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Obituary; 2008-05-23; Holley, Ruth Laura

Bethel A.M.E. Church

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IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Ruth Laura Holley



January 18, 1919

May 23, 2008

*If we love one another, God lives in
Us, and his love is perfected in us.
1 John 4:12*

**SERVICE
FRIDAY, MAY 30, 2008
1 P.M.
BETHEL A.M.E. CHURCH
1525 MICHIGAN AVENUE
BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14209
REVEREND RICHARD ALLEN STENHOUSE, PRESIDING**

Ruth L. Holley Biography

Ruth Laura Benner was born in St. Paul, Minnesota on January 18, 1919. She was the third child of Cornelius Benner and Mattie Adams Benner. She was the first girl of seven children, with two sisters and four brothers. She is survived by her sister, LaVerne of Minneapolis, Minnesota. Ruth attended school in St. Paul, and graduated from Central High School in 1937. She was a member of Saint James A.M.E. church, where she served the Sunday School Department as pianist, and was a member of the Missionary Society with her sisters. She married Daniel Alexander Holley on August 6, 1944 at Saint James A.M.E. Church in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Ruth and Daniel resided in Buffalo, New York and were married for 52 years at the time of his death in 1996. They had three children, Dannye, Kenneth, and Cheryl. She also raised her nephew Teddy and later his daughter Shannon. Ruth and Daniel's children married, Joyce Higgins, Sharon Jordan, and Robert James respectively. She cherished her nine grand children, Ayanna James-Jones, Danielle Holley Walker, Kenan Harris-Holley, Anika James-Garner, Nzinga Holley-Harris, Quentin Holley, Jamaal James, Asantewa Holley, and Makeda Holley. Her motherly love also extended to her nieces Linda and Carmita and her nephew, Carl and her great nieces and nephews Rashaad, Robert, and Mynishia Holley and Destiny Lane. In addition she is survived by eight great-grandchildren, and more than two score of nieces, nephews, and great nieces and nephews.

Ruth joined Bethel A.M.E. church in 1944 under Rev. D. Ormande Walker. She was a devoted member for sixty-four years. Ruth served the church as Chairperson of the Dorcas Missionary Society, a member of the Laymen's Organization, King's Daughters, Stewardess Board #2, and the Georgia Club. She also volunteered as a driver of the church van.

Ruth also served as a member and Regional President of The Empire State Federation of Women's Clubs, Inc. She was awarded a Life Membership Pin of the P.T.A, and served on the P.T.A. Advisory Board. She was past President and lifetime member of the Lit Mus Study Club. Ruth also served on the Head Start Policy Council. She also broke racial barriers as a secretary in the legal department of the Erie County Attorney's Office for seventeen years.

Order of Services

PRELUDE - It is Well With My Soul #448

OPENING SENTENCES - Clergy

HYMN - "Precious Lord" #393

PRAYER OF COMFORT - Clergy

SCRIPTURE

Old Testament - Proverbs 3:5-6; Job 11:17-18

New Testament - Revelations 21:4 and 22:5

RESOLUTION

REMARKS - Family & Friends

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

READING OF OBITURARY

SELECTION - "Old Rugged Cross" #143

EULOGY - Rev. Richard Stenhouse

RECESSIONAL - "Soon & Very Soon"

INTERMENT

Brian K. Lewis Funeral Home
1275 Sycamore Street
Buffalo, New York 14211

Children's Tribute



Thank you Mom for your sacrificial love.

Thank you Mom for opening the door to the church, a life in the spirit, and a love of the Lord. Thank you Mom for being the heart of our family, the epitome of unconditional love, who kept the generations of our family together with your generosity, prayers, and compassion. Through trials and triumphs you persevered and we prospered from your presence in our lives. You gave special meaning and purpose to all our family moments.

Thank you Mom for Everything.

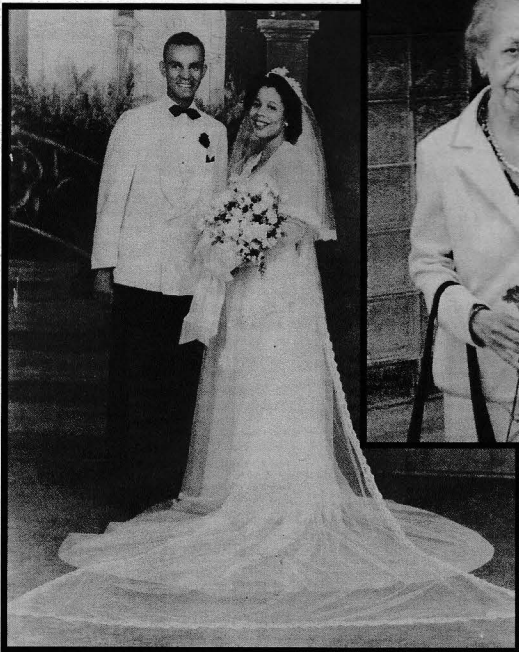
Thank you Lord for our Mom.

Portraits of Ruth...

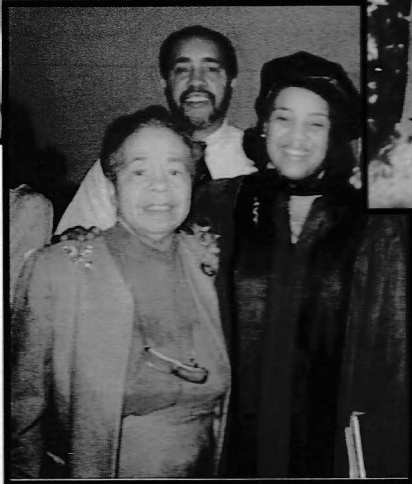
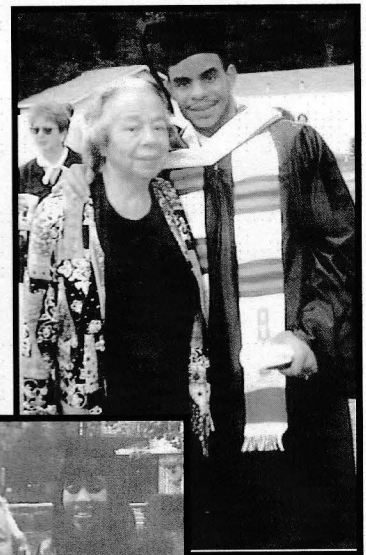
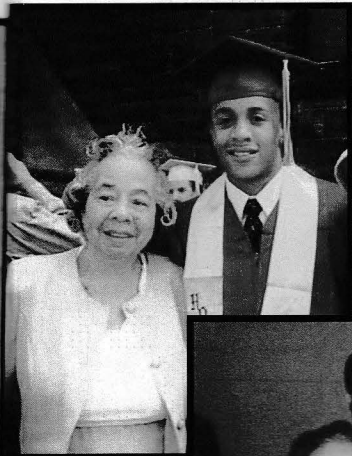
Woman of Great Laughter...



Woman of Great Love.



Guiding light to many...



Mother to all.



For Grandma

Dear Grandma,
Memories of you will always flood minds
Remembering all the great times
Like just the thought of you wiping away tears and all the years
That we were able to say that we were honored
Just to be in your presence
Some of my greatest advice came from you
As we sat in the kitchen talking, laughing and playing
The many games and jokes that showed your beautiful smile
I remember getting in trouble and running to your arms
Or you sneaking me candy as we went to church
You taught me that a lady always dresses to the nines
And shoes are what make the outfit
When a man was wrong for me you undoubtedly pointed him out
And the ones that were cute you made sure to say something
Basically this is a poem to say thank you
Just for being you and being in my life
Your lessons will live on in the hearts of all that knew you
Thank you Grandma-I will always love you!!!
Makeda Holley

Pallbearers

Kenan Harris-Holley
Jamaal James
Rashaad Holley

Quentin Holley
Jason Jones
Robert Holley

Final Arrangements

Brian K. Lewis Funeral Homes
1275 Sycamore St., Buffalo, N.Y. 14211
(716) 892-0067

Repast at Bethel A.M.E following the burial

Acknowledgements

Thank you to all of our family and friends who have helped to celebrate the life and accomplishments of our beloved mother and grandmother.

- The Family