

***Celebrating the Life
of
Ellen Loretta Delaney***

**Sunrise
November 30, 1941**

**Sunset
July 4, 2021**



Tuesday, July 20, 2021

**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

Ellen Loretta Delaney was born on November 30, 1941, to Willis and Estelle Paige in Ladysmith, Virginia. She was the eldest of eight children.

Loretta, as many called her, grew up in the Washington metropolitan area. She was educated in the District of Columbia and graduated from Spingarn High School. She furthered her education at Temple Business School. At Temple, the skilled young woman proudly boasted about being the fastest typist in her class. After finishing school, Loretta began working for the U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. During her tenure, she received numerous accolades for her exceptional work. Moreover, she managed multiple multi-million dollar budgets for the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency; and was the only African American GS-14 in her office. Loretta retired after 46 years of dedicated service with the federal government.

Loretta, a godly woman, was led by her son to attend church. And her life changed after accepting Jesus Christ as her personal Lord and Savior. In 1991, she joined From the Heart Church Ministries—Loretta loved her church and was actively involved in the life of the ministry. For three years, she faithfully served as an Assistant Ministry Head for the New Members Ministry and remained a member until her health began to fail.

Loretta the encourager was always ready to share words of wisdom with anyone she could. Her favorite pastimes included collecting recipes, baking, and playing solitaire. Furthermore, she had an affinity for the national theater.

Family was very important to Loretta—she enjoyed cooking for them, and was known for her plentiful Thanksgiving Day spreads, delectable sweet potato pies, and homemade cakes. She relished gatherings where family would stop by for a plate of food and good conversation. And despite her personal battles, she always called, answered phone calls, and thought of ways to pour into others' lives.

Loretta will be greatly missed by those who knew and loved her. She leaves to cherish her memory her daughter, Leatha Johnson; son, David Delaney; granddaughter, Marjani Cephus; siblings, Jean Milbourne, Mary Hursey, Sherry Paige, Jerry Paige, and Ronald Paige; and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives, and friends.

Loretta was preceded in death by her parents, Willis, and Estelle Paige.

Order of Service

Invocation

Scripture Reading

Old Testament: Psalm 31:1-5
New Testament: 1 Corinthians 15:50-58

Prayer of Comfort

Selection *FTH Psalmist*

Acknowledgements

Remarks

Ms. Leatha Johnson, Daughter

Obituary (Read Silently)

Song of Preparation *FTH Psalmist*

Message of Hope *Reverend Walter McLaughlin, III*

Call to Christ

Committal

Benediction

Recessional

A Mother's Love

By Helen Steiner Rice

*A Mother's love is something
that no one can explain,
It is made of deep devotion
and of sacrifice and pain.
It is endless and unselfish
and enduring come what may
for nothing can destroy it
or take that love away...
It is patient and forgiving
when all others are forsaking,
And it never fails or falters
even though the heart is breaking...
It believes beyond believing
when the world around condemns,
And it glows with all the beauty
of the rarest, brightest gems...
It is far beyond defining,
it defies all explanation,
And it still remains a secret
like the mysteries of creation...
A many splendoured miracle
man cannot understand
And another wondrous evidence
of God's tender guiding hand.*

Dear Gammy,

I miss you dearly. I find myself reminiscing about our funny memories or our morning routine. It doesn't feel the same not making a second cup of coffee in the morning or watching you eyeball how much creamer I pour in your cup.

My sadness comes and goes but is always interrupted with remembering you are in heaven with the Lord. That is more than enough to make me smile.

I cherish the quiet because of you. One of our favorite hobbies was just sitting at the nook and individually reading...we just appreciated being around each other.

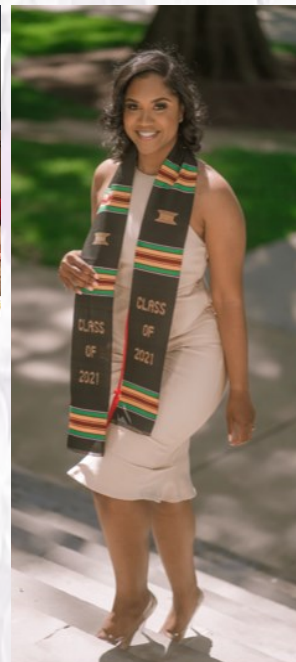
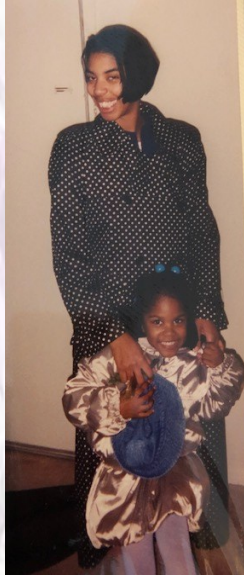
You taught me so many lessons and shared so much wisdom. You taught me to never say "I can't" and how to stand alone. You were a holy, steadfast, and opinionated woman. You were also altruistic, compassionate, and benevolent. I am tremendously appreciative of the 27 years God granted us together.

While you would always say "Pooh, you don't have to thank me, I know you're grateful", I just want to thank you one more time. Thank you for being the epitome of a godly woman. Thank you for always answering and discussing Bible verses with me. Thank you for being my late-night study buddy. Thank you for being my "attorney" and negotiating consequences with my mom. Thank you for holding on and doing one last communion with us.

I will always love you Gammy, never forget that.

Love your granddaughter, Marjani





Pallbearers

Family and Friends

Flower Bearers

Family and Friends

Acknowledgement

We thank you so much for all the kindness you have shown. For friendship's healing touch, with gratitude our hearts are full, though words cannot convey the tender thoughts and thankfulness we hold for you today. Love, the family.



Services Entrusted to:
Hodges and Edwards Funeral Home
3910 Silver Hill Road
Suitland, Maryland 20746