



A Celebration of Life for

Martha C. Henderson

Sunrise

October 2, 1928

Sunset

February 2, 2024



Friday, February 23, 2024

10:00 A.M. VIEWING | 11:00 A.M. SERVICE

FROM THE HEART CHURCH MINISTRIES
5055 ALLENTOWN ROAD | SUITLAND, MARYLAND 20746
BISHOP JOHN A. CHERRY, II - PASTOR



Obituary



Martha C. Henderson was born on October 2, 1928, in Newport News, Virginia, to Joseph Washington and Mary Alice Williams Pierce Taylor. She was the youngest of four children. The Taylor family relocated to Washington, D.C., in 1931. Martha received her education in the District of Columbia Public Schools, graduating from Cardoza High School.

Martha was raised in a true Holy Ghost-filled Bible gospel environment by her parents, who were involved in and supportive of the Gospel Spreading Church founded by the late Elder Lightfoot Solomon Michaux. Martha, along with her family, actively participated in many events under the direction of Elder Michaux, as “Big Joe,” her dad, served as one of the leaders in the establishment of the seven churches of the Gospel Spreading Church of God from Newport News, Virginia, to New York City on 145th Street.

Martha, along with her siblings, did whatever they were asked to do to help. As a young lady, she served in many capacities in the Church of God in Washington, D.C. This included the Taylor Quartet, choirs (including the famous Cross Choir of 156 voices), and the band that marched throughout the city accompanied by a parade of floats, banners, buses, and cars advertising the Sunday Services and the annual Baptism, which was held at the old Griffith Stadium. This is now where Howard University Hospital stands. On many occasions, if she knew when the Cross Choir was rehearsing, Martha would show up and sit quietly in the back just to listen and enjoy the gospel songs of Zion. She was recently recognized as the oldest living former member of the band and choir.

On July 12, 1958, Martha married Leroy G. Henderson. And out of their union were born Marsha, Troy, Maria, and Dexter. While raising her family, she spent many years in the big house on the corner of Trinidad Avenue in Northeast Washington, D.C. Her family has many wonderful memories from Trinidad. As time went on, she moved to Prince George’s County, Maryland.

As things changed, Martha joined From the Heart Church Ministries in Suitland, Maryland in 1994. She continued to be a servant of the King and lift up the name of Jesus. One of her favorite songs was “*If Jesus Goes with Me, I’ll Go Anywhere.*” If there was anything that she thought she could do to help anyone, she would do it, no matter how small.

Martha just loved life. She loved to travel, but never again on a plane. She did that once, and that was enough. She loved to drive and take her family on trips. Martha loved football and basketball! She was a diehard Commanders fan, formerly the Washington Redskins. If she could, she would challenge you, that’s right—take you to the hoop and make the shot. She would give you a run for your money. She just loved sports. Martha loved to skate at Kalorama Road Skating Rink on Ladies’ Night. On many occasions, she would take Marsha and Maria with her. Skating was a thing for the Taylors, and this included Joe, her brother, and all his children. Later in life, when she was unable to be active, she would watch all the games—and you didn’t call her when a game was on—that wasn’t happening. Everyone knew better.

Over the years, Martha worked at Naval Security Station, Fort Meade, and the Pentagon. She retired from the federal government after 35 years of service. Although retired, she stayed busy, always active and doing something. She was still driving until 2023. You might see her anywhere—Annapolis, Maryland, Haines Point, Georgetown, or Watkins Park. She loved Watkins Park. Martha would pack her lunch and sit in the park all the time, just people watching and birdwatching. And, oh my, she loved to eat good food and could cook too, but not as much as she used to. If you wanted to make her smile, you simply brought her some KFC; you had her. She was from the old school. Everything had to be neat and orderly at all times.

On February 2, 2024, Martha transitioned quietly at home. She was called from labor to reward, to get her new body and eternal life. She will be dearly missed by all who knew and loved her.

Martha leaves to cherish her memory her children: Marsha Anita Henderson, Troy Henderson, and Maria Terez Henderson; stepdaughter, Patricia Marshall; seven grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; a great-great-grandchild; and a host of relatives and friends.

Martha was preceded in death by her parents, Joseph Washington and Mary Alice Williams Pierce Taylor; siblings: Mary, Joseph, and Nathan; husband, Leroy G. Henderson; son, Dexter D. Henderson; grandson, Michael Tucker, Jr.; stepdaughter Sherrell; and stepson Paul Henderson.



Order of Service

Invocation

Congregational Hymn,"It Is Well"

Scripture Reading

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

Prayer of Comfort

Selection.....FTH Psalmist

Remarks

Elder Timothy D. Taylor, Nephew
Elder Jonathan C. Taylor, Nephew
Ms. Joycelyn Scriber, Niece
Ms. Tania M. Atkinson/Ms. LaShaun Tucker, Grandchildren

Obituary (Read Silently)

Song of Preparation (Liturgical Dance).....Ms. Joy Fields

Message of HopeBishop John A. Cherry, II

Call to Christ

Recessional

Interment:

National Harmony Memorial Park Cemetery
7101 Sheriff Road | Hyattsville, Maryland 20785



A Place Over There

By Maria Henderson

*There's a place beyond the clouds
that's prepared just for you;
Where peace and love surround the air
Where the waters continue to flow.*

*Angels hear a whisper,
They stare below the clouds,
To see the tears of weary souls,
Swooping down they carry you home.*

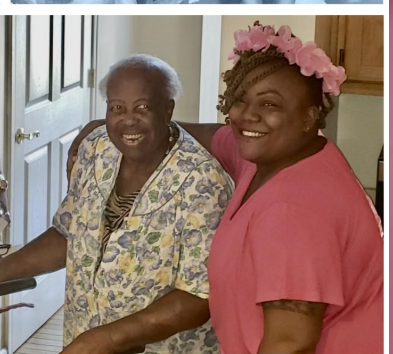
*No more need for sorrow,
No worry and no pain;
This journey is your destiny;
Only for you to proclaim.*

*Now your soul has made it through the GATES
Where you can roam;
To walk freely around Heaven;
Home to rest is where you belong.*

-Lovingly submitted on behalf of the Henderson Family









Congregational Hymn



It Is Well

*When peace like a river, attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,
It is well, it is well with my soul.*

Chorus

*It is well, with my soul,
It is well, it is well with my soul.*

*My sin, oh the bliss of this glorious thought,
My sin, not in part, but the whole,
Is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more,
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!*

Chorus

*And, Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
The trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend,
Even so, it is well with my soul.*

Chorus

Acknowledgment

We, the family of Martha C. Henderson, 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.

Pallbearers

*Sean Babcock, Greg Robinson,
Deonte' Scriber, Johnathan C. Taylor, II,
Aviel Tucker, and GeShon Tucker*

Flower Bearers

Family and Friends

Services Entrusted to:

**Hodges and Edwards Funeral Home
3910 Silver Hill Road
Suitland, Maryland 20746**