

HOMEGOING CELEBRATION
FOR



Bernice Beatrice Kennedy
"Niecey"

Sunrise
April 5, 1929

Sunset
August 3, 2008

Saturday, August 9, 2008 at 1:00pm

Rock Babylon Baptist Church
Dixon Mills, Alabama

Reverend Pauley, Pastor
Reverend Joseph Harper, Officiant

Obituary



Bernice Beatrice Kennedy was the eleventh child born to the late Cluggard and Margaret Kennedy on April 5, 1929 in Sunny South, Alabama. She accepted Christ at an early age and joined Clay Hill Baptist Church.

She attended Clay Hill School, Linden Academy and graduated from Marengo High School in 1948. After graduating from high school, she moved to Chicago, Illinois. Bemice found employment at a dress factory where she acquired the talent of being a seamstress. While she was in Chicago pursuing her career, she met a friend and they were married. She enjoyed working as a seamstress.

After approximately 15 years in Chicago, her parents' health began to fail and she saw the need to move back home to care for her parents. When she moved back, she united with Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Pine Hill, Alabama where she served as an usher.

Bernice enjoyed helping others; not only did she care for her parents, she was a caregiver for many people in the community. Many cousins and other relatives were blessed by her willingness to help the sick. She gave freely of herself; never charging anyone to assist them in any way possible.

Her brother, Donnie, was her confidante and friend. After his death, her health began to fail. She could no longer live at the homestead in Vineland alone. She moved to assisted living facilities in Thomasville, later moving in with her sister and later became a resident at Marengo County Nursing Home, Linden, Alabama. Her sister, Juanita and niece, Darlene, saw the opportunity in May '07 to move her to Jeff Davis Extended Care Facility in Prentiss, Mississippi to be close to family.

On Sunday, August 3, 2008 after battling many illnesses at approximately 8:15 a.m. with her niece, Dedra at her side, she gave in to the battle.

She was preceded in death by five brothers: B.B., Grover, Horace, Donnie and Jack Kennedy; and four sisters: Lena Williams, Lula Patton, Essie Davis and Geraldine Boyd in May '08.

Her survivors are four sisters: Ruby K. Johnson of Prentiss, Mississippi, Ruth (Cottrell) Brackett of San Antonio, Texas, Yvonne (James) Harris of Montgomery, Alabama and Juanita K. Marshall of Atlanta, Georgia; one brother, Fredrick (Betty) Kennedy, Sr. of Thomasville, Alabama; many nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.

"I have fought a good fight. I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day..."

II Timothy 4:7-8

“Auntee Niecy” Because Of You

*Because of you,
The world is a much nicer place.*

*Because of you,
I have faith in the human race.*

*Because of you,
I know what it means to love
unconditionally.*

*Because of you,
I know what it means to give
unselfishly.*

*Because of you,
I believe in magic and mystery
and worlds unseen.*

*Because of you,
There is joy - wherever you are
and have ever been.*

And all because of you!

© Faye Kilday 2003

Order of Service

Mistress of Ceremony ~ Terazita Stutts, *great niece*

Processional

Song..... *“What A Friend We Have In Jesus”*

Scripture and Prayer Rev. Edward Mosely

Song..... *“Precious Lord”*

Expressions:

As a Classmate Alfonso Hildreth

As a Sister Juanita Marshall

“As We Knew Auntee Niicy” Nieces and Nephews

Acknowledgments Katherine Pennix, *niece*

Obituary Read Silently

Song..... *“God Will Take Care of You”*

Eulogy..... Rev. Joseph Harper, *cousin*

Recessional

The Dash

*I read of a man who stood to speak
At the funeral of a friend
He referred to the dates on her tombstone
From the beginning to the end.*

*He noted that first came her date of her birth
And spoke the following date with tears,
But he said what mattered most of all
Was the dash between those years.*

*For that dash represents all the time
That she spent alive on earth.
And now only those who loved her
Know what that little line is worth.*

*For it matters not how much we own;
The cars, the house, the cash,
What matters is how we live and love
And how we spend our dash.*

*So think about this long and hard.
Are there things you'd like to change?
For you never know how much time is left,
That can still be rearranged.*

*If we could just slow down enough
To consider what's true and real
And always try to understand
The way other people feel*

*And be less quick to anger
And show appreciation more
And love the people in our lives
Like we've never loved before.*

*If we treat each other with respect.
And more often wear a smile
Remembering that this special dash
Might only last a little while*

*So, when your eulogy is being read
With your life's actions to rehash
Would you be proud of the things they say
About how you spent your dash?*

Linda Ellis





Acknowledgements

*Perhaps you sent a lovely card or sat quietly in a chair;
Perhaps you passed by our home and whispered a small prayer;
Perhaps you sent a floral piece, if so, we saw it there;
Perhaps you spoke the kindest words as any friend could say;
Perhaps you were not there at all, just thought of us that day;
Whatever you did to console our hearts,
We thank you so, whatever the part.*

Active Pallbearers

*Fredrick Kennedy, Jr.
Thomas Harris*

*John F. K. Johnson
Leroy Boyd*

Maurice Davis

Flower Bearers

Nieces

Interment

*Airmount Cemetery
Thomasville, Alabama*

Repast

*Rock Babylon Baptist Church
Dixon Mills, Alabama*

**Services Entrusted To:
Johnson Funeral Home, Inc.**

1112 Fred Street
Prentiss, MS 39474
601-792-5629

 **SACRED
MEMORIES™**
MEMORIAL & SPECIAL EVENT PRINTING
1-866-972-2733 OR 601-352-5050
WWW.SACREDMEMORIESLLC.COM
"LIFE HAS MEANING...TREASURE IT"