

# Miss Me - But Let Me Go

When I come to the end of the road  
And the sun has set for me  
I want no rites in a gloom-filled room.  
Why cry for a soul set free?  
Miss me a little - but not too long  
And not with your head bowed low.  
Remember the love that we once shared.  
Miss me - but let me go.  
For this is a journey that we all must take  
And each must go alone. It's all a part of the Master's plan  
A step on the road to home.  
When you are lonely and sick of heart  
Go to the friends we know  
And bury your sorrows in doing good deeds  
Miss Me - But Let Me Go

# Different Drummer

"If a man does not keep pace with his companions, perhaps  
it is because he hears a different drummer.  
Let him step to the music which he hears, however  
measured or far away."  
Henry David Thoreau

## Pall Bearers

Church, Family, and Friends

## Flower Bearers

Church, Family, and Friends

## Committal Rites and Interment

BAZZEL CREEK MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH CEMETERY

Fuquay-Varina, North Carolina

## Acknowledgement

The family wishes to thank everyone for their numerous acts of  
kindness, cards, and prayers during the loss of our loved one.

The Family

## Services Under the Direction of

**Trice**  
**Funeral Home**  
"One High Standard of Service"  
Est. 1953  
127 N. West Street  
Fuquay-Varina, NC 27526  
www.tricefuneralhome.com  
Phone: (919) 552-2888 Fax: (919) 557-9792  
Info@tricefuneralhome.com

## Celebration of Life for



**Clentis**  
**MINTER-WHITAKER**

*Sunrise*  
December 10, 1934



*Sunset*  
May 10, 2024

Saturday, May 18, 2024  
2:00 PM

BAZZEL CREEK MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH  
1228 Wilbon Road  
Fuquay-Varina, North Carolina 27526

Elder James A. Peterkin, Officiating



# Obituary



On May 10, 2024, **Clentis Minter Whitaker** went to be with her heavenly father. She was born in Holly Springs, North Carolina to the late Reverend Andrew Minter and Pecolia Turner Minter and was the stepdaughter the late Eva Minter. While her will to live persisted, her body could not go on. She was prepared both mentally and spiritually to move on to a better place where she will continue being strong, independent, and loving person that she was in life.

Clentis was educated in the public schools of Harnett County, North Carolina. She went on to earn her Bachelor of Science degree from North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University, Greensboro, North Carolina. She earned advanced professional certificate in English and Social Studies for grades five through twelve from the state of Maryland.

She met Birt Hudson Whitaker in college and they fell in love and married on December 24, 1955. Two sons were born to this union, Anthony and Michael. The family joined First Baptist Church of Deanwood, Washington District of Columbia, under the leadership of Reverend Andrew J. Allen. The boys served as Trustee and Deacon of the Junior Church. Clentis was a member of the Pastor's aide and a volunteer for Vacation Bible School. Birt served as Trustee and Reserve Trustee until his death.

Clentis devoted twenty seven years to teaching in the state of Maryland. It was a joy and pleasure to teach the beautiful literature that she read and inspired her students the love of reading and learning, which had enriched all aspects of her life. She was an outstanding teacher and won the Bowie chambers of Commerce Award for Outstanding Teacher award in 1983.

After retiring in 1995, Clentis devoted her time as a tutor, volunteer for Greater Bowie Friends in Need for Sympathetic Help, Meals on Wheels, Reader for the Blind, Cancer and Heart Association. She was a lifetime member of the National Education Association, Maryland Retired School Personnel Association, American Association of University Women, America Association of Retired Persons, and National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Clentis' appetite for knowledge propelled her passion for travel. She took an accelerated European Study Course that included study and travel in Paris, London, and Rome. After that trip, she developed an intense interest in international travel. Her travels took her to Ghana, West Africa and the Ivory Coast. Her most memorable trip was the Bible Lands Seminar. She toured Galilee, Tiberias, Nazareth/Cana, Jericho, Bethlehem, and the Mount of the Beatitudes. It was a lifechanging experience to walk where Jesus and His disciples walked, taught, and healed. She also took advantage of an extended trip to Cairo, Egypt. Her travels took her to most of the major cities in North America. She did not get to visit Antarctica and Australia but was blessed to visit five continents.

One of her inspirations was music. It fueled her soul and gave her happiness during the good time and comfort during the hard times. She enjoyed nature and spent hours in her backyard transforming it into an oasis of beauty and calm with flowers. She lived fully, prayed daily, loved unconditionally, and laughed often.

Clentis was selfless and put others first. She was fun loving, outgoing, and vivacious. When you think of Clentis, celebrate the good memories you have of her. Remember that life is fragile and short and should be lived to the fullest. She will be missed more than any words could express but she will be forever in our hearts till we meet again.

Clentis joined Bazzel Creek Missionary Baptist Church in 1997. She participated in the Senior Choir, Missionary and Pastor's Aide. When her health declined, she did not attend church but prayed for the church, and placed herself under the discipline of the Word of God. She abided the church standards, and supported the church through tides and offerings.

Clentis will be remembered for her faith in God, her generosity, and concern for others. She was very young at heart and believed that hard work, perseverance, and kindness towards others was the key to personal success. Her lasting gift to all she knew is reflected in the words of Ralph Waldo Emerson "The Purpose of Life – is to be useful, to be honorable, and to be compassionate, to have it make a difference that you lived and lived well.. The life of Clentis Minter Whitaker is a testament to a life lived well.

Clentis was preceded in death by her parents, Reverend Andrew Minter and Pecola Turner Minter; stepmother, Eva Minter; husband, Birt Hudson Whitaker; son, Michael Reginald Whitaker; and sister, Sarah Frances Moore.

Clentis leaves many fond memories to her son of unparalleled devotion, Anthony Whitaker of Durham, North Carolina; nieces, Mary Ann Settle and Juanita West of Sandston, Virginia; and a host of cousins and friends too numerous to mention.

## Celebration of A Blessed Life *Clentis Minter Whitaker*

Musical Prelude .....	Brian Hamilton
Processional.....	Clergy and Family
Call to Worship .....	Deacon Nathaniel McLean
My Tribute .....	Joseph Smith, Jr.
Scripture Reading	
Old Testament .....	Psalm 27:1,5,14 Joseph Smith, Jr.
New Testament.....	John 3:16-17 Vicky Hicks Rogers
	“The Lord is My Light” “God So Loved The World”
Prayer of Comfort .....	“The Lord’s Prayer” Joseph Smith, Jr.
Acknowledgements.....	Sister Eileen Gillespie
Obituary .....	<i>Read Silently</i>
Medley of Hymns.....	Vicky Hicks Rogers
	“I Love the Lord” “More Than Enough” “Jesus, You’re The Center of My Joy”
Eulogy .....	Elder James A. Peterkin
Selection.....	Vicky Hicks Rogers
	“When You Hear of My Homegoing”
Selection.....	Joseph Smith, Jr.
	“My Soul Has Been Anchored In The Lord”
Recessional.....	Elder James A. Peterkin