

FLORAL BEARERS

Family and Friends

PALL BEARERS

Family and Friends



ACKNOWLEDGMENT

For the heartfelt words of consolation, all the acts of love and kindness during this time of bereavement, the family of Mother Bertha McPhatter thanks each of you. We love you dearly and appreciate all you have done. A very special thank you to Mother Debbie Purcell and Sister Pamela Tolson for always making it a priority to visit with mother. We love you. A special thank you to the Open Arms Rest Home faculty and staff for the years of service and commitment in assisting our mother.

May God's blessings forever be with each of you. Please continue to keep us in your prayers.

Your Work On Earth Is Done

*You toiled so hard
For those you loved.
You said goodbye to none,
Your spirit flew before we knew,
Your work on earth was done.
We miss you now,
Our hearts are sore,
As time goes by we miss you more.
Your loving smile, your gentle face:
No one can fill your vacant place.
Your life was one of love and labor.
Your love for your family true.
You did the best for all of us
We will always remember you.*



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*A Celebration of Life
In Loving Memory*

Of

***Mother Bertha Ann
McPHATTER***

Sunrise

October

9,

1

9

2

1

Sunset

February

11,

2

0

2

0



Monday, February 17, 2020 • 2:00 PM

St. James United Church of God

Raeford, North Carolina

Overseer Willie Purcell, Pastor
OFFICIATING

ORDER OF SERVICE

PRESIDING..... Elder Darlene Purcell

PRELUDE..... Blessed Assurance (Favorite Song)

PROCESSIONAL Clergy and Family

SCRIPTURES READING

Old Testament Elder LaRachel Morrissey
 (Granddaughter)

New Testament Minister Carrian Rooks
 (Granddaughter)

PRAYER OF COMFORT Bishop Claude Campbell
 (Nephew)

SELECTION “We Owe God A Praise”
 Family Fellowship Mass Choir

REMARKS (Please limit to 3 minutes)
 Mother Cole (Friend)
 Sister Wilma Lawrence (Hairdresser/Friend)
 Elder David Purcell (Nephew)
 Daryl McPhatter (Grandson)

SELECTION “Somewhere Around the Throne”
 Cousinnaires (Sons & Nephews)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & OBITUARY
 Devona Graham (Granddaughter)

SELECTION “When I See Jesus”
 Family Fellowship Mass Choir

WORDS OF COMFORT..... Overseer Willie Purcell,
 Pastor

RECESSIONAL..... Morticians



INTERMENT
McLAUCHLIN CHAPEL CEMETERY
Raeford, North Carolina

THE OBITUARY

Mother Bertha Ann McPhatter was born October 9, 1921 to the late Jordan and Vinnie Purcell in Raeford, NC. She was the youngest daughter of twelve children, 8 boys and 4 girls. On Tuesday, February 11, 2020, the Lord chose to bring her home.

As a young girl, Mother Bertha attended Upchurch High School in Raeford, NC.

In 1942, she was joined in holy matrimony to the late Elder Raymond Alexander McPhatter, Sr. She stood faithfully by his side as he pastored churches in Ahoskie and Carthage, NC, and she took care of the home rearing their 6 children.

Mother Bertha never had a formal job, but she took care of 13 of her grandchildren until they were able to attend school. Mother Bertha was a humble homemaker who loved to cook for her children and grandchildren. She was a superb cook and her specialities included: homemade apple and sweet potato pies, lemon and chocolate cakes, chicken and pastries, chitterlings, homemade buttermilk biscuits, stewed peaches, blueberries and apples.

Mother Bertha accepted the Lord Jesus Christ at an early age, she became a member of East Freedom Presbyterian Church and later joined St. James United Church of God. As a member of St. James UCOG, she served in various capacities to include being the President of the Missionary Board, a member of the St. James Senior Choir, a member of the Loving Sisters, a Primary Sunday School teacher and the head cook for the kitchen committee for conventions and unions. She was a faithful member traveling often to services with each pastor of St. James UCOG: Bishop Jackson,

Bishop Bain, and Overseer Purcell and she attended every convention and convocation until her health began to fail. She loved to travel, often traveling with her children and other family members up and down the east coast. As the Aunt and Mother of the Family Fellowship Mass Choir, she was one of the choir's biggest fans, and although Alzheimer's took her memory, one thing is for sure, she loved the Lord and her family.

Her husband Elder Raymond A. McPhatter, Sr., and three children, Johnnie, David Calvin, and Shirley Ann preceded her in death.

She leaves to forever cherish her memory: 3 sons; Raymond, Jr. (Sennie); Willie, Sr.; both of Raeford; Elder Charles (Anna) of Pinehurst, 1 daughter-in-law, Mary Catherine McPhatter of Columbia, SC; 1 son-in-law, Emanuel Harrington of Raeford; 1 sister-in-law, Minnie Bridges (Willie) of Apex, NC; 16 grandchildren; 33 great grandchildren; 5 great-great grandchildren; and a host of loving nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.



We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.

~ I Corinthians 5:8



A Grandmother Is...

*A Grandmother is one of life's best gifts,
Someone to treasure all life through,
She's caring and loving,
Thoughtful and true,*

*Someone who is always a special part of your life,
Someone who holds a prime place in your heart,
She's a mentor, a confidant and also a friend,
Someone on whose love you can depend.*

*A Grandmother always has your best interests at heart,
She's someone so dear and so good,*

*She's a blessing, she's a gift, She's a treasure like no other,
She's someone that is truly wonderful.*

Wherever you go, and whatever you do,

A Grandmother's love will always see you through,

*A Grandmother is truly invaluable,
Indispensable and unforgettable.*

*I wouldn't want anyone but you,
And that's why I'm so grateful,
that life picked you for me.*

Your Grandchildren



Dearest Mother

*She left us in the early morning,
When softly came the dawn.
And since she never said goodbye,
It's hard to think she's gone.
Oh, too she left us weeping,
Lonely and with aching hearts;
But we know the angels are keeping her,
Where sweet joys will ne're depart.
In our hearts the memory lingers,
Sweetly, tender, fond and true,
There's not a day, Dear Mother,
That we do not think of you.
Dearest Mother, you left us,
Your smiling face we'll see no more,
But we will struggle on to meet you,
On that Celestial Shore.*

*Love, Your Sons
Boot, Bill & Charles*