers, flowers, cards, food and all acts of kindness and thoughtfulness. Special thanks to Pastor Lee, the Hopewell Baptist Church Family, the Landon Street Block Club, Karen Davis and Deacon Darrell Saxon of the Thomas T. Edwards Funeral Home.



Notice of Change of Address

Dear Denise,

I know you wanted me to live to be 100, but please be advised that I have moved. On Thursday, August 11, 2016 I received a call from God, the Chief Architect. He informed me that my new home was ready and I could move in. It is in a beautiful estate with a pearly gate entrance. It is located on the far side of the peaceful heavenly shore. I loved my life in Buffalo, but this new home is much better than any place I could have dreamed of. Here every day is Sunday and life is filled with peace, joy and happiness. There is no pain, no strife, no discontent. Only sweet serenity. My eyes are clear again to enjoy all the beauty that surrounds me, to see my God in all His glory. My legs are strong once again, I can breathe on my own, no more chest pains and my blood pressure is where it should be! I can walk and talk with my Lord about my family and friends without worry or care. I can dine at His bountiful table and sing with the heavenly choir as my hearing is restored and crystal clear. I could go on and on about my new place, but instead I'm going to pray that you and all the family will be able to move here someday. I must go as I'm on my way to see my Mom and Dad, my brothers and sisters and Bobbie and so many old friends. But before I go, let me give you my new address:

ALMA C. BRYANT
777 KINGS HIGHWAY, APT. 316
PERFECT KINGDOM, HEAVEN 12345

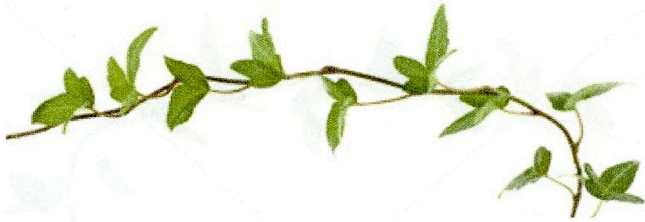
P.S. I'm sorry I don't have a telephone, cell phone, e-mail address, Facebook page or Twitter or Instagram account, but you can always call on God. If you don't know how to reach Him, look in your Bible. There are specific instructions throughout the Book.

Love you,
Grandma

Reflection from a Friend

Friendship is one of the greatest blessings we can receive and there is nothing better than having a good laugh with a friend. Mother Bryant and I would experience this every time we saw each other. I would say to her, "You sure do look good today. You're taking such good care of Robbie!" And a big grin would break out on that beautiful face of hers and we would share a hearty chuckle. I am truly going to miss that.

--Thelma Macklin



What's In a Name?

Admirable

Loving

Memorable

Affectionate

Caring

Beautiful (inside and out)

Righteous

Young at heart

Ageless

Noble

Timeless

To My Daughters, Micki and Robbie

May I Go?

May I go now? Don't you think the time is right?

May I say goodbye to pain-filled days and endless lonely nights?

I've lived my life and done my best, an example I've tried to be.

So can I take that step beyond and set my spirit free?

I didn't want to go at first, I fought with all my might!

But something seems to draw me now to a warm and loving light.

I want to go! I really do! It's difficult to stay,

But I will try as best I can to live just one more day—

To give you time to care for me and share your love and fears.

I know you're sad and are afraid because I see your tears.

I'll not be far, I promise that, and I hope you'll always know

That my spirit will be close to you wherever you may go.

Thank you so for loving me. You know I love you too.

That's why it's hard to say goodbye and end this life with you.

So hold me now, just one more time and let me hear you say

Because you care so much for me, you'll let me go today.



Recipe for Life from One of the Best Cooks Ever

2 cups of good thoughts

1 cup of kind deeds

1 cup of consideration

2 cups of sacrifice

3 cups of forgiveness

3 cups of faults, well-beaten

Mix above ingredients thoroughly. Add tears of joy, sorrow and sympathy for others. Fold in 7 cups of prayer and add a mustard seed of faith. Sprinkle on lots of love. Spread over a lifetime. Serve heaping helpings to everyone.

Mother Bryant Was a Mother to Many The world needs more women like her

1. Motherhood is more than bearing children. It is the essence of who we are as women.
2. The essence of our labor is to do the Lord's will.
3. Each of us has an overarching obligation to model righteous womanhood because some of our girls and young women may not see it anywhere else.
4. Few of us will reach our full potential without the nurturing of both the mother who bore us and the mother who bore with us.
5. If you really want to make a difference, look around. Who needs you and your influence?





Pallbearers

The Male Chorus of Hopewell Baptist Church

Interment

St. Matthew's Cemetery
2644 Clinton Street
West Seneca, NY 14224

Auspices

Thomas T. Edwards Funeral Home, Inc.
995 Genesee Street
Buffalo, NY 14211



Thoughts About My "Grandma"

Mother Alma Bryant was my Grandma. I did not come through her bloodline, but from the first day we met she's been my Grandma in every way. Both of my biological grandmothers passed away before I could even speak so this is why Mother Bryant "adopted" me.

Grandma shared her wisdom, Godly knowledge and at times her home with me. She was always interested in all my plans and wasn't afraid to tell me "Girl that's just stupid!!", then give me some better options. She comforted me and helped me through some of my most difficult days. We shared recipes and sang together. It was always a pleasure to see her. She loved my voice. I loved her smile. But most of all, we loved each other.

Grandma taught me well. It was an honor to know a woman of such noble character.

I used to ask her, "Grandma how long have you been saved?" She'd reply, "As long as I can remember." Then I'd say "Maybe you've been saved since birth!!" And she would laugh so hard!

I pray that I will become like her. I miss her. I know I will think of her fondly. I know she is no longer suffering. She's with God because she completed her work well. She can rest in paradise now.

Thank you to the biological family of Grandma Alma Bryant for sharing her with me.

--Yolanda Wyatt