



*Active Pallbearers*

NEPHEWS

Carl Williams | Kelek Williams | Kenneth Jones  
Kelvin Jones | Derek Howard | Darrell Johnson

*Flower Bearers*

Nieces and Friends



*The Broken Chain*

- AUTHOR UNKNOWN -

*We little knew that morning, God was going to call your name;*

*In life we loved you dearly, in death, we do the same.*

*It broke our hearts to lose you, you did not go alone;*

*For part of us went with you, the day God called you home.*

*You left us beautiful memories, your love is still our guide;*

*And although we cannot see you, you are always at our side.*

*Our family chain is broken, and nothing seems the same;*

*But as God calls us one by one, the chain will link again.*



*Acknowledgements*

We, the family, wish to thank you for your words and acts of kindness during our time of bereavement. Special thanks to Dr. Charlton J. Pickett and his nurse, Brenda of Augusta University Family Medicine Associates, Dr. Igor Stojanov, Dr. A. Daniel Duggan and the staff of Heartland Hospice. - The Family

*Williams Funeral Home, Inc.*

2945 Old Tobacco Rd. | Hephzibah, GA | 706.792.1003  
1765 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. | Augusta, GA | 706.722.5551

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A CELEBRATION OF LIFE

*Bessie Lou Steed*

NOVEMBER 6, 1941 - AUGUST 2, 2018



Saturday, August 11, 2018

2:00 P.M.

MOUNT SINAI BAPTIST CHURCH  
2127 Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard  
Augusta, Georgia



Reverend Larry Carter, Pastor - Presiding  
Elder Daniel Gant, Officiating

THE LIFE OF

Mrs. Bessie Lou Steed

BESSIE LOU STEED was born on November 6, 1941, in Augusta, Georgia. She was the third of twelve children born to Reverend Ned and Mary Howard. As the oldest girl, she helped her mother care for the majority of her younger siblings.

She graduated from Lucy Craft Laney High School in 1960. In 1961, she married her high school sweetheart, the late Leroy Moses Steed (1998); they decided to move to Queens, New York to start their lives together, and from that union, they had two children. She was employed for twenty years with the United States Postal Service as a clerk, retiring in 1992.

At an early age, she joined Mason Chapel Church of God in Christ and accepted Jesus as her Savior. After moving to New York she united with the Mt. Calvary Church of God in Christ, where she was a faithful member and served as Sunday School Superintendent for many years. After retirement, she and her husband moved back to their hometown of Augusta, Georgia to enjoy their golden years. She was an active and faithful member of Mason Chapel C.O.G.I.C. until her health failed. There she served as a missionary, adult class Sunday school teacher, taught Tuesday night Bible Band, served as the church treasurer, and as a trustee. She was a true prayer warrior, possessed strong faith, and was a true example of godliness to all those she came in contact with. She will be greatly missed.

She was preceded in death by her parents, and brothers, Ned Wilson Howard, Robert Howard and Willie Herbert Howard.

Those left to cherish her memories are: daughter, Beverly Steed (Rev. Larry) Carter of Hephzibah, GA; son, Leroy M. (Oneisha) Steed of Augusta, GA; sisters, Mary (Elder Thomas) Williams, Margaret (Elder William) Beasley, both of Hephzibah, GA, Susie (Dea. John) Jones of Augusta, GA and Thelma (Robert) Flono of Stockbridge, GA; brothers, Bishop Myles (Tina) Howard, Richard Howard, both of New York, NY, Moses (Anita) Howard of Grovetown, GA and Wallace (Sheila) Howard of Indianapolis, IN; sisters-in-law, Emma Howard, Martha Howard, Danette Daggett, all of Augusta, GA and Richardine Holmes of Atlanta, GA; grandchildren, Sean Justin Steed, Cameron Jay Steed of Augusta, GA, Larry Lorenzo Carter and Gabriella Bernice Carter of Hephzibah, GA; special niece and caregiver Evadne Ford of Augusta, GA; godson, Brian Harris of Augusta, GA; and a host of nieces, nephews and friends.

A TRIBUTE TO MY MOTHER

Bessie Lou Howard Steed

Proverbs 21:10 talks about a virtuous woman. In fact, it asks who can find one? I can say I was raised by one. My mother has been the most sanctified and holy person I have ever met. She raised me to know about God and His Son Jesus, not just by taking me to church 3-4 times a week but also by living a godly life at home.

I can remember having daily prayer with her in the boiler room in the basement of our house in New York. I can remember her singing spiritual songs. I can remember a person that I have yet to hear utter a profanity, see drinking an alcoholic beverage or see smoking a cigarette. Sounds unbelievable, doesn't it? I kind of resented it growing up because I felt she was PERFECT and couldn't understand how normal people felt because she was so Jesus oriented. It wasn't like her life was perfect. My dad, God rest his soul, was SOMETHING ELSE. When I was little he used to drink and come home with a lot of foolishness. But I never heard her cuss him out or even talk nasty to him. I know she used to pray for him all the time that he would get saved and he eventually did. I used to wonder why she would put up with him and his mess but I guess she just put him in God's hands and did what she had to do.

My mom was always very strict, as you can imagine any deeply saved, sanctified and Holy Ghost filled woman would be. She wouldn't let me go over people's houses to spend the night or even play outside with the neighborhood children much. At the time I hated it, but now knowing what I know and being a mother myself I can understand it. While a lot of my peers are now dealing with the childhood traumas of being molested, raped, or physically abused I can say my mama MADE SURE that didn't happen to me. I didn't have the opportunity or desire to try drugs because of her. I also didn't have the opportunity to become a teenage mother. (I became an older mom just like her! HA-HA)

She was a strict disciplinarian. She handled all the whoopings and I greatly feared her as she would go off on you if you tried to grab the belt or switch (which is a normal reaction). She also didn't like a lot of sass which, unfortunately, I was full of. That is until she started popping me in the mouth.

Things are the things I have learned from listening to my mother: (1) To love and serve the Lord, (2) To love and protect my family and, (3) To live a life God would be pleased with (HOLY). These are the things I have learned by watching my mother: (1) How to pray, (2) How to handle adversity, (3) How to deal with marital conflict, (4) How to raise a child to know God, (5) How to give God what belongs to Him (10%) and, (6) How to trust God for healing.

In closing, I'd like to say that nobody could have had a better example to follow (excluding Jesus himself) than I did. My mother, Bessie was and is the rock of our family. Why? Because she has always put her trust in God and He has always taken care of her and she, in turn, took care of us. I love you, mom.

Your Firstborn, Beverly Ann

Order of Celebration

Processional

Scriptures

Old Testament ..... Elder William Beasley  
PASTOR, WOODS CHAPEL C.O.G.I.C.

New Testament ..... Elder Thomas Williams  
PASTOR, POWERHOUSE C.O.G.I.C.

Prayer ..... Reverend Larry Carter

Selection ..... Anointing  
MASON CHAPEL C.O.G.I.C.

Poem ..... Mother Pat Doyle  
MASON CHAPEL C.O.G.I.C.

Obituary ..... Read Silently

Selection ..... Anointing

Reflections ..... Mrs. Inoris Grant

Acknowledgements ..... Dr. Kandra Watson  
NIECE

Solo ..... Evangelist Joyceland McCaster  
MASON CHAPEL C.O.G.I.C.  
"Pass Me Not"

Eulogy..... Elder Daniel Gant  
PASTOR, MASON CHAPEL C.O.G.I.C.

Recessional ..... "Forever"  
by Jason Nelson

Interment ..... Mt. Olive Memorial Gardens  
3666 DEANS BRIDGE ROAD | HEPHZIBAH, GEORGIA



- REPAST -  
Mt. Sinai Baptist Church Fellowship Hall