

Celebrating the Life of



Eunice
McCorkle

November 13, 1935 - December 23, 2025

Friday, January 9, 2026

Viewing: 10:00am

Service: 11:00am

From the Heart Church Ministries®
5055 Allentown Road | Suitland, Maryland 20746
Bishop John A. Cherry, II - Pastor



Obituary



Robert S. Thompson, Sr. married Adeline Stover in 1929. Although the doctors told them they would not be able to have children, a faithful, prayer-answering God said otherwise. He blessed them six years later through the birth of Eunice Elizabeth Thompson. Eunice was born in Lancaster County, South Carolina. “Daddy” and his firstborn had a very special relationship, and she was seldom more than a few feet from her father throughout her childhood.

God would bless the Thompson household with three more daughters and two sons. As a graduating senior at George Washington Carver High School in Kannapolis, North Carolina, Eunice earned 11 of the 12 academic awards, including class Valedictorian.

Eunice started her college career at North Carolina Central University (NCCU), formerly North Carolina College at Durham, excelling in English and Drama, before finalizing her degree at Barber-Scotia College, closer to home.

As a drama teacher at NCCU, she mentored late television star, Ivan Dixon (“Hogan’s Heroes”). During her years as a teacher at Taft Junior High School, she served as inspiration to actress and “daughter” Kim Staunton (“Heat,” “Changing Lanes,” and “First Sunday”). Eunice taught her students to love and appreciate Paul Laurence Dunbar, Langston Hughes, and James Weldon Johnson and their creative Negro Dialect poems. She could recite most by heart and her performance of such, in Negro Dialect, mesmerized students, parents, and colleagues. As much as she loved drama, teaching English was her first love. It has been said that she “knew every rule of grammar and every exception to the rules!” She excelled in teaching all things Shakespeare and had her students on the edge of their seats as she guided them to develop an appreciation of literature. Eunice was rewarded for her excellence in teaching by being the recipient of three McDonald’s Ray Kroc Teacher of the Year awards, two Teacher of the Year awards, and an Outstanding Educator award. She had a 44 year long teaching career at Lexington High School in North Carolina, Taft Junior High School in D.C., Oxon Hill High School and Frederick Douglass High School in Maryland. Eunice also taught English and Drama for three years at Full Gospel Christian School. During these 44 years, she never met a student she could not reach and to this day, most of those who sat under her tutelage speak glowingly of her.

Eunice’s love for children extended past the formal classroom setting to the neighborhoods in which she lived. There were two things that always stood out to her: (1) she could not tolerate a young person being neglected, bullied, or mistreated and (2) she could not stand to see a young person being cold. As soon as the cool autumn breezes began, Eunice would seek kids who, in her opinion, were underdressed for the weather and she would buy them new coats! This applied to family, friends, students, and neighbors!



Obituary



Eunice and her sisters (affectionately called “The Sisters” and “The Aunts”) believed that while Sundays were meant for church, Saturdays were meant for shopping and eating lunch at malls in Tyson’s Corner, Landover, Iverson, Annapolis, and White Flint. One Saturday was meant for shopping and the next Saturday, coined “Take-back Saturday,” was for them to return items they’d just purchased the week before!

Eunice also thoroughly enjoyed spending time with her dearest colleagues from Frederick Douglass High School - Zena Thompson, Marcella Rigby, and the late Nora Cartwright. Their conversations, filled with infectious laughter, resounded in restaurants all over Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia.

Her 60-year marriage to Melvin Frank McCorkle (Davidson, NC) produced three children: Gary, Tina, and Tory (Chris). She was a dedicated member of Marable Memorial A.M.E. Church (NC), Hunter Memorial A.M.E. Church (MD), and From the Heart Church Ministries (formerly Full Gospel A.M.E. Zion Church in MD). Eunice was a woman who was much stronger and more resilient than even she knew. This was fully evidenced when she had breast cancer in 1985 and survived it with no recurrences for over 40 years without having had any chemotherapy or radiation treatments. It was also on display in 2002 when she lost her only daughter, Tina, at age 43. Her faith in God carried her through. Even in her latter years, being plagued with dementia, she remained as sweet spirited and giving as she always had been. She lived by her two favorite sayings: “If I can help somebody along the way, my living shall not be in vain,” and Psalm 46:10 - “Be still, and know that I am God...”

Preceding her in death were her husband Melvin F. McCorkle; daughter, Evangelist Tina McCorkle Glover (Kevin); her firstborn grandchild, Tiffany I. Glover; parents, Robert, Sr. and Adeline Thompson; brothers, Robert S. Thompson, Jr. (“June”) and Johnny Thompson (Mary).

Eunice is survived by her sons, Elder Gary M. McCorkle (Sharon) and Tory Christopher McCorkle (Michelle); sisters, Marie A. Jumper (Floyd), Ida T. Colson (Bruce), and Rojulene Norris (Bobby); grandchildren: Trenise McCorkle, Triana McCorkle, Troiah Mason (Tyrone), Traleia McCorkle, Lauren Burleson (Jesse), Samuel Glover, Christopher A. McCorkle, Kathleen McCorkle, Gannon McCorkle, and Matthew McCorkle; and great-grandchildren: Jakobi Jackson, Kairo Jackson, and Naomi Mason. Eunice always mentioned how blessed she was to have Sharon McCorkle as her daughter-in-law and was very appreciative of Sharon’s unselfish love and devotion as one of her primary caregivers. She had a special affinity for her “daughters of the heart” - Lorraine A. Porter, Kim Staunton, Kimberly Frazier Fields, and Nikki Skoko, “son of the heart” - Dwight Porter, hundreds of former students, extended family members, and former colleagues.

Order of Service

Invocation

Congregational Hymn

"It Is Well"
Mrs. Sharon McCorkle

Scripture Reading

Old Testament: Psalm 23
New Testament: II Corinthians 5:1-8

Prayer of Comfort

Selection

"If I Can Help Somebody" and "I Call Him Lord"
Mrs. Lauren Burleson

Acknowledgements

Remarks

Reverend Diana P. Cherry, Founding Mother
Bishop John A. Cherry, II - Pastor

Ms. Trenise McCorkle, Granddaughter
Mrs. Mary Ann Bailey, Former Colleague
Mr. Edmund Fleet, Former Student
Mrs. Kimberly Frazier Fields, Former Student

Poem

"The Blueprint"
Mrs. Lisa Williams Muhammad

Obituary

Mrs. Stacey McCauley-Pearson

Song of Preparation

"I Go to the Rock"
Bishop Jeremiah Murphy & Unlimited Praise,
T-Girls, Mrs. Lauren Burleson, and Mrs. Sharon
McCorkle

Message of Hope

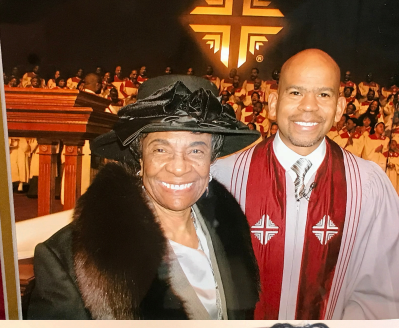
Reverend Willette O. Wright

Call to Christ

Recessional

Interment

Resurrection Cemetery
8000 Woodyard Road
Clinton, Maryland 20735





Reflections

Eunice T. McCorkle (“Mom McCorkle” to me) did everything out of love. I remember a beautiful woman with a bright smile and good heart. I remember the woman who demonstrated great faith in the Lord, love for her family, and was an award-winning teacher (several times over). A former student recently spoke of her great, positive influence on them. This generous woman who put her faith into action treated all people with love, kindness and respect. She saw the best in everyone. She lived as a true witness and soldier for the Lord and carried herself as the Bible speaks of saints -- as royalty. As a child of God, she held a high standard for life. One could see it in her and her family. Excellence! **-Lorraine Porter**

In ninth grade at Taft Jr High School, students had to choose an elective course. I chose drama which would turn out to be nothing short of a life long miracle. The course, along with English Literature was taught by the extraordinary Eunice McCorkle, whose brilliance fused my passion for drama with the importance of English literature. She was far more than an instructor—she was my muse, guide, counselor and mentor. When we need it most, a guardian angel appears. Mine was Mrs. McCorkle who encouraged me to audition for Ellington School of the Arts which led me to the Juilliard Drama Division and a 44 plus year career in show business. Her belief, encouragement and grace planted seeds that allowed me to soar for a lifetime. I remain ever grateful to the McCorkle family for sharing this phenomenal woman with me and the world. **-Kim Staunton**

My fondest memories of our mother are of a loving woman who put her unconditional love for all of her family above all, in any way imaginable. She lived to instill joy, optimism and being uplifting, bringing her smile through good and rough times. Her dedication to our Lord was always inspirational and manifest in her profession as a teacher extraordinaire. In a world too often overshadowed by pain and strife, she was a beacon of peace and love we will all dearly miss. Ninety years of excellence. We love you always, Mom. **-Chris McCorkle**

So many memories held on that stage, downstairs with the burgundy carpet, and all throughout the house on Bennington Court. Memories of the train rolling under the Christmas tree during the holidays, and having to make sure we could squeeze behind the chairs and the china cabinet in the living room during dinners. We vividly remember stopping by on Sundays after church, the pond with the fish in the backyard, and our mouths watering for a piece of chocolate cake. When we think of Grandmommy, we think of joy and the brightest smile that could light up a room, with a laughter that followed right behind it. Her warmth and presence will be truly missed. We know she's resting well and we are glad that she is at peace now. Until we meet again. **-Trenise, Triana, Troiah (Mason), and Traleia McCorkle**

My GMa, my first best friend, my birthday twin—There was no heart bigger than hers. No intellect more brilliant than hers. No smile more radiant than hers. So much of who I am came from her. Her students talk about what an incredible teacher she was, but the lessons she taught me were through the life she lived— a life of selfless service to others, poise and grace in the face of adversity, and a quiet strength that never demanded the spotlight, and yet was profoundly influential. I am proud to come from her. I am blessed to have been loved so deeply by her. **-Lauren Burleson**

My grandmother, more affectionately known as Yenny, meant the world to me. Words cannot describe how grateful I am to have known her and to have been blessed by her presence and love in my life. Losing a grandparent or loved one is hard, especially around the holidays. But I stand firm on Matthew 24:35 that says even though she has passed away, God's word shall never pass away. She will always be in my heart. I can still hear her saying, "Put on that coat! Stay warm!" I am so grateful for the stories, the GREAT memories, and the legacy that lives within me. **-Samuel Glover**

I am going to miss her sweet, quiet, observant, but powerful spirit. She was one of the most gentle people I have ever known. It was a pleasure to help care for her and come to know all her “particular” ways. I will miss our special times together. Rest in peace, “ma” AKA “MRS. Mrs. McCorkle.” **-Sharon McCorkle**

How grateful we were to have her in our lives as “Ma.” No one was as generous, kind, inspiring, forgiving, and inclusive of others as she was. Witnessing all this daily was a joy. Her humor, dancing, the wearing of church hats, holiday dinners, “red-ink” Sunday grading of students’ papers, cakes/ pies/yams, and closing her eyes when the Redskins games got close will never be forgotten. Neither will I forget her overlooking my wife and me when we came through her door to see where her grandkids were. Our reunion will be marvelous. Caring for her in her latter years was an honor. **-Gary McCorkle**

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

Acknowledgements

The entire extended McCorkle family 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.

A special thank you to Comfort Care, In Community Senior Care, Mount of Venus Assisted Living, From the Heart Church Ministries, Hodges and Edwards Funeral Home, Resurrection Cemetery, and Mrs. Troiah Mason (Graphic Designer).

Flower Bearers

Family and Friends

Pallbearers

Edmund Fleet	Christopher McCorkle
Samuel Glover	Gannon McCorkle
Keith Holland, Sr.	Matthew McCorkle
Kenneth Miles, Sr.	

