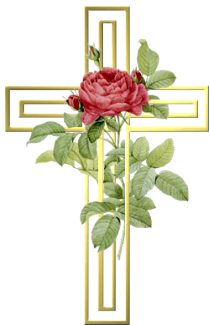


Mother Sennie leaves to cherish her memories and continue her legacy her loving husband, Raymond Alexander, Jr. of Raeford, NC; 3 sons, Daryl of Aberdeen, NC, Duane of Charlotte, NC, and Donovan (Marquite) of Fayetteville, NC; one daughter, Devona (Dedrick) of Raeford, NC; one brother John Lewis Brown (Vanessa) of Lansdale, PA, one brother-in-love, Emmanuel Harrington of Raeford, NC; one sister-in-love, Mary Catherine McPhatter of Columbia, SC; one aunt, Dorothy Singletary of York, PA; a very special daughter-in-love, Adrienne McPhatter; 13 grandchildren, 5 great-grandchildren, and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, former students, and friends. Mother Sennie will be missed immensely but never forgotten.



Acknowledgments

The family of Mrs. Sennie Mae Brown McPhatter would like to sincerely thank all who showed love, support, and the many prayers prayed. We will forever be grateful for every loving word, kind thought, and loving action toward us during our time of bereavement.

“The Rose in the Upper Garden”  
We are sad within our memory;  
Lonely are our hearts today;  
For the one we loved so dearly;  
Has forever been called away.  
My lips cannot tell how I miss her;  
My heart cannot tell what to say.  
God alone knows how I miss her;  
In a home that is lonesome today.  
The pearly gates were opened;  
A gentle voice said, “Come”;  
And with farewells unspoken;  
She gently entered home.  
Gone from the earth so swiftly;  
Just like a flower in bloom;  
So young, so fair, so loving;  
Yet called away so soon.  
We’ll meet her some glad morning;  
Resting by waters fair;  
She, (the Rose) is waiting for our coming;  
In the upper garden there.  
Love through eternity,  
“Boot”

B

**Buie Funeral Home**  
543 Vass Road • Raeford, NC 28376  
(910) 875-3700 • [www.buiesfuneralhome.com](http://www.buiesfuneralhome.com)  
“We Strive To Deserve Your Confidence”

Printed by CopyWright Printing Company  
Aberdeen, NC (910) 944-1360 • Raeford, NC - (910) 875-6003

Home Going Celebration  
For  
Mother Sennie Mae  
Brown McPhatter

Sunrise

April  
17,

1

9

4

4

Sunset

November  
24,

2

0

2

2



Thursday, December 1, 2022 • 1:00 PM

St. James United Church of God  
Raeford, North Carolina

Elder Darlene Purcell, Officiating  
Overseer Willie R. Purcell, Pastor

# Order of Service

|                                   |                                                                |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| MUSICAL PRELUDE .....             | <i>Musicians</i>                                               |
| PROCESSIONAL .....                | <i>Clergy and Family</i>                                       |
| SELECTION .....                   | <i>Family Fellowship Mass Choir</i>                            |
| SCRIPTURES READING                |                                                                |
| Old Testament .....               | <i>Psaln 34</i>                                                |
|                                   | <i>Evangelist Deborah Shepherd</i>                             |
| New Testament .....               | <i>Ephesians 3:13-21</i>                                       |
|                                   | <i>Elder Gregory Shepherd</i>                                  |
| PRAYER OF COMFORT ....            | <i>Pastor Vander Purcell Jr.</i>                               |
| SELECTION .....                   | <i>Lyric (Nieces)</i>                                          |
| REMARKS .....                     | <i>(Please limit to 2-3 minutes)</i>                           |
|                                   | <i>Mother Naomi Bryant - St. James UCOG Church Mothers,</i>    |
|                                   | <i>Mr. Hank Richards (Hoke County Schools),</i>                |
|                                   | <i>Mrs. Gladys Ross-McLean (Upchurch School),</i>              |
|                                   | <i>Ms. Ella McRae (Best Friend), Mr. John Brown (Brother),</i> |
|                                   | <i>Ms. Brittany Blanks (Granddaughter)</i>                     |
| ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & OBITUARY ..... |                                                                |
| .....                             | <i>Mrs. Deborah Purcell</i>                                    |
| SELECTION .....                   | <i>Pastor Doretha Hendley</i>                                  |
| WORDS OF COMFORT .....            | <i>Elder Darlene Purcell</i>                                   |
| SELECTION .....                   | <i>Family Fellowship Mass Choir</i>                            |
| RECESSIONAL .....                 | <i>Morticians in charge</i>                                    |



## Interment

*McLaughlin Chapel Cemetery*  
Raeford, North Carolina

# The Obituary

*Mother Sennie Mae Brown McPhatter*

was born on April 17, 1944, in Williamsburg County, South Carolina, to the late Thomas Anthony and Lula Jane Singletary Brown. She departed her Earthly life Thursday, November 24, 2022, at the age of 78.

Mother Sennie received her formal education in Cumberland County Public schools in Fayetteville, North Carolina. She graduated from E. E. Smith Senior High School in 1962, where she was a soloist in the E. E. Smith Senior High School Choir and a majorette in the E. E. Smith Golden Bulls Marching Band. She matriculated to Fayetteville State Teachers College, where she received her Bachelor of Science Degree in Elementary Education in 1966.

Mother Sennie was a devout, lifelong educator and worked in Hoke County Schools for over 42 years serving first at Upchurch School. She later moved to West Hoke Elementary, Raeford Elementary, and South Hoke (now Hawkeye) Elementary School. In 1993, she returned to her first love, Upchurch Elementary School, where she remained until she retired in 2009.

Mother Sennie loved children and was an advocate for students and educators. During her career, Mother Sennie touched hundreds of children’s lives. Never wanting recognition but always wanting the best for her students, she would purchase food for students and their families. She purchased clothes for students who did not have them, and because she wanted to expose her students to opportunities, she would take students with her on shopping trips. She would take students on family

vacations to Florida and family reunions up and down the east coast. She was a sweet and humble teacher who left a legacy of love.

At an early age, Mother Sennie confessed Christ and was baptized at Smith Chapel Free Will Baptist Church. In July of 1966, she married the love of her life, Raymond “Boot” McPhatter, Jr. To this union, four children were born, and 56 years of marriage were celebrated. After marrying, she joined St. James United Church of God, serving diligently in several capacities. She was a choir member of the Gospel Ensemble, President of the Mother’s Day Committee, an usher and the Sunshine Band President, and a member of the WPE ministry until her health began to fail. Mother Sennie also co-sponsored the St. James Youth tutoring program, where students in the neighborhood would come to get extra help in reading, math, writing, science, and test preparation after school. Mother Sennie became a Church Mother at St. James in January 2019.

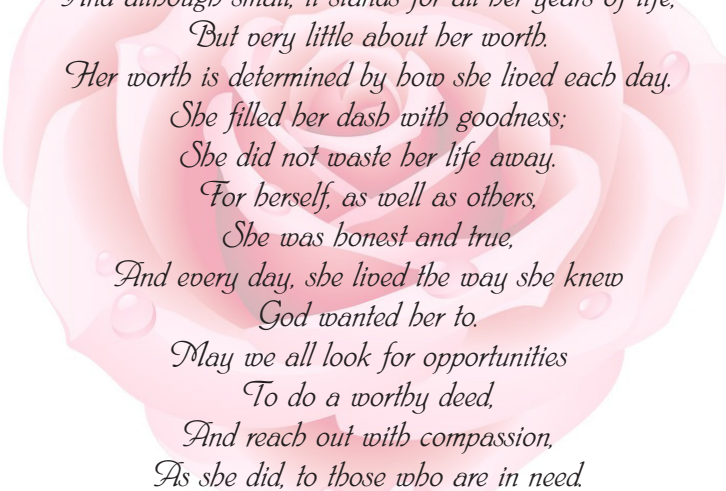
In this role, Mother Sennie showed love, warmth, and compassion to all she met. She was a prayer warrior and intercessor and loved her church family, the community, and her students. Most of all, Mother Sennie loved her family. She loved her husband very much. It was very rare that anyone would see him and not her. She loved being with him. She wanted only the best for her children and grandchildren. She encouraged them all to go further than she. She had a big heart and loved endlessly.

She was preceded in death by her father and mother, Thomas A. and Lula J. Brown, two brothers, Thomas O. and Michael W. Brown, and her sister Mary Hightower.



# *The Dash*

*"Adapted from the book, The Dash by Linda Ellis and Mac Anderson"*



*Not a race to win or lose,  
But it is a symbol of years of her life.  
Her name, with dates of her birth  
And death are perfectly inscribed.  
These two dates, how little they both mean  
When compared to the tiny dash  
That symbolizes the life she lived in between.  
The dash is an emblem of her time here on Earth,  
And although small, it stands for all her years of life,  
But very little about her worth.  
Her worth is determined by how she lived each day.  
She filled her dash with goodness;  
She did not waste her life away,  
For herself, as well as others,  
She was honest and true,  
And every day, she lived the way she knew  
God wanted her to.  
May we all look for opportunities  
To do a worthy deed,  
And reach out with compassion,  
As she did, to those who are in need.  
For if our hearts are full of love like hers,  
Throughout our time here,  
We'll be loved by all who knew us,  
And like her, our memory will be held dear.  
And when we die,  
These memories will bring grateful,  
Loving tears to all whose lives were touched  
By the dash between our years.*

*We Love You, Momma!  
Your Children, Daryl, Duane, Devona & Donovan,  
Grandchildren & Great-grandchildren*

