

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF

*Percy
Henderson Dixon*

JANUARY 15, 1945 - DECEMBER 14, 2024

MONDAY, DECEMBER 30, 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

On January 15, 1945, Percy Bell Henderson was born to the late Fair Hosea and Selena Bell Henderson in Prattville, Alabama.

Percy was raised in a four-room house as the fifth born of six children. Named after a family friend, she was affectionately nicknamed "PD". (It must have been prophetic for her to have that nickname since she would later marry and have that nickname make sense.) Growing up with parents as farmers, she spent days working in the fields, and evenings playing in the backyard with siblings and cousins that lived on the adjacent farm. On Sundays, she worshipped at Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, where she was baptized.

In 1963, Percy graduated from Autauga County Training School. Her academic excellence earned her a partial scholarship to Johnson C. Smith University. Unable to secure funding for room and board, she was left to face the Alabama 1960s' job market. She quickly realized jobs were limited. In pursuit of greater opportunities, she set her sight on relocating north. After spending a short time in Michigan with her aunt, she moved to New York with a cousin and met the three Wallace sisters: Ethelene, Barbara, and Sandy, creating relationships that lasted more than 50 years. After holding several retail jobs, she joined the sisters in Washington, DC in 1965.

Shortly after arriving in Washington, DC, she met James Dixon. In September 1966, the two were married by James' elder brother, Bishop Truman C. Dixon, Pastor of St. John Freewill Baptist Church in Washington, DC. From this union, she was blessed with two daughters, Nerissa Ymelda Dixon and Norina Faye Dixon. Percy joined and worshipped at St. John for 30 years. Actively involved in the church, she taught Children's Sunday School, directed Easter and Christmas plays, presided as the Gospel Choir president, sang soprano in the choir, and served in the Deaconess ministry. In 1997, she joined From the Heart Church Ministries where she served in the Helps Ministry, supporting multiple church activities including annual participation with Christmas in April.

Percy's career began as an operator for the C&P Telephone Company. After deciding to forgo a corporate career, she operated a home daycare for 40+ years. Her love for children resonated through her nurturing, teachings, and counseling. The children reciprocated their love as they raced to arrive first at the house, extended visits with weekend stays, and insisted on the preferred hair styling of Ms. Percy. Her compassion and wisdom fostered relationships with parents, becoming friend and confidante to many, advising on marriage, child rearing, and finances. In 2006, Percy's love for children was further displayed when joining Prince George's County Public School system. For three years, she aided special needs students as a teaching assistant at Oxon Hill Middle School and Arrowhead Elementary School.

Over the years, Percy created a home open to family and friends. Whether enduring sickness, recovering from surgery or rehabilitating from injury, she graciously hosted you in the home, nursed your ailments, and cooked your meals until you were restored back to health. Her giving and compassionate heart was extended during a routine grocery run. Having met Mrs. Wright at the store and learning of her misfortune, Percy returned home with groceries and Mrs. Wright, who stayed at the house for several nights. This ordained encounter blossomed into a friendship that lasted for several years thereafter.

Percy's favorite hobbies were sewing, gardening, and interior design. Her love for fashion was often showcased in the clothes she made for herself, Resse, and Faye, including Junior Usher and Gospel Choir uniforms. Her eye for interior decorating was evident in the custom draperies she made, and the scenes and costumes she created for church plays. When not in her sewing room, she would spend hours in the yard, planting flowers, pruning bushes, and designing hardscapes. Her landscaping would rival any photo in *Better Homes & Gardens* magazine.

Percy will be remembered for her selfless acts, her giving spirit, and her love for God and family. On Saturday, December 14, 2024, Percy transitioned and was received up to Glory while at home surrounded by family.

Percy leaves to cherish her memories, her husband of 58 years, James; two daughters, Nerissa Ymelda and Norina Faye; a sister, Ada Henry; two sisters-in-law, Ercile Henderson and Bettye Henderson; three sibling-cousins: Dr. John (Jacquelyn) Clay, A. Rene Wright, and Minnie Torrey; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

Percy was preceded in death by her parents, Fair Hosea and Selena Bell Henderson; and brothers: Edd Junior, Earnest, Ollis, and Hosea Henderson.

Order of Service

Invocation

Congregational Hymn "Love Lifted Me"

Scripture Reading

Old Testament: Psalm 34:1-8

New Testament: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Prayer of Comfort

Selection.....FTH Psalmist

Acknowledgements

Ms. Wanda Gray, Friend

Ms. Norina Dixon, Daughter

Ms. Nerissa Dixon, Daughter

Obituary (Read Silently)

Song of Preparation FTH Psalmist

Message of Hope Minister Janet D. Briscoe

Call to Christ

Recessional

Interment
Cedar Hill Cemetery
4111 Pennsylvania Avenue | Suitland, MD 20746

Family Sentiments

Thank You Mom

Thank you, God, for giving us our mom

Thank you, mom, for being a loving mother

Thank you, mom, for making our house a home

Thank you, mom, for teaching us values, morals, and principles based on the Bible

Thank you, mom, for your example of compassion when serving others

Thank you, mom, for showing us how to love and serve others

Thank you, mom, for giving us the opportunity to love, care for, and serve you

Thank you, mom, for being an example of a Virtuous Woman

Thank you, Jesus, for the gift of Salvation

Thank you, God, for we shall see our mom again!

Love, Resse and Faye

***In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in
Christ Jesus concerning you.***

(1 Thessalonians 5:18)

Family Sentiments

To My Wonderful Wife

I thank God, He knew it was not good for me to be alone – He sent me you. For over 58 years, you brought me much joy being a wonderful wife and mother. I love and appreciate you. I am grateful for all the love, support, and care you gave to me. You were a Godly example to our daughters, and you brought many blessings to our home. You looked after the needs and well-being of our family in an exceptional way. You graciously and generously shared our home to help others in need. You were truly my “Proverbs 31” wife! Thank you for enhancing my life through your character, conduct, and commitment to our vows – unto death do we part.

Love, James

Beyond the Sunset by Bill and Gloria Gaither

*Beyond the sunset, O blissful morning,
When with our Savior, Heav'n is begun;
Earth's toiling ended, O glorious dawning,
Beyond the sunset, when day is done.*

*Should you go first and I remain to walk the road alone
I'll live in memory's garden dear with happy days we've known
In spring I'll watch for roses red, when fades the lilac blue
And in early fall when brown leaves fall, I'll catch a glimpse of you*

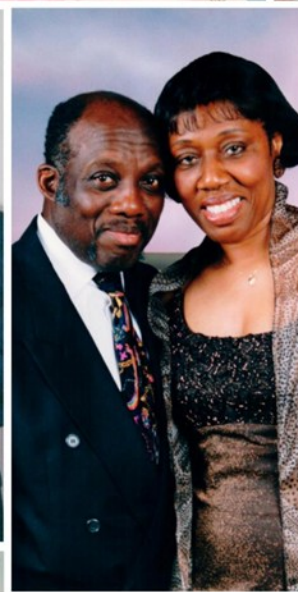
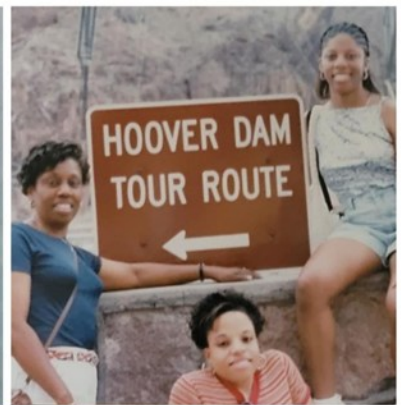
*Should you go first and I remain, to finish with the scroll
No lengthening shadows shall creep in to make this life seem droll
We've known so much of happiness, and we've had our cup of joy
But memory is one gift of God that death cannot destroy.*

*Should you go first and I remain, for battles to be fought
Each thing you've touched along the way, will be a hallowed spot
I'll hear your voice and I'll see your smile and though blindly I may grope
The memory of your helping hand will buoy me on with hope*

*Should you go first and I remain, one thing I'd have you do.
Walk slowly down that long, long path, for soon I'll follow you
And I'd want to know each step you take that I may walk the same
For someday down that lonely road, you'll hear me call your name*

*Beyond the sunset, O glad reunion,
With our dear loved ones who've gone before;
In that fair homeland we'll know no parting,
Beyond the sunset forever more!*





Congregational Hymn

LOVE LIFTED ME

*I was sinking deep in sin, far from the peaceful shore,
Very deeply stained within, sinking to rise no more,
But the Master of the sea, heard my despairing cry,
From the waters lifted me, now safe am I.*

REFRAIN

*All my heart to Him I give, ever to Him I'll cling,
In His blessed presence live, ever His praises sing,
Love so mighty and so true, merits my soul's best songs,
Faithful, loving service too, to Him belongs.*

REFRAIN

*Souls in danger look above, Jesus completely saves,
He will lift you by His love, out of the angry waves.
He's the Master of the sea, billows His will obey,
He your Savior wants to be, be saved today.*

REFRAIN

**Love lifted me! Love lifted me! When nothing
else could help, Love lifted me!
Love lifted me! Love lifted me! When nothing
else could help, Love lifted me!**

Acknowledgements

We extend our deepest gratitude to the caregivers that provided care and support to Ms. Percy during her time of need. Your dedication, compassion, and kindness made a significant impact in her life and ours. Thank you, CeCe, Gloria, Monique, Debbie ("My Friend"), and Alexius for your patience and tender care. We are forever grateful.

The Family of Percy H. Dixon

Pallbearers

Kevin Dixon, Tyrikko Dixon, Keith Henderson, Bryon Henderson,
Alvonte Henderson, and Anthony Stevens

Flower Bearers

Family and Friends

Services Entrusted to:

Thornton Funeral Home
3439 Livingston Road | Indian Head, MD 20640