

July 1, 1933 — February 1, 2025

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF



Mattie Barnard O'Neal

Monday, February 24, 2025

Viewing: 10:00 a.m. | Service: 11:00 a.m.

From the Heart Church Ministries®

5055 Allentown Road

Suitland, Maryland 20746

Bishop John A. Cherry, II - Pastor

Celebration of Life

Mattie Barnard O'Neal was born in 1933, to the late Pate Owens and the late Gertrude Walker in Tifton, Georgia. Notably, she was her mother's thirteenth child, the youngest descendant of that bloodline and the oldest living descendant of her family.

Mattie received her primary and secondary education in Georgia. In 1949, her family migrated east to Albany, New York. Years later, she began working at the Veterans Hospital in Albany where she remained until 1960.

Mattie was the doting mother to four children when she married the late Clarence S. Barnard and moved to Georgetown, a small community in Washington, D.C. Three children were born to their union. Mattie later wed Little David O'Neal, but they had no children together.

Mattie worked various positions in the healthcare field and eventually became a licensed practical nurse at Washington Hospital Center and Marcelle Nursing Home. However, the trajectory of her career changed when she became a certified accountant and began working in military pay for the Department of the Navy at the Anacostia Naval Base. On December 30, 1999, after many years of dedicated service, Mattie retired from the federal government.

Post-retirement, she was employed for thirteen years with From the Heart Christian School as an extended care worker, a teacher's assistant, school office assistant, a receptionist, and lastly Detention Coordinator. She took her assignments seriously.

Mattie, a woman of God, joined From the Heart Church Ministries in 1986, where she grew in her faith in God under the teachings of Founding Pastor, John A. Cherry. She was a committed member of the church who for more than 25 years joyfully served in the Usher and Seniors Ministries. Although limited by her failing health, she continued to attend worship services where she praised the Lord wholeheartedly.

In 2014, Mattie was honored at the Southeast Ward 8 Community Activist and Legends Recognition Brunch at the closing of Parklands Community Center in Washington, D.C. She and other activists worked tirelessly to bring social change, safe environments, human service programs and activities to the youth and families in that area.

Mattie will be dearly missed by all who knew and loved her. She leaves to honor her legacy, her children: Lucinda Barney, Denita Rutherford, Linda Knight, Reginald Bright, Wayne Burt and Stephen Barnard; and a host of nieces, nephews, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren.

Mattie was preceded in death by her son, Robert Burt.



Order of Service

Invocation

Congregational Hymn *“Blessed Assurance”*

Scripture Reading

*Old Testament: Psalm 23
New Testament: Matthew 19:13-17*

Prayer of Comfort

Selection *FTH Psalmist*

Acknowledgements

Poem *Ms. Linda Knight*

Obituary *Ms. Linda Knight*

Song of Preparation *FTH Psalmist*

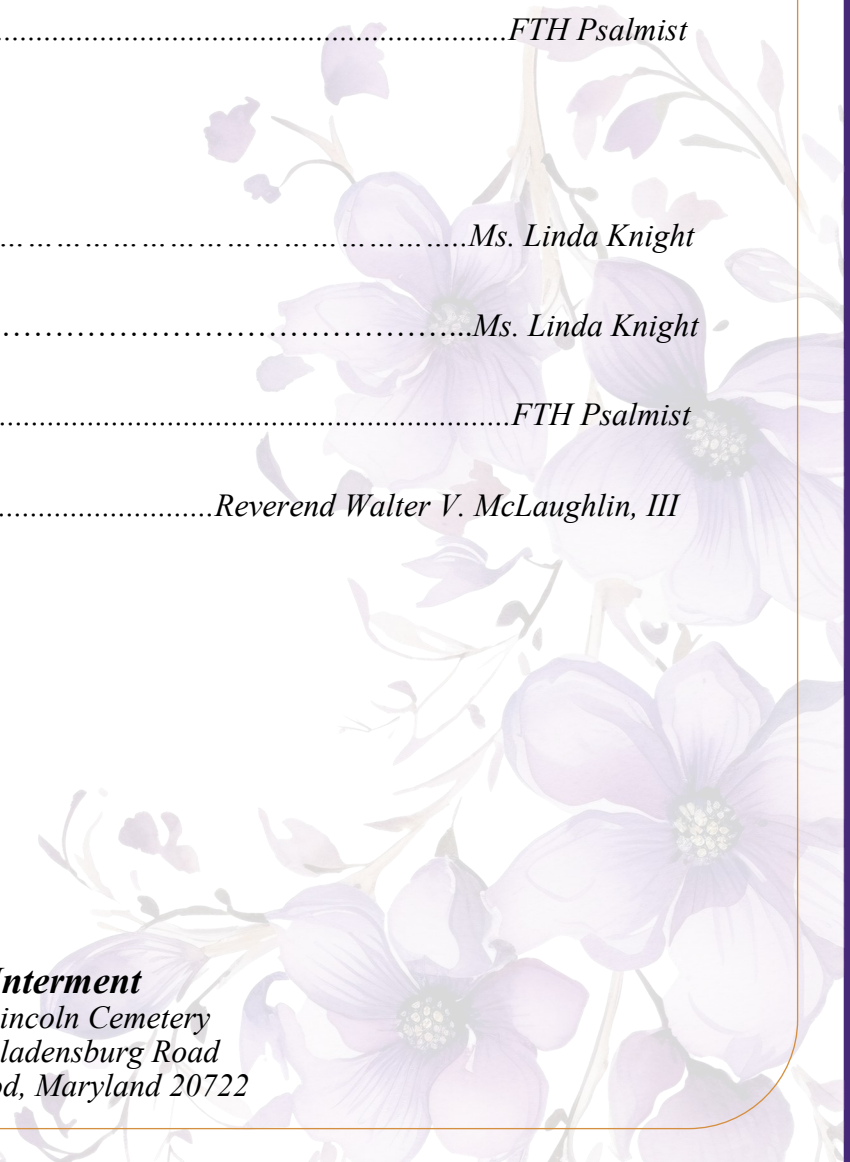
Message of Hope *Reverend Walter V. McLaughlin, III*

Call to Christ

Recessional

Interment

*Fort Lincoln Cemetery
3401 Bladensburg Road
Brentwood, Maryland 20722*





Family Sentiments

You're gone, but you will not be forgotten. God brought you home to take your rest on February 1st. He knew you had been a faithful servant and done your best.

-Nathaniel Bright

*You prayed for us, so we know you will continue to watch over us.
Love you, Nana; you will be missed.*

-Andrea Rutherford

Heavenly Father,

I ask for your mercy and grace for Mattie B. O'Neal as she passes from this life into eternity. Please bring her into your loving arms and grant her peace and rest. I also pray for those who are left behind, that they can find comfort and hope in your presence and the promise of eternal life. May my mother Mattie B. O'Neal's soul rest in peace with the fullness of your love.

In Jesus name I pray, Amen.

I Love and miss you, Momma.

-Linda Knight





Family Sentiments

“THOSE WE LOVE DON’T GO AWAY.
THEY WALK BESIDE US EVERY SINGLE DAY
THEY ARE UNSEEN, UNHEARD, BUT ALWAYS
NEAR. SO MISSED, SO LOVED, AND HELD
SO VERY DEAR”

Unknown Author







Congregational Hymn

Blessed Assurance

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory divine! Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.

CHORUS

This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long, this is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight, visions of rapture now burst on my sight; angels descending, bring from above, echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

CHORUS

Perfect submission, all is at rest, I in my Savior am happy and blest, watching and waiting, looking above, filled with His goodness, lost in His love

CHORUS

Pallbearers

*Stephen A. Barnard, Wayne Burt, David D. Jones, Jr.
Joshua A. Jones, and Jamelle Ushery*

Flower Bearers

Family and Friends

Acknowledgements

The family of Mattie O'Neal 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:

*B.K. Henry Funeral Home
5732 Georgia Avenue, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20011*