

A CELEBRATION *of Life*



Mary Beatrice Strickland Flippen

May 20, 1917—January 13, 2013

Chestnut Ridge Progressive Primitive Baptist Church
4416 Westfield Road
Westfield, North Carolina

Order of Service

Saturday January 19, 2013 – 1:00 p.m.

OVERSEER *JEROME JEMONEY*, Officiating

Processional: (Please Stand)

Words of Comfort: Bishop Tony Carter

Invocation: Elder Emmanuel Jessup

Opening Selection: Moore Sisters

Scripture Old Testament: Reverend Billy Ray Smith

New Testament: Reverend Belvin Jessup

Solo: Bonita Watkins

Acknowledgements

Cards & Condolences: Donna Ann Flippen

Obituary Reading: Willa Bennett

Reflections: (2 Minutes Please)

Selection: The Mass Choir, Chestnut Ridge PPBC

Eulogy: Reverend James R Strickland

Recessional: (Please Stand)

Committal/Benediction: Reverend James R Strickland

Interment: Reverend James R Strickland

Strickland Family Cemetery
Mount Airy, NC

Final Flight: Spencer Funeral Home Staff

Repast:

Chestnut Ridge Progressive Primitive Baptist Church Fellowship Hall
immediately following interment.

Obituary

Mary Beatrice Strickland Flippen was the youngest of fourteen children born on May 20, 1917 in Surry County to the late George and Eldie Jessup Strickland. Her spirit returned to be with the Lord on Sunday, January 13, 2013 at Winthrop University Hospital in Mineola, New York, where she entered peacefully into eternal life surrounded and supported by her loving family and caregivers. She attended public school in North Carolina. She married at the age of 14 to the late Aldie Walter Flippen. From this union, they were blessed with 10 children. Prior to the death of her husband she was a devoted wife and stay-at-home mother who enjoyed raising her children. She later worked for many years at Spencer's textile industry, Ray's Starlight Hotel, Annabelle's Catering Service at the local Country Club, and various other businesses in the Mount Airy vicinity as well as volunteering at various organizations where she received numerous awards.

Momma Bea as she was affectionately known was a faithful, devoted and long standing member of Zion Baptist Church in Mount Airy, NC where she was a willing worker in building up the kingdom of God and lifting up the name of Jesus. She was a member of the Missionary Board, Senior Choir, Pastor's Aide, and Mother of the Church prior to relocating to New York.

Momma Bea had a unique talent for isolating wild hairs in the eyelashes of many who would call on her to relieve them of their misery. She would kindly have one sit down in a chair under the brightest light in the house, raise one's eyelid and proceed to give her diagnosis. Your stay in the chair depended on how bad the wild hairs were. Sometimes more than one visit was required. She loved helping others.

She also was a great cook and loved to cook and never turned down anyone who wanted or needed a hot meal. She had an open door policy where all who entered in her home were welcomed with open arms.

Momma Bea loved caring for and nurturing her family very much and never had an unkind word to say about anyone (friend or foe). Not only did she love her family she was also proud of her heritage. She was proud of the Strickland name and she wore it well. She was smart, thoughtful, real, innovative, calm, kind, loving, awesome, nice, and devoted. She was a dedicated and loyal servant of God. She loved Him with all her heart and you could tell God was the joy and the strength of her life especially when she sang her favorite song, "I Love the Lord." She is a "Child of the King" and lived her life so God could use her anywhere and anytime.

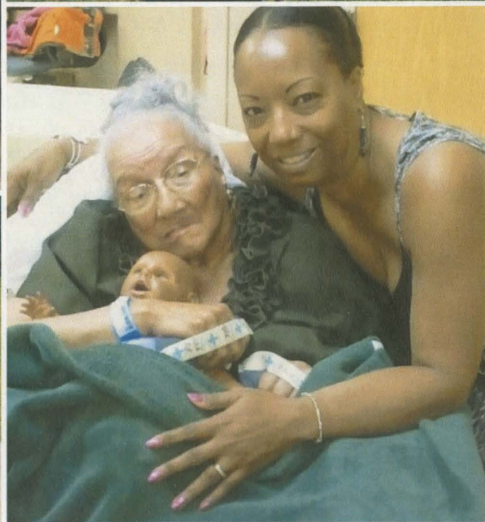
Momma Bea lived a very rewarding and prosperous life. She was blessed with a spirit of giving and kindness. She had a heart of gold filled with the fruits of the Spirit, love, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and temperance. She lived in the Spirit and she walked in the Spirit. Her Christianity was radiated in all that she did and the lives she touched.

Give her of the fruit of her hands; and let her own works praise her in the gates. Proverbs 31:31

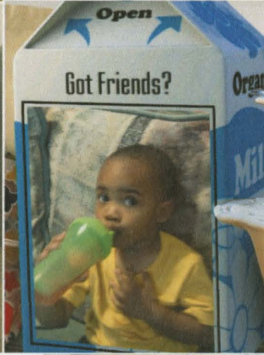
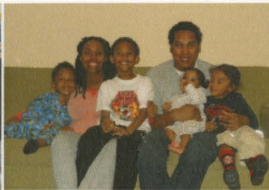
She was preceded in death by her husband, Aldie W Flippen; daughter, Wanda J France; son, David D Flippen; son, A Leroy Flippen; daughter, Shirley T Cannon; and son, Kenneth T Flippen; six brothers: Archie, Chester, Lester, Ezra, Ester, and Oscar Strickland; seven sisters: Nora Gilbert, Doran Jessup, Josie Hatcher, Daisy Gilbert Eldridge, Irene Smith, Lillie Hatcher, and Ethel Moore.

She leaves to cherish her memory, strength, and courage: Barbara D McCreary of Hempstead, NY; Mary J (Lewis) Kendrick of Hempstead, NY; Audrey M (George) Hayes of Westbury, NY; Clara Y Renfro of New Cassel, DE; Steve I (Donna Ann) Flippen of Mount Airy, NC; 40 grandchildren, 112 great grandchildren, 68 great great grandchildren and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

Her dust returns to the ground it came from and her spirit returns to God who gave it.







Since I was a little girl
 In all that I've been through
 You've always been my hero
 No one stood as tall as you
 You were the one who took the time
 to raise me and teach me what I needed to learn
 The lessons in life you shared with me,
 you shared with love and concern.
 I loved you as a child
 and now that I am grown
 I'm sharing those lessons you taught me
 with a child of my own.
 Generation to generation,
 I'll pass on your legacy.
 I'll tell of my loving Grandmother
 and all that you meant to me



Love Always,
 Your Lil Bit



My Dearest Family

To my dearest family, some things I'd like to say,
But first of all to let you know that I arrived okay.
I'm writing this from Heaven, where I dwell with God above,
Where there are no tears or sadness, there is just eternal Love.

Please do not be unhappy, just because I'm out of sight,
Remember that I'm with you, every morning, noon and night.
That day I had to leave you, when my life on earth was through,
God picked me up and hugged me, and said, 'I welcome you'.

'It's good to have you back again.
You were missed while you were gone.
As for your dearest family, they'll be here later on.
I need you here so badly as part of my big plan.
There's so much that we have to do, to help our mortal man'.

Then God gave me a list of things he wished for me to do.
And foremost on that list of mine, is to watch and care for you.
I will be beside you, every day of the week and year,
And when you're sad I'm standing there, to wipe away the tear.

And when you lie in bed at night, the day's chores put to flight,
God and I are closest to you in the middle of the night.
When you think of my life on Earth, and all those loving years,
Because you're only human, there's bound to be some tears.

One thing is for certain, though my life on Earth is over,
I am closer to you now than I ever was before.
And to my many friends, trust God knows what is best.
I am not far away from you, I'm just beyond the crest.

There are rocky roads ahead for you and many hills to climb,
Together we can do it, taking one day at a time.
It was my philosophy and please I'd like for you,
To give unto the world, so the world will give to you.

If you can help someone who's in sorrow or in pain,
Then you can say to God at night, my day was not in vain.
And now I am contented that my life it was worthwhile,
Knowing as I passed along the way, I made somebody smile.

When you're walking down the street and I am on your mind,
I'm walking in your footsteps, only half a step behind.
And when you feel a gentle breeze of wind upon your face,
That's me giving you a great big hug, or just a soft embrace.

When it's time for you to go from that body to be free,
Remember you are not going, you are coming home to me.

Acknowledgments:

The family wishes to extend sincere gratitude and kindness to everyone who have shown us care during our time of bereavement. We truly appreciate all your prayers and support and we thank you kindly.

- The family of Mary Beatrice Strickland Flippen



*Pall Bearers:
Grandsons*

*Flower Girls:
Granddaughters*

Funeral Arrangements Entrusted to:

Spencer Funeral Home

*824 North Main Street
Mount Airy, NC 27030*