

***The Homegoing Celebration
for***

Ruth I. Burse

***Sunrise
December 15, 1943***

***Sunset
December 6, 2020***



Friday, December 18, 2020

Viewing: 10:00 a.m.

Service: 11:00 a.m.

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

Bishop John A. Cherry, II – Pastor

Obituary



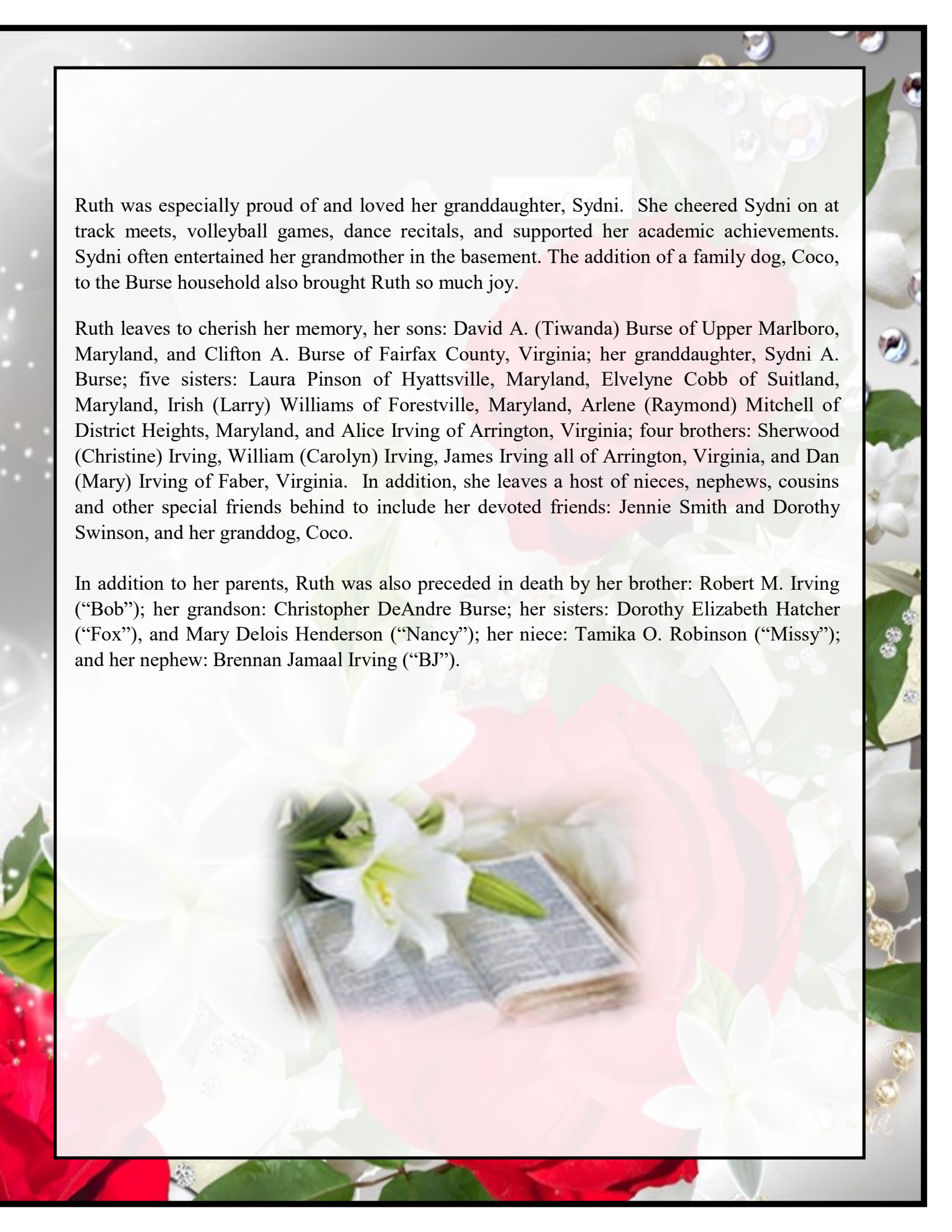
Ruth Ann Irving Burse (“Rufus”) was born on December 15, 1943, to the late Paul M. and Lelia J. Irving in Arrington, Virginia. She has become the fourth broken link in the chain of thirteen children. She transitioned to be with the Lord on Sunday, December 6, 2020, at home in Upper Marlboro, Maryland, after quietly battling health challenges over the past few years.

Ruth received her elementary and secondary education in Nelson County Public Schools in Nelson County, Virginia. Shortly following graduation from high school, and attending Temple Business School, she and her sister, Dorothy, were part of a select group of minorities recruited for employment in 1965 by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). They broke racial and cultural barriers in the clerical and recordkeeping departments at the FBI until her retirement in 1994. It was at the FBI where she met her former spouse, Tom Burse III, and from their marital union two sons were born, David (“Andre”) and Clifton (“Anthony”).

Following retirement from the federal government, Ruth spent time caring for loved ones including her first grandchild, Christopher D. Burse, until his passing in 1997. She enjoyed tending to others, especially seniors. She would make sure they received loving care during the day and when necessary would spend time with them overnight. She also worked for Melwood Horticultural Training Center providing transportation and employment oversight to people with differing abilities.

At an early age, Ruth joined and accepted Christ at New Mount Baptist Church in Arrington, Virginia. In her early years in the DC area, she and her family worshipped at Allentown Baptist Church. In 1998, she rededicated her life to Christ and joined her oldest son and sister at From the Heart Church Ministries. She liked to arrive at church early to have time to fellowship with her church family. Before her illness, she was a member of the Nursery Ministry where she enjoyed rocking and caring for the babies.

Ruth loved spending time and vacations with her family, talking to her friends, cooking, singing and listening to gospel music, and keeping up with politics and current events. In the year of 2020, she had lots to talk about. Although she had spent over 50 years of her life in the DC Metropolitan area, she was an avid Pittsburgh Steelers fan.



Ruth was especially proud of and loved her granddaughter, Sydni. She cheered Sydni on at track meets, volleyball games, dance recitals, and supported her academic achievements. Sydni often entertained her grandmother in the basement. The addition of a family dog, Coco, to the Burse household also brought Ruth so much joy.

Ruth leaves to cherish her memory, her sons: David A. (Tiwanda) Burse of Upper Marlboro, Maryland, and Clifton A. Burse of Fairfax County, Virginia; her granddaughter, Sydni A. Burse; five sisters: Laura Pinson of Hyattsville, Maryland, Elvelyne Cobb of Suitland, Maryland, Irish (Larry) Williams of Forestville, Maryland, Arlene (Raymond) Mitchell of District Heights, Maryland, and Alice Irving of Arrington, Virginia; four brothers: Sherwood (Christine) Irving, William (Carolyn) Irving, James Irving all of Arrington, Virginia, and Dan (Mary) Irving of Faber, Virginia. In addition, she leaves a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and other special friends behind to include her devoted friends: Jennie Smith and Dorothy Swinson, and her granddog, Coco.

In addition to her parents, Ruth was also preceded in death by her brother: Robert M. Irving ("Bob"); her grandson: Christopher DeAndre Burse; her sisters: Dorothy Elizabeth Hatcher ("Fox"), and Mary Delois Henderson ("Nancy"); her niece: Tamika O. Robinson ("Missy"); and her nephew: Brennan Jamaal Irving ("BJ").

Order of Service

Invocation

Scripture Reading

*Old Testament: Psalm 23
New Testament: John 14:1-6*

Prayer of Comfort

Selection *FTH Psalmist*

Acknowledgements

*Ms. Cheryl Vincent, Church Friend
Mrs. Arlene Mitchell, Sister*

Obituary (Read Silently)

Song of Preparation *FTH Psalmist*

Message of Hope *Reverend Walter McLaughlin, III*

Call to Christ

Committal

Benediction

Recessional

Interment
*Pleasant View Cemetery
Arlington, Virginia
Saturday, December 19, 2020*

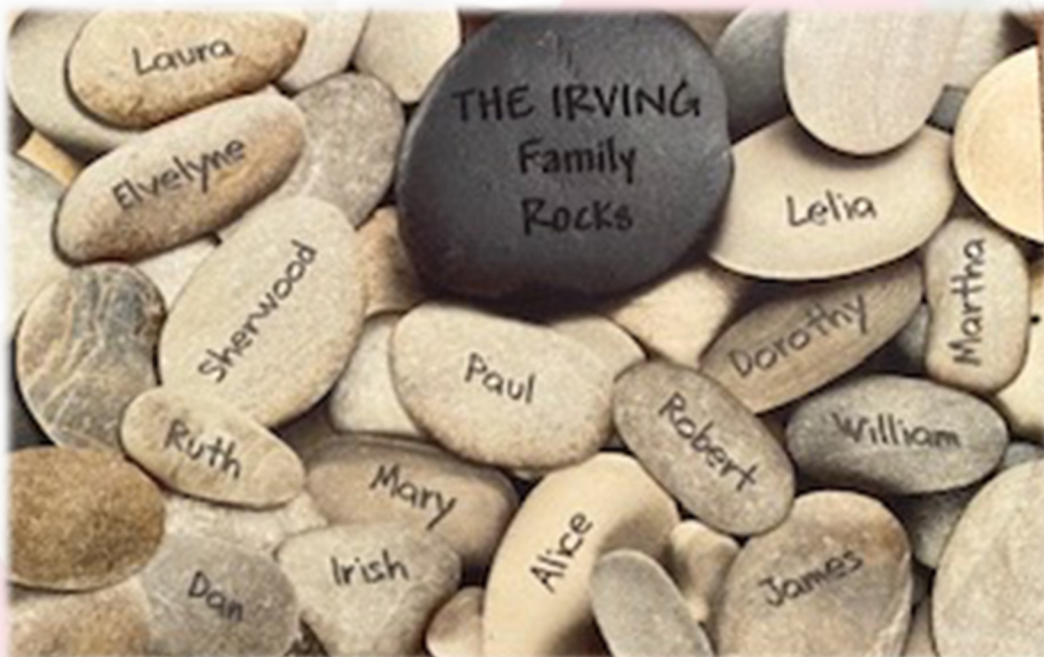
Rufus,

Saying goodbye to you is hard. You and I had built a beautiful relationship. It all started when you were going through your health challenges. I was right there cheering you on as you faced and overcame every obstacle. While the doctors gave one Report, you chose to believe the Report of the LORD. And, when you were well enough to come back to Church, you always came over to where I was sitting to speak and fellowship with me.

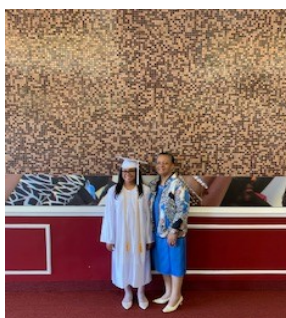
I am going to miss you staying with me from time to time. I am going to miss our road trips back and forth to Virginia. I am going to miss our small talks and laughter. I am going to miss your beautiful smile...but most importantly, I am going to miss you. You get to join Daddy Paul, Momma Lelia, Nancy, Fox, Bob, Missy, BJ, and Christopher...what a reunion that will be.

And, now, as we have been taught, we have to prepare our hearts for our next. Your next came and you answered your Heavenly Father's call. With that comes no more doctor's visits, no more tests, and no more medications. You fought a good fight, you finished your course, and you kept the faith. Henceforth, there is laid up for you a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give you at that day because precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of His saints.

Bye for now...Arlene









Pallbearers

*Carlton Brown
Kelvin Brown
Maurice Brown
Jerome Giles
James Johnson, Jr.
Luther Thompson*

Flower Bearers

Family and Friends

Acknowledgement

The Burse and Irving families sincerely thank all of you for your prayers, comfort, love and support. Your many acts of kindness and expressions of sympathy have been a blessing to us. May the Lord Jesus Christ bless and keep you in perfect peace!

*Services Entrusted To:
Pridgen Funeral Services
Lanham, Maryland*