

God's Promise

*God didn't promise days without pain,
laughter without sorrow or sun without rain.
But God did promise strength for the day,
comfort for the tears and a light for the way.
He answers their faith with everlasting love*

Pallbearers

The Grandsons

Honorary Pallbearers & Flower Attendants

Diaconate Ministry of The Bethel Church

Family Acknowledgments

*The family of Essie Mae Mitchell acknowledges with deep gratitude
the many prayers, messages, and every act of kindness shown to
ease our sorrow. Your kindness will forever be remembered. May
God's blessing always be yours.*



J. E. Fralin & Sons
Funeral & Cremation Services
"Serving Your Deserving Community"
5065 Soutel Drive Jacksonville, Florida 32208
(904) 924-9400
Fernandina Beach, Florida (904) 491-3301

In Celebration of the Life of Deacon Essie Mae Mitchell



Deacon Essie Mae Mitchell

November 27, 1927 – February 12, 2020

***“I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the Faith”
- 2 Timothy 4:7***

Mrs. Essie Mae Mitchell passed away peacefully and left her earthly body to be present with the Lord at the age of 92. She was born November 27, 1927, in Dooly County, Unadilla, Georgia, a daughter of the late Minnie Burnham Walker and John Walker. Mrs. Mitchell moved to Jacksonville as a child with mother and siblings and later attended the local schools in Jacksonville.

She was the matriarch to FIVE generations and was wonderfully devoted to her children, Barbara Jean Carter, Rosetta Lattimore (Darryl), Sharon Bell (Alvin), Patricia Cherry, Paula Holley, Simona Davis (Carlos), Gregory Carter, Lottie Walker and many, many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Mrs. Mitchell was preceded in death by her two sons, Benjamin Blue, Don Blue and daughter Cynthia “Nikki” Mitchell.

Mrs. Essie Mitchell, affectionately known as “Ms. Lil Bit”, was a dedicated soldier in God’s army. She was a longstanding member of Bethel Baptist Institutional Church and has served on the Deacon’s Ministry, Young Adult and Senior Choirs, and Outreach Ministries. Mrs. Mitchell was well known throughout the Grand Park neighborhood as “Ms. Blue” and was a ray of sunlight pointing all to the Savior.

She retired as a clerk to the Visiting Nurses Association and later provided childcare services to family and friends. Mrs. Mitchell enjoyed gardening, sewing, dancing and being with people. She loved sports and down through the years attended the sporting events of her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Mitchell was a woman of great character and charisma and although small in stature, she left a big impression on all that she met. Every stranger became an admirer of Ms. Essie Mae and once you joined her family you never left.

We are confident that our mother and grandmother’s life was a true testimony of one who followed the teachings of Christ and told others about Him. Her vivacious personality has left a lasting impression. “She was an inspiration to us all and as we attempt to comprehend life without her, we are obedient to God’s instructions to give thanks in all things.”

***THANK YOU, GOD, FOR BLESSING US WITH MRS. ESSIE MAE MITCHELL!
ALTHOUGH YOU HAVE HER THERE WITH YOU IN HEAVEN,
WE WILL KEEP HER MEMORY ALIVE IN OUR HEARTS TO
DAMPEN THE SORROW UNTIL WE SEE HER AGAIN.***

Psalm 23

*The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he
leadeth me beside the still waters.
He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths
of righteousness for his name’s sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the
shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art
with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence
of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with
oil; my cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all
the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house
of the Lord for ever.*

*Cherished mother, your counsel has served as a guide to us;
giving us the boldness to conquer the world.
We thank God for your grace.*

Loving Mother

Olubunmi A. Omotowa

Like a rose you blossom from morn till eventide.

Like the sun, you radiate to give hope to somebody.

Your smiles come to me like the moonlight, shining around me day and night.

Your words of encouragement soothe me like a balm, giving me an assurance of better things to come.

Your godly life makes you a pacesetter, paving ways for generations to come.

Your counsel serves as a guide to me; giving me the boldness to look far above the oceans.

The mountain heights are no threat to me because you are a pillar erected for me by God.

Sweet mother you are a blessing to your generation, a gift of inestimable value.

You are the foundation for the structure of unity you built around me.

You are a landscape of humility for me.

Loving mum, you are an epitome of diligence.

I love you

Ode To Essie Mae (Grandma)

*FOR AS LONG AS I CAN REMEMBER, YOU HAVE ALWAYS SEEMED TO BE
THIS OVERWHELMING FIGURE OF LOVE, FAITH, AND GENEROSITY
YOU HAVE OPENED UP YOUR HOME THAT WE MIGHT HAVE ROOF OVER HEAD
AS IF THAT WASN'T ENOUGH, YOU EVEN LET US HAVE YOUR BED
IN TIMES OF PLENTY AND IN TIMES OF LACK YOU MADE SURE EACH MOUTH WAS FED
I'VE SEEN YOU FEED FIVE CHILDREN WITH JUST A LITTLE MEAT AND BREAD
YOU'VE KEPT A WATCHFUL EYE PROTECTING US FROM HURT AND HARM
YES, ALL OF GRAND PARK KNOWS ABOUT MS. ESSIE, THE QUIET STORM
YOU TAUGHT US RIGHT FROM WRONG WITH A FAIR ARM OF DISCIPLINE
YOU DIDN'T SPARE THE ROD, YET YOUR LOVE SHONE THROUGH, IN THE END.
TRAIN UP A CHILD IN THE WAY HE SHOULD GO, WHEN HE IS OLD HE SHALL NOT DEPART
THROUGH YOUR LOVING EXAMPLE YOU HAVE INSPIRED US TO HIDE THE WORDS OF THE LORD, IN OUR HEARTS
DOWN THROUGH THE YEARS OF LOVING AND LAUGHTER YOU HAVE TOUCHED EVERYONE IN SOME SPECIAL WAY
AND SO I AM HONORED AND PRIVILEGED, TO CELEBRATE YOU ON TODAY!*

Order of Service

*Saturday, February 22, 2020
10:00 A.M. Main Sanctuary*

<i>Processional.....</i>	<i>“Step By Step” Organist</i>
<i>Hymn.....</i>	<i>“It is Well”</i>
<i>Life Reflections Video</i>	
<i>Scriptures</i>	
<i>Old Testament Scripture</i>	<i>Psalm 27 Elder Zella Richardson</i>
<i>New Testament Scripture</i>	<i>John 14:1-6 Elder Diane Durham</i>
<i>Prayer</i>	<i>Pastor Reginald Caldwell</i>
<i>Ministry in Music</i>	<i>“Testimony” Voices of Judah</i>
<i>Words of Comfort.....</i>	<i>Bishop Rudolph McKissick, Sr.</i>
<i>Recessional</i>	<i>“Let The Church Say Amen”</i>

*Bethel Baptist Institutional Church
215 Bethel Baptist Street
Jacksonville, Florida
Bishop Rudolph W. McKissick, Jr., Lead Pastor
Bishop Rudolph W. McKissick, Sr., Pastor Emeritus*

Entombment – Evergreen Cemetery

