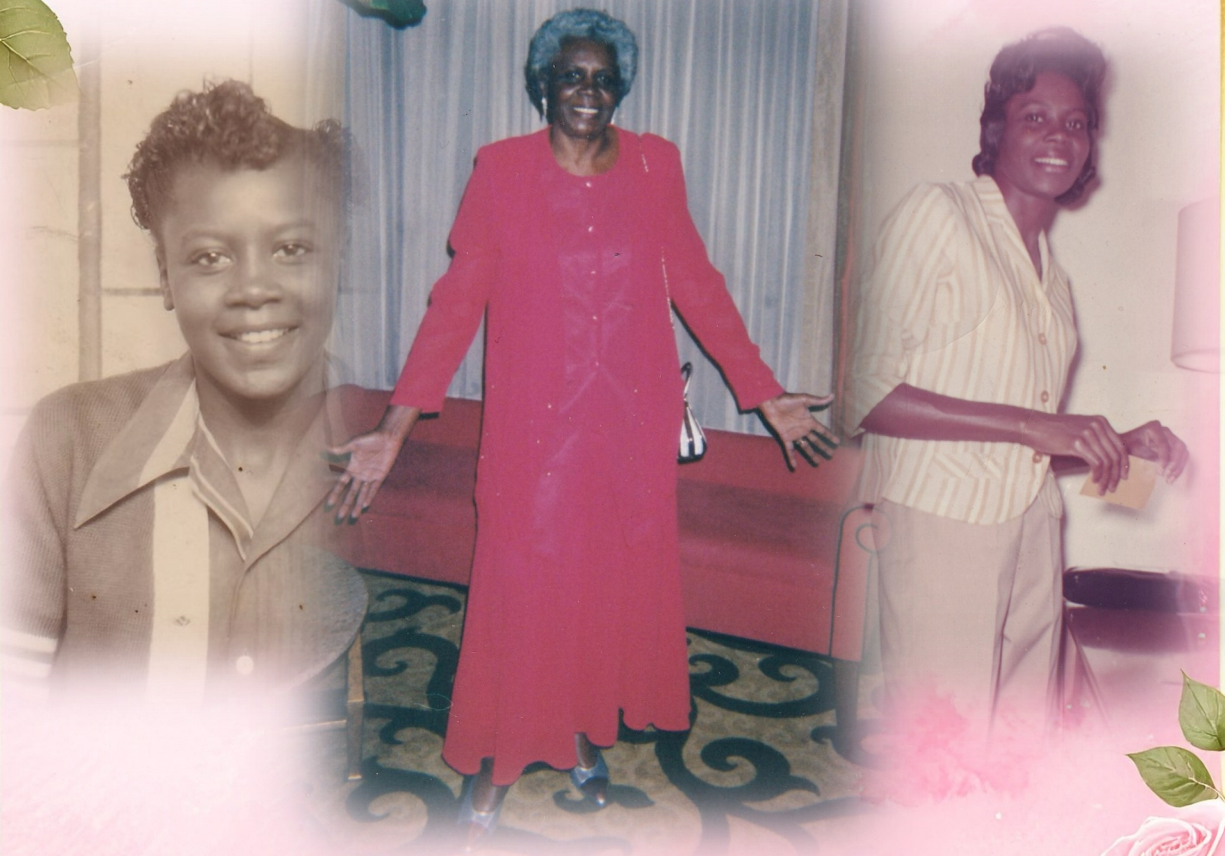




Celebrating the Life of

Bertha Mae Whitney

APRIL 15, 1936 - AUGUST 23, 2025



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2025

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

FROM THE HEART CHURCH MINISTRIES®

5055 ALLENTOWN ROAD | SUITLAND, MD 20746

BISHOP JOHN A. CHERRY, II - PASTOR



Obituary

On August 23, 2025, the Lord welcomed **Bertha Whitney** home to Glory. Bertha Mae Mauldin was born on April 15, 1936, to Eddie Mauldin and Lettie Mae Jackson in Beloit, Alabama, near Selma. Bertha and her elder brother, Toba, were raised on a farm by their loving grandmother, Bertha Lee Mitchell. Bertha grew up in the A.M.E. Zion Church where she accepted the Lord Jesus as her personal savior as a child. She attended the Dallas County Training School for twelve years, graduating as salutatorian in 1954.

Bertha relocated to Chicago for employment opportunities, but at Toba's urging, ultimately settled in Washington, D.C., in the late 1950's. She worked for the Department of Health and Human Services for a couple of years and then made a career at the Government Printing Office, where she worked for 32 years and retired in 1995. Bertha was a highly skilled typist, motivated employee and excellent colleague. To this day, former co-workers speak very highly of her character, cherished advice, and their life-long friendships.

Bertha met the love of her life, Earnest L. Whitney circa 1962, as she departed the Howard Theater on U Street N.W., Washington, D.C. He courted her at her brother's house, under the watchful eye of Bertha's young niece sitting between them on the sofa. They were married at Varick A.M.E. Zion Church on September 5, 1964, and remained so for 39 years when Earnest went home to be with the Lord. From their union, one daughter was born.

As a mother, Bertha's love was deep and unconditional! She was sweet, gentle, and compassionate. Her commitment and sacrifice knew very few boundaries. She seldom seemed to say 'no' or yelled, because she was prayerful and thoughtful about her responses. Bertha would often say, "Never say anything you have to go back and apologize for later." She taught that you must learn to bite your tongue and be a woman of your word. Bertha built and fostered a strong relationship with her daughter that remained. Bertha was a Proverbs 31 mother.

In 1994, Bertha joined Full Gospel A.M.E. Zion Church, later, From the Heart Church Ministries after visiting with her daughter. Bertha loved and enjoyed the fellowship of her church family and friends. She diligently served in the Helps Ministry, including the Repast Team, for many years until her health would no longer allow her to serve. She also participated in the Women of God Lifegivers Fellowship. Bertha loved to work like it was a hobby.

In 2010, at age 75, Bertha took a two-year break from serving in ministry to babysit her newborn grandson who put a renewed pep in Bertha's step. She was amazing, as she doted on him, changed diapers and rolled in the floor to play with him as easily as any 25-year-old. Being a grandmother was one of Bertha's greatest joys.

Bertha loved God's Word and being a living example to be read of all men. She didn't quote scripture often but certainly lived it. She would often say, "You have to pray and let the Lord lead you." Bertha was full of wisdom and love-personified: kind-hearted, humble, forgiving, peaceful, patient and full of joy! Bertha blessed all who knew her.

During the last stage of Bertha's life-journey, her vibrant spirit truly shined despite the frailty that slowly overcame her body. She was a witness of the faithfulness of God until the end. She continued to share her wit and wisdom, pray for her family and caregivers, and remain beautiful and amazing by the grace of God. Bertha fought a good fight of faith and finished her course.

She leaves to cherish her memories, her daughter, Anita (Scottie) Lee; grandson, Joshua; niece, Deborah (Ronald); nephew, Toba Jr.; and a host of other family and friends.

Bertha was preceded in death by her parents, Eddie Mauldin and Lettie Mae Jackson; brothers: Toba, Eddie Lee, Gerald, and Leon; and sisters, Eddie Mae and Patricia.

Order of Service

Invocation

Congregational Hymn *“Blessed Assurance”*

Scripture Reading

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

Prayer of Comfort

Selection..... *FTH Psalmist*

Acknowledgements

Remarks

Mrs. Deborah Watts, Niece
Ms. Esther Reece, Caregiver and Family Friend
Mrs. Anita Lee, Daughter

Obituary..... *Ms. Helen Beard*

Song of Preparation *Reverend Karen Curry*

Message of Hope *Minister Patricia Taylor*

Call to Christ

Recessional

Interment
Fort Lincoln Cemetery
3401 Bladensburg Road | Brentwood, MD 20722



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.*



Family Sentiments

Dearest Mama,

You were a woman of distinction, dignified, immaculate, proper, humble and sweet as sugar! But you were no pushover. Your hair was flawless, the crease in your jeans was sharp, your home was pristine and welcoming, and your love was ever flowing. You were a committed wife, mother, mother-in-law, grandmother, sister, aunt and friend. You are the most courageous person I know. I am honored to call you mother. You were incredible and I miss you. I praise Jesus and thank you for being my wonderful mother.

-Love you forever, Anita

Dearest Mama,

You were truly a mom to me. You filled the void in my life of care, kindness and showing a mother's love. I will miss you.

-Love, Scottie

Dearest Grandmama,

You always gave me words of wisdom and said the right thing when I needed it. Thank you for taking care of me when I was little and loving me as much as you did.

-Love, Joshua

Dearest Bertha,

There are times in our lives when we are privileged to have extraordinary people walk among us. They are the candles whose light illuminates the paths of love, hope and joy.

-Lovingly, Diana Dillard-Rimes

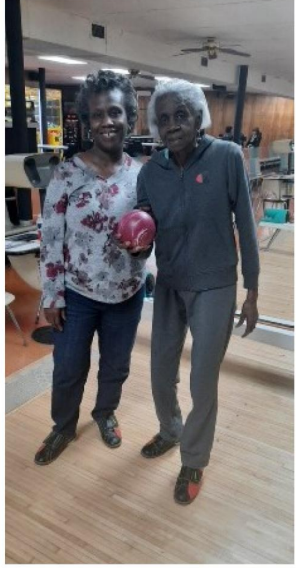
Ms. Bertha was a beautiful soul and an inspiration to all. She was a strong pillar and will truly be missed; I am happy to have had the opportunity to be in her good grace. May God's grace and comfort be with you and your family.

I would like to thank you and your family for allowing Cheltenham Oaks Assisted Living to provide care for your loved one. I understand that there are many other places you could have chosen, and we do not take it lightly. We are grateful for the opportunity.

2 Corinthians 1: 3-4

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God."

**-Love, Esther Reece, RN and Care Staff
Cheltenham Oaks Assisted Living**







Acknowledgements

To the loving and committed staff at Cheltenham Oaks Assisted Living, We thank you so much for all the kindness and selfless care you have shown our mother. 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 and forever.

Love, the family.

To Ms. Jane Bendu, Ms. Karen Engandi, and Mrs. Valerie Willis, Your labor of love towards our mother will never be forgotten. You were God's angels of grace that worked tirelessly to ensure our mother could remain in her home two additional years until God opened another door. We thank you.

The entire family sincerely thanks 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

*Michael Bethea, Sr., Rodney Crestwell
Jon Hogans, Sr., Jonny Grier
Corey Jackson*

Flower Bearers

Family and Friends

Services Entrusted to:

*Stewart Funeral Home
4001 Benning Road, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20019*

