

## ***Pallbearers***

*DeAnthony Mason  
Kenneth Mason  
Michael Mason  
Sean Mason  
Tyrone Mason  
Isaiah Thompson*

## ***Flower Bearers***

*Family and Friends*

## ***Acknowledgements***

*Thanks to William Powell. The family cannot express enough, how much we thank God for allowing you to be in each other's lives. We are forever grateful to see how you both experienced your best life during your latter years. To God be the glory!*

*Special thanks to the Olson Street family for embracing and protecting her when we were not able to do so.*

*To her special sister friends who shared a lasting connection with late night conversations, love, support, prayers, laughter, and tears—those special moments blessed her heart. Please know that she was all the better for you being a part of her life.*

*We are grateful for the richness of her life, the kindness of her heart, and the love of her friends. The family of Elva R. Bowman would like to thank everyone for their prayers, love and support during this difficult time. May the Lord, who has accepted Momma as His beloved, bless you and your family.*

## ***Services Entrusted to:***

*K.J. Robinson Funeral Home  
Camp Springs, Maryland*

# ***A Celebration of Life for Elva Rebecca Bowman***

*Sunrise: May 14, 1942*

*Sunset: October 26, 2020*



***Tuesday, November 10, 2020***

*Viewing: 10:00 a.m.*

*Service: 11:00 a.m.*

*From the Heart Church Ministries®  
Annex at 5055 Allentown Road  
Suitland, Maryland 20746*

*Bishop John A. Cherry, II – Pastor*



# Obituary



***“To God be the glory forever and ever...” (Galatians 1:5)***

Elva Rebecca Bowman was born in La Plata, Maryland, on May 14, 1942. She transitioned from this earthly life for her great reward with our Lord Jesus Christ on October 26, 2020. She was the seventh of nine children born to the late Ernest and Ida Mason. Elva grew up in a family that made love and support a top priority.

Elva was educated in the Charles County Public School System, attending La Plata Elementary School and Bel Alton High School where she graduated. She received an associate degree from Charles County Community College, and a Bachelor of Elementary Education from the University of the District of Columbia.

Professionally, Elva worked in the Charles County Public School System as a teacher’s aide at T.C. Martin and J.C. Parks Elementary Schools. Upon relocating to Washington, DC, she was employed at Valley Green Day Care Center. Joyce Grant, a friend of over 50 years, helped Elva achieve her goal of becoming a certified educator. As a result, she worked at A.K. Savoy Elementary School until she retired in 2008. She considered her employment as work unto the Lord. One could easily identify Elva’s students—they were often heard saying her favorite phrase, “Praise the Lord!”

***She was “...a joyful mother of children. Praise the Lord!” (Psalm 113:9)***

On May 13, 1961, she was joined in matrimony to William “Shing” Bowman. From that union, two daughters were born, Glynis and Carlita. Elva took great pride in being a mother. She sacrificed an insurmountable amount of time and resources for her daughters and ensured that they were trained up in the way that they should go and when they got old they would not depart from it. (Proverbs 22:6).

***“The joy of the Lord was her strength.” (Nehemiah 8:10)***

Elva dedicated her life to Christ in the 1970s. She actively served as a lecturer, and her ministry extended beyond the District of Columbia Metropolitan area. She was one of the first members of the Educators’ Life Team Small Group in Dallas, Texas, where she served for over seven years. In 2000, Elva joined From the Heart Church Ministries where she faithfully served in the Intercessory Prayer, Nursing, and Senior Ministries. Elva loved her church family, working her ministries and attending services. She refused to allow anyone or anything to interfere with her commitments. God continued to use Elva’s hands and heart to minister beyond the walls of the church for His glory until her passing.

***She “...increased in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and man.” (Luke 2:52)***

Although Elva was tiny in stature, her personality was larger than life. Whether sucking on a piece of candy and telling the same story 50 times, singing an offbeat song, or dancing with no music, you were guaranteed to get a laugh. Elva was a naturally funny person without trying.







Her endless trail of candy wrappers and never-ending jokes will never be forgotten. She was a “mini-mighty” entertainer who loved making people smile.

Moreover, Elva loved writing poetry. Her light-hearted nature and love for the Lord were reflected through her writing. Her poems were either nursery rhymes or giving reverence to the Lord.

Elva’s mother instilled in her the value of people, which was evident in the way she demonstrated love to everyone she met. Whether it was making a phone call, interceding in prayer, sitting by the bed of a sick loved one, or sending a card—she had a special way of making everyone feel like they were best friends forever. If she was not talking on the phone, Elva could always be found in the backyard, or rocking on her front porch interceding and believing for the salvation of family and friends. She truly understood what it meant to love, forgive, and to seek those who were lost. She was a strong believer in “giving flowers” to people while they were alive.

One of her favorite ways to give back to her community was to take her students to nursing homes to hand out gift bags and perform for the residents. She was a praying woman. Family and friends called her often to pray. Everyone knew that Jesus was the center of her joy and the head of her life. When she had a conversation with you, she would invite you to her church or mention something about the faithfulness of God. Her Christian lifestyle was an example to many, especially her family.

Elva leaves to cherish her beautiful memories, two daughters, Glynis Bowman and Carlita Thompson; three grandchildren, Danielle Jenkins (Joshua), Ashley and Isaiah Thompson; three great-grandchildren, Jett, Jace, and Jude; four brothers: Samuel (Iola), Joseph (Juanita), Francis, and DeSales (Barbara). She also reserved a special place in her heart for her companion, William Powell. Additionally, she leaves to cherish her memories, nieces, nephews, and a host of friends, and other relatives.

In addition to her parents, Elva was preceded in death by her siblings, John, Iona, James, and Thomas, Sr.





**Order of Service**

*Invocation*

*Scripture Reading*

*Old Testament: Ecclesiastes 3:1-4  
New Testament: II Corinthians 4:6-14*

*Prayer of Comfort*

*Selection ..... FTH Psalmist*

*Acknowledgements*

*Ms. Cheryl Johnson  
Mr. DeAnthony Mason  
Mr. Michael Mason*

*Obituary (Read Silently)*

*Song of Preparation ..... FTH Psalmist*

*Message of Hope ..... Reverend Walter McLaughlin, III*

*Call to Christ*

*Recessional*

**Interment**  
*Sacred Heart Cemetery  
La Plata, Maryland*

**Unfinished Poem by Elva Bowman (8/17/20)**

*Today is a great day  
It's a day that God has given me  
I will rejoice and be glad in it.*

*Yesterday is gone  
I will focus on today  
I will keep my mind on Jesus  
This is what I pray*

*Holy Spirit, please lead me  
Please tell me what to do  
You are my teacher, comforter  
You lead me in all truth.*

*Please help me to be independent  
And don't depend on others  
You have supplied all of my needs  
I don't want to be a bother.*

*I'm grateful for family  
I'm grateful for friends  
God you are so gracious  
Your love never ends.*

*Your mercies are renewed  
Each and every day  
I am grateful for every blessing  
That you are sending my \_\_\_\_\_*