

## Anyway

*People are often unreasonable, illogical and self centered;  
Forgive them anyway.  
If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives;  
Be kind anyway.  
If you are successful, you will win some false friends and some true enemies;  
Succeed anyway.  
If you are honest and frank, people may cheat you;  
Be honest and frank anyway.  
What you spend years building, someone could destroy overnight;  
Build anyway.  
If you find serenity and happiness, they may be jealous;  
Be happy anyway.  
The good you do today, people will often forget tomorrow;  
Do good anyway.  
Give the world the best you have, and it may never be enough;  
Give the world the best you've got anyway.  
You see, in the final analysis, it is between you and your God;  
It was never between you and them anyway.*

*By: Mother Theresa*

## Safely Home

*I am now in Heaven, the gates have opened wide,  
And now I have the privilege, of walking by His side.  
The angel choir is singing and the music is so sweet;  
I'll join them just as soon as I have worshipped at His feet.  
I am now in Heaven, and the blood washed throng is here.  
I recognize a lot of them—there's not a single tear,  
There's joy beyond description, and reunions by the score;  
There'll be no separation, for we'll be here forevermore.  
I am now in Heaven, please wipe away your tears!  
I've fought the battle, run the race; I'm rid of all my tears.  
There is no pain or sorrow here; the heartaches now are past.  
I've read and sung of Heaven, and now I'm here at last.  
I am now in Heaven, and oh, the place is grand!  
No one could ever tell me all the beauties of this land.  
Since I cannot describe it, you'll have to come and see  
That is was worth the trials, to live here eternally!*



## CELEBRATION OF LIFE



## Acknowledgment

The family of Dorothy Jean High would like to extend our profound gratitude to all of you for your kind expressions of sympathy, love, and compassion shown during the illness and passing of our loved one. May God continue to bless you all.

A Service of Love and Dignity Provided by:



*William Toney's Funeral Home*

216 E. Barbee Street  
Zebulon, NC 27597  
919-269-9652

[www.williamtoney.com](http://www.williamtoney.com)

*Dorothy*  
**JEAN**  
*High*

*Friday May 29, 2020*

*1:00 PM*

*William Toney's Funeral Home*  
*Zebulon, NC*



# Order of Service

***Dr. Cory D. Benson, Presiding***

***Hymn***..... ***Soft Music***

## ***Scripture Readings***

***Old Testament***..... ***Rev. Nathaniel Montague***

***Ecclesiastes 3:1-8***

***New Testament***..... ***Rev. Nathaniel Montague***

***2 Timothy 4:7-8***

***Prayer of Comfort***..... ***Catherine High***

## ***Tributes/Memories***

***Church***..... ***Dec. Leroy Jeffreys***

***Neighborhood***..... ***Frederick McDuffie***

***Family***..... ***Michael Harris***

***Christy Estes***

***Diatha I. Harris***

***Acknowledgments***..... ***Catherine High***

## ***Silent Reading of the Obituary***

***Selection***..... ***Soft Music***

***Eulogy***..... ***Dr. Cory D. Benson***

***Committal***

***Recessional***

***“I’ll Always Love My Mama”***

# Obituary

*“For everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up;; a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; a time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away; a time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace.”*

*Ecclesiastes 3:1-8*

A phenomenal woman (mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, aunt, cousin and friend) answered to God’s call on Monday morning, May 25, 2020. **Dorothy Jean High (affectionately called Minkey/Mickey)**, the daughter of the late Ellen High Parks & Jessie Willard Parks, was born August 26, 1934, in Zebulon, North Carolina.

At an early age, she joined Wakefield Missionary Baptist Church and was a lifelong member until her health failed. As a youth, she sang in the choir and served on the usher board. She was a faithful member of the missionary circle, the scholarship and calendar committees and Bible study.

Her formal education began at James E. Shepard High School where she graduated in 1952. She attended Spelman College and graduated in 1956 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English and a minor in Elementary Education. She engaged in additional studies at Shaw University and East Carolina University. According to her, there were only three schools, Shepard, Spelman and of course Morehouse College. There were 52 graduates from James E. Shepard in 1952 and she loved them all dearly, especially the Wakefield/Hightown crew. She, her classmates and other Shepard alumni began the James E. Shepard Alumni Association and Scholarship Program. She worked diligently until her health failed. She loved her Spelman sisters and Morehouse brothers. She remained especially close with her college roommate, Guilda M. Bryant of Florida, who preceded her in death. The two of them decided to travel Europe at the tender age of 70 for a couple of weeks on short notice. She requested a “rapid response” passport and off she went!

Dorothy Jean was a lifelong educator and family historian. She loved teaching. She began her teaching career in Washington, Georgia and retired after thirty-two years from Kinston City Schools (Adkins Junior High, Lewis School and J.H. Sampson School). She was in the first group of black teachers to integrated Kinston City Schools. She was selected as teacher of the year for several times during her teaching career, served as Grade Chairman for many years and served as a mentor teacher until her retirement. She was also in the first edition of Who’s Who in American Teachers. After retirement, she often tutored children in reading and volunteered for proctoring End of Grade testing. She was forever encouraging all to seek higher education.

Family meant everything to her. She was affectionately dubbed, “The Queen of Hightown” and LOVED her title. This was because she could rattle off facts of who’s who to many who asked. She kept up with the family history from all angles and took special interest in making sure the lines of communication between families remained open. She wanted all family members to keep in touch with each other, know and love each other and be supportive of each other. Dorothy Jean was a “giver” and a “doer” for, within, and between families. She was always trying to make sure family members had what they needed. She did the same within the church family and the community.

Dorothy Jean was a wonderful mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, aunt, cousin and friend. She loved hard with strong discipline, determined to make sure her offspring became strong, independent women. She became “mother” and “grandmother” to many. Family teased her saying that her house was the “Hightown Hotel”. Her doors were always open and plenty of food was always there. You were always welcome. She often said that her first cousins were like sisters and brothers because they all grew up together.

Everyone KNEW that she had a sharp, direct, honest tongue. Some would even say she was reckless! However, those who truly knew her, knew that this was all out of love.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her brother, William Isaac Parks, her niece, Thomasina Parks and a foster sister, Thelma High Edmonds.

Her fondest memories will forever go on in the lives of her daughter, Wanda H. Bennett (Barry) of Zebulon, NC; granddaughter, Jessica Bennett-Broady (Allen), great-granddaughter, Jeanelle A. Broady of Mayodan, NC; one brother, Willard T. Parks of Rolesville, NC; one nephew, Michael E. Parks (Linda), two nieces Christy P. Estes (Michael) and Jill Parks; five great nieces, Anna Parks, Hallie Parks, Terri Parks, Kristin Estes, Peyton Estes; two great nephews, Bryan Parks, Brandon Nava, two great-great nephews, Casey and Caden Parks; adopted grandchildren, Alanna James of Philadelphia, PA, Demetria Campbell of Dallas, TX, Ciara Cooke of Raleigh, NC, Kenneth Jackson of Zebulon, NC; an adopted niece, Ida Lois Bridgers; a lifelong friend, Janie Kenyear of New Bern, NC, a special friend and caregiver, Ivey High; a special cousin, Mary McAllister (and children), many more special cousins and a host of other relatives and friends. Though Wanda was her only child, she embraced and loved her siblings and their children. Michael Harris (Gaynelle) of Raleigh, NC, Rosalind Etim (Ekere) of Wendell, NC, Lisa Harris of Cleveland, OH, Sharon Harris of Atlanta, GA, Millicent Harris of Raleigh, NC, T. Lamont Harris (Charmene) of Whitsett, NC, and Charles Harris, Jr. (Janet) of Raleigh, NC.

