

Order of Service

Processional.....Dr. Jeremy Flowers and Family
Parting View.....The Family
Candle Lighting Ceremony.....
Old Testament.....Tom McCloud
New Testament.....Elder John Edmerson
Prayer.....Elder Ronald Thigpen
Selection – “Yesterday”.....Jamie Gee
Poem.....Kayla Wiley
Acknowledgements.....Cynthia Porter
Slide Presentation

ExpressionsGrandsons, Jason Waller
and Mario Strayhorn

Obituary.....P. Ann Everson Price
Selection – “Walk Around Heaven All Day”.....
Jamie Gee

Eulogy.....Dr. Jeremy Flowers
Benediction.....Pastor Freddie T. Piphus
Recessional – “Going Up Yonder”.....Jamie Gee

From Your Children

Dear Granny,

Words can't explain how much we will truly miss you. You were a strong willed, God-fearing woman. A woman who loved her husband, children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. We know that you would want us to be strong because you are now with the Lord and your cherished husband. You are loved beyond measure. Rest in Heaven.

Written by Shayna Waller



Acknowledgements

The family of Loretta Strayhorn gratefully extend our sincere love and appreciation for all of the expressions of sympathy. Your visits, phone calls, text messages, sympathy cards, monetary gifts and prayers are overwhelmingly appreciated. Please continue to pray for our family, asking God to strengthen us during our time of bereavement. Our family also wishes to gratefully acknowledge the care that was given by the Hospice of Cincinnati; and a special thank you to Allison Lucas and Renee Scott for their loving care and kindness. We are forever grateful.

Pallbearers

Grandsons

Honorary Pallbearers

Nephews



Interment

Oak Hill Cemetery

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens: a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance, a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing, a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away, a time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak, a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace. (Ecclesiastes 3:1-8)

Family Chapel In The Dale

J.C. BATTLE & SONS FUNERAL HOME
543 Rockdale Avenue • Cincinnati, OH 45229
(513) 281-4330 • www.jcbattleandsons.com

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Celebrating the Life of Loretta Blackmon-Strayhorn

Sunrise

June 9, 1937

Sunset

June 20, 2021



Saturday, July 3, 2021

Visitation – 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Funeral Service – 12:30 p.m.

Gray Road Church of Christ

4826 Gray Road
Cincinnati, Ohio 45232

Lady Strayhorn, Sincere and Earnest!



Loretta Strayhorn was born on June 9, 1937 in Montgomery, Alabama to her parents, Willie Joe and Alberta Blackmon, she was their only child. In 1946, Loretta's mother moved to Cincinnati, as a single parent, to live with her sister until she found a job. At the young age of

ten, Loretta became the Lady of the House because her mother had to work long hours. Her mother taught her how to clean, wash, iron and cook, including baking homemade rolls, cakes and pies.

At age eleven, Loretta was given the responsibility of making sure the bills got paid on time. At that time, business hours were strictly Monday through Friday, 9am-5pm. When Loretta finished the school day, she had to return home to start dinner before her mother's arrival from work. Also, when the bills were due, she would spend 10 cents to take the bus downtown to make sure they were paid on time. This taught Loretta in many ways how to manage money and how to survive with what she had.

Loretta attended Stowe School in the West End, then graduated from Old Woodward High School in the class of 1955. Her first job after high school was at Children's Hospital. In 1957, she was accepted to Central Vocational School of Nursing. That same year, she married Sherman Strayhorn, and from this union, five children were born and they brought them up in the admonition of the Lord. After 37

years of marriage, Loretta lost her husband to a massive heart attack. She always felt that she and her family suffered a great loss. However, they made God the relieving force in their lives. Loretta took his seat on the Council in the Village of Woodlawn and served until the term ended.

Loretta left nursing school because, at that time, she said, "you could not have a baby and attend nursing school. How quaint." Later down the road, she became a certified C.N.A. and worked in hospitals, nursing homes and private duty. However, in the 1970s, after deciding to do something different, Loretta was hired at Ford Motor Company working on the assembly line for twelve years. She took an early retirement from Ford in order to care for her mother, who at that time had a terminal illness. After the death of her mother, Loretta's next job was working with children. She worked as a teacher's aid for grades one through six at Lincoln Heights Elementary School, at Stewart Elementary in the Extended Day Program in the Princeton District and for Central Academy Montessori School.

The next phase of Loretta's life was to open a daycare center. She took a two year course and earned a C.D.A. (Child Development Associate) from the Council for Early Childhood Professional Recognition in Washington, D.C., and received an award in recognition of outstanding work with young children. She also administered infant care in her home for young working mothers. Regarding child care, Loretta said, "I very quickly changed my mind about the day care center. Age is a great factor when you work with children everyday; although, it is a good feeling to see children grow and mature, especially if you've had a part in their growth."

As a lifelong member of the Church of Christ, Loretta Strayhorn put God first and has built a legacy on love, family and helping others. Her absence will be felt by all who knew and loved her. She will be dearly missed.

To My Church Family:

*When I'm feeling low or in despair
Lift up my heart and keep me in prayer*

~ Sister Loretta Strayhorn ~



Loretta leaves to cherish her memory: five children, Celestine, Yolanda Faye (Melvin), Daphne Denice (David), Sherman Jemal (Bridgette) and Shannon Gerard; six siblings, Bernice, Gloria (Eddie), Princella (Johnny), Joann, Sandra and Eddie; 14 grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren and a host of relatives, friends and her beloved church family.

