

A Tribute to Our Mother

By Aaron J. Bland

*Mothers are the one we consider rare.
Mothers are the one which none can compare.
Mothers somehow always seem to fuss.
You are the Mother who fussed at us.
Good Mothers are hard to find.
Good Mothers are those that are sweet, warm and kind.
We're sure there are Mothers just as sweet.
To us no others can even compete.
God made Mothers to be strong.
God made Mothers to correct us when we're wrong.
We're sure there are Mothers as special as you are.
But to us you're the best by far.
To us as a Mother you rate amongst the few.
Because no Mother has been a Mother quite like you.
So, by now we hope everyone can see,
We loved you Mom; we're elated that you're free.*



Acknowledgements

We, the family of Bettie J. Thomas wish to thank all who have been so very kind to us in our hour of need. We have sustained a great loss and your kindness is very comforting to us. We are deeply grateful and moved by your expressions of love and sympathy.

Active Pallbearers

Aaron Bland • Malik Bland • Tarren Bland
Brett Larkin • Horace Marshall • Franklin Thorton

Honorary Pallbearers

David Porter IV • Tyrone Townsend
Michael Patterson • Stephen L. Harvey
Dontae Mackey • George Martin



Interment

Walnut Hills Cemetery
3117 Victory Parkway
Cincinnati, Ohio 45206

*A precious one from us is gone, a voice we loved is stilled.
A place is vacant in our home, which never can be filled.*



PRESTON CHARLES FUNERAL HOME
400 N. Wayne Avenue • Lockland, OH 45215
Phone: (513) 761-0082 • Fax: (513) 761-0257

Printed especially for you by J.E. • 513-207-8142

Celebrating the Life of

Bettie J. Thomas

January 12, 1938 — July 25, 2020



Friday, August 7, 2020

Visitation – 10:00 a.m.

Homegoing Service – 11:00 a.m.

Southern Baptist Church

3556 Reading Road
Cincinnati, Ohio 45229

Rev. Dan Larkin, Jr., *Officiating*

Obituary

Bettie J. Thomas was born on January 12, 1938 in Montgomery, Alabama. She was the second child born to the union of David Nathan and Laura Louise Porter. Bettie peacefully departed this earth on Saturday, July 25, 2020, reuniting in heaven with her beloved husband of 36 years, Benny.

In 1940, following the birth of her brother, Thomas (Tommy) Porter, the family would relocate to Cincinnati, Ohio. Bettie and Tommy would return to Montgomery regularly in the summers where they both learned to read at a very early age at Miss Bell's Nursery School. Bettie was always a gifted student with a love for education. Both she and Tommy were straight "A" students at Sands and Washburn Elementary Schools. Bettie would continue to excel academically at Stowe Junior High School, Old Woodward and Taft High School. In high school, she played several musical instruments and participated in sports. Bettie, always a hard worker, held part time jobs throughout high school. Bettie was in the first graduating class from Robert A. Taft High School in 1956. Upon graduation, she was awarded a scholarship for academic achievement from the Schmidlapp Foundation. She served as the Taft Alumni Association Recorder for more than 20 years. Bettie enjoyed attending the annual Christmas Party and other Alumni festivities until her health began to fail.

At a very early age, Bettie accepted Christ and joined Bethlehem Baptist Church where she remained a loyal member for over 40 years. While at Bethlehem, she served on several ministries: the

Nurses Guild, Courtesy Committee, Missionary Society, Young Matrons and the Young Adult Choir just to name a few. In her later years, she joined the Mt. Sinai Baptist Church and remained faithful until her health prevented her from doing so. Bettie was rarely seen on Sunday's without her fashionable hat, gloves and coordinated shoes and attire. Well known for her Saturday shopping hobby, 'Ms. Bettie is always sharp', family friends would say.

On December 21, 1973, she married the man of her dreams, Benny (deceased) affectionately known as B.B. Their union was blessed with a family of five children: Jacqueline, Michael S., David III, Aaron and Alicia.

Bettie worked at F.W. Woolworth for several years before deciding to enter nursing school. Bettie obtained her L.P.N. license and went on to obtain other medical certifications. Her nursing career began at General Hospital and later at Bethesda North. After several years of working in hospitals, Bettie joined Cincinnati Public Schools as a Nursing Instructor at Withrow High School and after several years, ended her professional career while at Hartwell Elementary School.

Bettie was preceded in death by her husband, Benny of 36 years and her brother, David Jr. who died in infancy. Bettie is survived and will be terribly missed by: her three children, David Porter III, Aaron J. Bland (Enid) and Alicia B. Townsend (Tyrone); bonus children, Brenda McMullen (John), Jacqueline Patterson and Michael Thomas; her brother, Thomas Porter (Marian); her sisters, Mary Porter, Alice Bell, Belinda Larkin and Iretha Porter;

nine grandchildren and several great-grandchildren; several nieces and nephews and a special niece, Trina Jones (Steve); goddaughters, Johnese Wiley (William) and Carla Carter (Kevin); adopted daughters and sons, Paula Daniel, Raymond Prysock and Montez Sorrells; and a host of family and friends.

Order of Service

Musical Prelude

Parting View..... The Family

Scripture Reading..... Elder Raymond Prysock
Old Testament – Psalms 23:1-6 ESV
New Testament – 2 Timothy 4:6-16 ESV

Prayer Rev. Dan Larkin, Jr.

Selection..... Joe Pace (CD)
"I Will Bless the Lord At All Times"

Acknowledgements
and Resolutions Jacqueline Hutsell
Obituary..... Read Silently
*(A time to think, pray, and reflect
upon the life of Bettie J. Thomas)*

Selection Apostle David Porter III
"I Won't Complain"

Eulogy..... Rev. Dr. Charles Williams
Pastor, Mt. Sinai Baptist Church

Benediction

Recessional..... Pastor Emma Jean Andrews
"When We All Get to Heaven"

I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. – St. John 11:25-26