

Smithie Louise Matthews was the third child born to the late Rev. W. D. Matthews and Lucile Smith Matthews on May 7, 1929 in Dale County (Ozark) Alabama. Five girls completed this happy family circle.

She received her early education from the Ozark City School System. After graduating from high school, she attended and earned a "B.S." degree from Livingston College located in Salisbury, N.C. majoring in Elementary Education. Smithie also earned a M.A. degree and "AA" degree from Troy University. She taught school for 33 years in Ozark City School and the Dale County School Systems.

Smithie was an active member of St. Mark A.M.E. Zion Church, serving faithfully in many organizations, including The Trustee Board, Steward Board, Deaconess Board, A Sunday School Teacher, Ministry of Kindness, Life Member of the Missionary Society, Lay Council, Christian Education Class Leader, Member of the Senior Choir and Quarterly Conference Secretary.

Her professional membership included R.T.A., A.E.A. and N.E.A. She also was a member of the Kappa Delta Pi and Gamma Phi Honor Societies. She was honored as Ozark's Woman of the year in 1983.

Smithie's community activities included; Past Worthy Matron of Pride of Alabama Chapter 60, O.E.S; Worthy Matron of District 8, Order of the Eastern Star which included Dale, Coffee, and Crenshaw Counties; Grand Officer (G.C.C.F.C) of Mizpah Grand Chapter O.E.S., P.H.A. Alabama Jurisdiction; Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Dale County Historical Society, Daffodil Garden Club, American Legion Auxiliary No. 313; and a member of ADC of Dale County.

On June 7, 1952 Sgt. Samuel H. Brew and Smithie Louise Matthews Brew were joined in Holy Matrimony. They were blessed with one son Samuel Daron Brew. She traveled a lot with her husband to many states and countries. She was a thoughtful neighbor, a contributing citizen, proud of her city and its progress, a dependable friend, always ready to give a helping hand. A devoted mother, grandmother, sister, aunt and cousin.

On Monday, August 7, 2017, while a patient at Dale Medical Center, (Ozark) Smithie responded to the call of Our Heavenly Father and quietly went to be with the Lord. She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband and one sister Rachel Gibson.

Precious memories of her will be cherished by her devoted son and his wife, Samuel D. Brew (Mary) one grandson, Samuel D. Brew, Jr. one great-grandson, Luis Antonio Brew Aruz all of Ozark, Three sisters; Hazel Turner, Betty Thompson, and Nancy McFarlin, Ozark. Devoted nieces; Deborah Benton, Enterprise, Bethel Terry, Yolanda McFarlin, and Renorda McFarlin, Ozark. Devoted nephews; Calvin Beale (Nora) Aiea, Hawaii, W.D. Beale, Atlanta, Roy Thompson, Ozark, Arthur R. Bakari and Perry Bakari, (Latonya) Newark, N.J. One Aunt, Gussie Jackson, Ozark, an adopted family, Joseph and Wanda Jones and children and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.