

HOMEGOING CELEBRATION

IN LOVING MEMORY
109 YEARS OF LIFE



*Matriarch[™] Mable Virgin
Hurd-Henson*

Sunrise: December 8, 1911 Sunset: April 25, 2021

FRIDAY, MAY 7, 2021
VIEWING: 9:00AM-11:00AM
MASS SERVICE: 11:00AM
HOLY COMFORTER-SAINT CYPRIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
1357 EAST CAPITOL STREET, SE
WASHINGTON, DC 20003
REVEREND MONSIGNOR CHARLES POPE, PASTOR

OBITUARY

MABLE VIRGIN HURD-HENSON at the age of 109, on the morning of Sunday, April 25, 2021 she departed peacefully in her sleep from this Earthly life while under the loving care of her Goddaughter/great niece, Laverne, that she affectionately called, "Puddin'.". She was born on Friday, December 8, 1911 in Pomfret, Charles County, Maryland to the late William "Willie" Hurd and Martha Chase-Hurd. She was the 10th of their 17 beloved children. Mable was preceded in death by all 16 of her Siblings: Brothers - John Magruder Hurd, (Twins who passed away as infants "Ralph Hurd and Theodore Hurd"), Joseph Hurd, Paul Hurd, Samuel Hurd, Oscar Hurd, (Twins who were still born births "Not Named"), and Edmund Hurd; Sisters - Mary Mildred Hurd-Washington, Annise Margaret Hurd-Yates, Mattiel Hurd, Ella Hurd-Butler, Sarah Elizabeth Hurd, and Martha Hurd-Campbell.

In 1932 Mable Hurd joined in holy matrimony the late Lemuel Henson a Laundromat/Dry Cleaner owner in Washington, DC. They remained married until his passing. There were no children born to this union.

Aunt Mable attended a one building school house that went to the 6th grade. Yet she continued to develop and gain a wealth of knowledge that she gave freely. Her jobs included working at a local, laundry-room, in the housekeeping department at Providence Hospital and Days work until she retired in her mid-70's from two as she described as very kind families that often gave her gifts in addition to her salary. The Griver's and the Markowitz. Even with her meager earning, Aunt Mable has literally sheltered more than 25 family members and friends, in their times of housing needs. She always was a cheerful giver, sharing all she had, and no one - absolutely, no one, entered her home without her trying to feed them, asking them to stay overnight or departing without her placing a piece of paper money in their hand.

Aunt Mable would often wow us with stories of her parents and how affectionate, kind, loving, hard-working, and church-going they were; she spoke of how the Hungerford's (the white family they shared their land with) and some of their friends would often proposition or offer her parents money to take and raise her and some of her siblings but her father and mother "stood firm, saying NO," and never gave away or sold any of their children. They raised all 13 into adulthood. Saying how she witnessed and learned first-hand by watching her hard working parents perform tasks to keep their large family together and living under the same roof. She said she often helped with chores once the older siblings had moved to DC, New York, and New Jersey, respectively, for better work and to find what the family called "suitable husbands for the girls, and wives for the boys, that had to be approved by both parents and the other siblings.

Aunt Mable described their house on the farm they lived in, as having three portable toilets outside; sounding like a "Daddy's Girl" spoke of her father building all of their furniture by hand, tables, chairs, beds – you name it he did it! She said he also tilled the farm they owned. She spoke of how they raised and sold chickens, had cows, grew fields of garden vegetables and some fruits that they would sell on the side of the road near where they lived. She said her Mom was a great seamstress and would make and mend all garments they wore and made money for the family sewing for others.

Aunt Mable was not fond of taking pictures, and often mentioned how her Mom said when she was born she was so tiny and so cute that she could fit in a shoe box. Aunt Mable feared the dark and slept with her bedroom light on without fail.

Aunt Mable said Charles County and the counties in Southern Maryland were a big Tobacco business. She said they were allowed to pick/work the tobacco fields after their 11th birthday.

They were initially raised as Protestants and African Methodist Episcopal in Pomonkey, Maryland; once they moved to Pomfret, Maryland, was when her mother Martha, converted to Roman Catholic as did most of her siblings. Mrs. Henson has been a faithful member of Holy Comforter-St. Cyprian Roman Catholic Church for 45 years, participating faithfully in Novena's and the Sodality devoted to Mary.

She answered when often asked what the secret to her longevity was – she would say to "pray often and treat every right." This fellowship often, included receiving cards, care her to and from daily mass. The late Elsa and Sylvia Morales (her Golden Girls Group) who attended daily Mass together and went for breakfast often, each always wanting to treat the other by paying the bill; Tim Jennifer/Church Usher whom she called her boyfriend because he always escorted her arm-to-arm to her seat every first Sunday; and so many others - too many to name, please forgive us if your name is not here and know that GOD knows who you are and the love you showed Aunt Mable.

Mrs. Henson leaves to eternally miss her – Six generations of nieces and nephews from all branches of the families names that follow: The Chases, Hurd's, Washington's Johnson's, Spencer's, Yates', Lindsey's, Snell's, Dickerson's, McMickens', Kennedy's, Adams', Whitesides Mosby's, Hunter's, Smith's, Miller's, Shorter's, Anthony's, Blair's, Thomasson's, Harrington's, Deville's, Richmond's Drakeford's, Miles', Thomas', Diggs', Rowe's Grimsley's, Davis', Hall's, Goodwin's, Anderson's, Sands', Wood's, Murray's, Bernah's, Jenigan's, Hunt's, Crawford's, Matthews', Butler's, Campbell's, Hicks', Burney's, Keener's, Greene's, this includes her caregivers, her HCSC Church Family as well as her Neighborhood Village on East Capitol Street where she resided for 47 years.

ORDER OF THE SERVICE

ENTRANCE HYMN

OPENING RITES/PLACING OF THE PALL CAREGIVERS

LITURGY OF THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

NEW TESTAMENT READING

GOSPEL READING

HOMILY

GENERAL INTERCESSION RESPONSE: LORD HEAR OUR PRAYERS

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PREPARATION OF THE ALTAR AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY SONG

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

GREAT AMEN

THE LORD'S PRAYER

LAMB OF GOD

RECEPTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

COMMUNION SONG

MEDITATION HYMN

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

FINAL CONDEMNATION AND FAREWELL

PRAYER OF FINAL CONDEMNATION

RECESSIONAL HYMN

LOVING TIME





TRIBUTE



Dear Family and friends please be advised that I have moved..... I received a call the other day from God, and he informed me that my new home was complete. I knew that my mansion needed some finishing touches and Jesus Christ had to inspect it and give me the final approval. On April 25, 2021 he let me know that my mansion was complete and that I could move in, so he told me to go ahead and change my address. Well, my new home is furnished and what a sight to behold. It's located in an exclusive estate area behind a beautiful pearly gate of course you know the streets are paved with gold & every day is Sunday, just like you've been told. Trees of fruit grace my garden here and I can walk and talk with my master with not a worry or care. There is a peace here along with joy, happiness and no pain or heartache, no strife of discontent, only sweet,

serenity. I can dine at the Master's bountiful table and listen to heavenly choir and best of all, my Heavenly Father is here in all his glory; and yes, I have my own designer, who has fitted me with my very own white robe and my very own wings. I could go on and on about my new home, but instead I am going to pray that you get to move here yourself one day but, before I go, let me give you my new address:

Matriarch Mable V. Henson
7 Heavenly Circle
Godstown, Heaven, 77777

P.S. 202-543-5265 is no longer my number, but you can always call on God. If you don't know his number, read your Bible, it's listed on every page.



Dear Aunt Mable,



I thank God that Mom and Aunt Lil assigned me as your conservator. Over the years you showed me what being "the Cornerstone" means that holds "the foundation." You were picture perfect of what stepping up without hesitation and having compassion looked like when someone was in need. You were the epitome of what the Kings and Queens that were our ancestors must have been like. Even in your 4 foot 11 stature- you were awesome, wonderfully made and a GIANT to me. I thank you for assisting with Grandma and Mama during their illness, helping raise Damen, Markeshia Brandon and Briana while we worked and charged nothing for doing it. I thank you for the many blessings you were to many relatives and others. I hope you knew and felt how LOVED you were and know how DEEPLY you will be missed. I'm VERY PROUD to have had THE HONOR to call you my Grandma's Sister/ Great Aunt Mable. You were one of the four phenomenal women who shoulders that I stood on. You have earned your Crown - Rest Well, for a job well done! With all our love - until we see you again!

Forever in Our Hearts,
Ssuie and Puddin #2 (Bri)

PALL BEARERS

Arnold DeVille
Alexander Thomasson
John Anthony
Wayne Miles
Brandon McMickens
Nathan Keagan

HONORARY PALL BEARER

Robert Smith

WHEN TOMORROW STARTS WITHOUT ME



When tomorrow starts without me
And I'm not here to see
If the sun should rise and find your eyes
All filled with tears for me

I wish you wouldn't cry
The Way you did today
While thinking of the many things
We did not get to say

I know how much you love me
As much as I love you
Each time that you think of me
I know you will miss me too

When tomorrow starts with out me
Please try to understand
That an angel came and called my name
And took me by the hand

The angel said my place was ready
In heaven far above

And That I would have to leave behind
All those I Dearly Love

But When I walked through Heaven's Gates
I felt so much at home
When GOD looked down and smiled at me
From his golden throne

He said This Is Eternity
And All I promised you
Today for life on earth is done
But Here it starts a new

I promise no tomorrow
For today will always last
And Since each day's the exact same way
There is no longing for the past

So When Tomorrow starts without me
Do not think we're apart
For every time you think of me
Remember I'm right here in your heart

A special thank you for the invaluable care Aunt Mable's team of caregivers gave that made her last days – her best days: Mrema Seid, Linda Diggs, Lucia Ekolle, Deborah Johnson, Maloba Emilia, Jacqueline Hunter, Rita Njumbe, Michelle Miller, D. Laverne Smith, Adjoumi Sonde, E. Coletta Lindsey, Arnold DeVille, Cynthia McMickens, Carolyn Rowe, Briana Snell, Antjuan Johnson Jr., Diane Spriggs, Rita Yates, John Anthony, Tee Susie Lindsey, Hazel Mosby Ellen Smith and the (late) Beatrice Mbah. Church Family – Monsignor Pope, and all of the Rectory Staff, All of the Eucharistic Ministry, The Sodality Sisters and Brothers and all Members of the Usher Board

The family of Mable Henson would also like to acknowledge and thank each of you for all the prayers, texts, emails, gifts, floral arrangements, cards and support during our time of loss. There are no words to express our appreciation and gratitude you have shown during our time of bereavement. May God Bless each of you for your acts of love!

Internment: Mt. Olivet Cemetery, 1300 Bladensburg Rd, Washington, DC 20002

Service Entrusted to: Robinson Funeral Home, 1313 – 6th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001

Programs by Minuteman Press