Order of Service

Prelude

Processional

Prayer

Scripture Readings

Old Testament

New Testament

Song "Oh Happy Day" Congregation

Acknowledgements/In Loving Memory Cards

Remarks (2 minutes or less)

Song

"Jesus Jesus" Composer, Shirley Caesar

Eulogy Pastor Andrew Wesley Lilley Love Temple House of Prayer Holiness Church Adel, Georgia

Recessional

Interment

Sunset Memory Gardens 8901 Lawyers Road Mint Hill, North Carolina



\_You can shed tears now that I'm gone Or you can smile because I have lived You can close your eyes and pray that I will come back Or you can open your eyes and see all that I have left Your heart can be empty because you can't see me Or you can be full of the love that we've shared"



Family and Friends

The family will hold a reception at Perfection Place Ct. Community Room in Belmont. All are invited to attend.

> Your words have comforted us. Your support has strengthened us and your love has sustained us

WE EXTEND OUR DEEPEST THANKS TO YOU FOR YOUR KINDESS DURING OUR GREATEST SADNESS. WE APPRECIATE IT MORE THAN WORDS CAN EXPRESS AND IT WILL ALWAYS BE REMEMBERED.

> *The Family of* Mother Odessa Pearson

Service of Comfort Provided by: Gregory Funeral Service, Inc. | 601 North York Street Gastonia, North Carolina 28052 | 704-867-4364



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Mother Odessa Pearson

October 6, 1932 – April 22, 2024

Monday; April 29, 2024 12:30 p.m.

Gregory Funeral Service Chapel 601 North York Street Gastonia, North Carolina

Rev. Andrew Lilley, Officiating Love Temple House of Prayer By Faith Holiness Church Adel, Georgia



## A Glimpse Into The Life of Mother Odessa Pearson

Odessa Pearson, our beloved mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, great-grandmother, auntie, sister and friend, has peacefully passed away at the age of 91. She was the oldest of eleven siblings and leaves behind a legacy of love, compassion, peace in the face of adversity and strength. Today, we gather to celebrate this extraordinary life.

Born on October 6, 1932, Odessa was raised in a close-knit family that cherished togetherness and instilled in her the values she carried throughout her life. From a young age, Odessa displayed resilience and determination, setting an example that would shape the lives of those around her.

She leaves to cherish her memories and her life 3 daughters, Alice Wright of North Carolina, Ella Sue Douglass (James) of Tennessee and Katherine Moore of North Carolina; siblings, 1 brother and 2 sisters, Andrew Wesley Lilley (Felicia), Thelma Hunt of Georgia, and Judy Lilley of Florida; her grandchildren Terrance Albert (Mina), Nyla Rosezetta, Timothy Alexander, Erinn, Justin and preceded in death by Vinson Odelle also 7 great grandchildren and 1 great-great grandchild, and a special God daughter (Deborah McClendon).

As fate would have it, Odessa's capacity for love extended beyond her immediate family. She was more than a mom and grandmother she was also an Auntie to nieces and nephews near and far, always eager to provide guidance and support. Her warm embrace and words of wisdom created a profound impact on their lives and her discipline beliefs cemented her reputation as a pillar of strength. Countless young souls consider themselves privileged to have grown up under her loving disciplined wing.

Being a matriarch defined Odessa, but her love was not limited to her own family. She was truly the "Mother of the Church," extending her care and compassion to the entire congregation. Her faith was unwavering, and she found solace in her spiritual home, where she nurtured the souls of those around her. Her unshakeable devotion touched the hearts of so many, and her memory will forever be cherished within the halls of her church home Gospel Lighthouse in Hartford, CT and (Jesus Christ Full Gospel) in Charlotte, NC.

Odessa possessed so many talents and she generously shared them with others. Her nimble fingers created magnificent works of art through her sewing, crafting, cooking, and needlepoint. Each intricate stitch was a testament to her creativity, and her creations brought joy to those fortunate enough to receive them. No gathering was complete without her signature dishes, lovingly baked and perfectly seasoned.

But above all, Odessa's greatest talent was her ability to be a beacon of light and love to all she encountered. Whether it was a listening ear, a comforting hug, a prayer that reached heaven's door or words of encouragement, she never hesitated to spread warmth and positivity.

Although we mourn the loss of an exceptional woman and the relationship she shared with each of us, let us celebrate the countless lives she touched, the souls she uplifted, the prayers she prayed and the love that she shared. Let us remember Mother Odessa Pearson, a remarkable human being, whose life was a tapestry of love and devotion.

Today, as we say our final goodbyes to the vessel that contained this beautiful soul, let us hold onto the lessons she taught us with so much grace. Rest in peace, Mother Odessa. We take joy in knowing that your brothers, sisters, grandson and great grandson greeted you in the spiritual realm to congratulate you on journey well-travelled. You have left a mark of pure love on our hearts, and your beautiful spirit will shine on, continuing to inspire us all.



