



A Lovely Beginning

Wednesday, December 25, 1935

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." 1 Peter 4:10



What a lady? Ms. Christine or Ms. Mathews, as she was lovingly called by a great many members of this community. The late Jessie Harris, Sr. and Ellena Woodard Harris awoke to celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior. But on this Wednesday, December 25, 1935, God blessed them with their first daughter, Christine Clara Lee Harris. Ms. Christine grew up in a large and loving family in Odessadale, GA. Although she was educated in the Odessadale School System, her life lessons were instilled in her by her grandmother, Mrs. Ola Mae Woodard.

In 1956, at the age of 21, Ms. Christine moved to Dalton, GA, seeking employment. She was employed by Mr. & Mrs. G.L. Westcott for 45 years. Her service continued for many years to the extended family of Westcotts. As an adult she continued her education in the Adult Education at Phoenix School. She was a faithful member of Mtn. Ridge Baptist Church. Before her failing health, the church doors didn't open without Ms. Christine in the building. She was there early on Sunday mornings to make sure a hot breakfast was waiting for any member who arrived early enough to enjoy it. When Sunday School began, she was in her pew and ready to hear the word. After her brother moved to Dalton, they were a pair at Tuesday night Sunday School Leader's Bible Study and back on Wednesday nights for the church's weekly bible study. She was a hard worker and taught her children to love the Lord, respect others, and get a good education. Yes, she loved serving God and was so proud of her family.

Ms. Christine was also very involved in her community. Her yard was always filled with many different types of flowers and her garden fed her family and anyone else in need. Skills taught to her by her grandmother were passed on to teen girls in Dalton. Ms. Christine was a master seamstress and a girl's softball coach. Yes, she was a lady who could take care of her home, cook, sew, and coach. "What a Lady?" She was a longtime member of The Woman's Community Club, The Sunshine Home and Garden Club, Lizzy Barnett Ceramic Club, National Women's Day of Prayer, NAACP Dalton Chapter, and Audubon Club; as well as, a Sunday School and VBS teacher, she drove the church bus, a member of the Willing Workers, the Kitchen Committee and she served in many other areas at Mtn. Ridge Baptist Church. Ms. Christine enjoyed it when her family was at her house for Sunday dinner. She was a wonderful cook. To Ms. Christine, the KJV version of the bible was the "real bible". She and her brother loved reading God's word, watching Family Feud, and the evening news.

Life Celebration for Mrs. Christine Harris Mathews

Processional.....Ms. Moriah Thomas

Loving Farewell
Sealing of Remains

Selection.....Mtn. Ridge "Inspirational Choir"

Reading of the Holy Word

Old Testament.....Minister Randall Johnson

New Testament.....Minister Eugene Miller

Prayer of Comfort.....Dr. Thomas Hall

Resolutions & Remarks.....(2) minutes please

Selection.....Mtn. Ridge "Inspirational Choir"

Eulogy.....Dr. Jerry D. Jones, Sr.

Recessional.....Ms. Moriah Thomas

Committal, Closing Prayer, & Benediction

Interment
West Hill Cemetery
Dalton, GA 30720



A Peaceful and Joyous Exit

Saturday, September 7, 2024



"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you." John 14:27



Ms. Christine's daughter and son-in-law assured her a ride to church, family dinners on Sundays, and provided her with unwavering support as her health declined. On Saturday, September 7, 2024, Christine Clara Lee Harris Mathews surrounded by her family, answered the call of God and joined her parents, her husband of 26 years, James H. Mathews, son, James E. Mathews, sisters, Geraldine Harris and Patricia Lake, and brothers, Jessie Harris, Sammy Harris, Walter Lake, and Arthur Lake, grandmother, Ola Mae Woodard, grandchildren, Bruce, Elizabeth, and Kristian Mathews.

Those left to cherish her memories her sisters, Juanita Parks, (Greenville, GA.) and Bonnie McClendon (New Hampshire, DL); her loving daughters, Mrs. Gloria (W. James) Brown, Columbus, GA, and Teresa (James E.) Copeland, Dalton, GA; daughter-in-law, Gwen Mathews; grandchildren, Victor Brown, Natalie (Marcus) Smith, Columbus, GA, Fodayana Williams, PhD, Columbus, GA, James Mathews, (VT), Sarah Mathews, (Pinehurst, GA,) Antonio and Mathew Bonapart (Dalton, GA); great grandchildren, Alyssa, Stefan and Ava Bonapart, Christian Gentry, Anayla Williams, Jordan Brown, Makayla Brown, Chole Johnson, Christopher Smith, Jayda, Jamison, Jaycelyn, James E. Lee, Jr, and Niaya Mathews, Anissa Daniels, and Karmara Duval; nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives, and friends; Her surrogate daughters are Deborah Macon, Patricia Hall, and Barbara Phillips; these ladies demonstrated the love of a daughter to Ms. Christine during her declining health. Love is an ACTION verb best described through their actions of support, time, and care towards Ms. Christine. Her surrogate sons are David Macon and Min. Ben Phillips. Special thanks Vanessa Harris, Brenda Hayes, Susie Brown, Brenda Patterson, Loretta Short, Robin Stephens, and Amedsyis Hospice Nurses & Staff, Hamilton Diabetes & Endocrinology Center, Cornerstone Medical Group.

Acknowledgement

Our family would like to express our sincere gratitude for the thoughtful words of encouragement, food and prayers. Knowing that Ms. Christine's generous spirit, inviting smile and love for God touched so many will help us through this difficult time. She truly was a blessing to our family and we have in turn been blessed by your love and support. Again we thank you and ask for your continued prayers.

Blessings

The Family of

Mrs. Christine Harris Mathews

Our Family's Memories...



When someone we love becomes a

Memory



*Her memory,
becomes our
Treasure*



Casket Bearers
Grandsons, Nephews, & Friends

Flower Bearers
Granddaughters, Nieces, & Friends

Honorary Flower Bearers
*Members of
The Home Garden and Sunshine Club
The Woman's Community Club*

Healed and Happy, Let Me Go

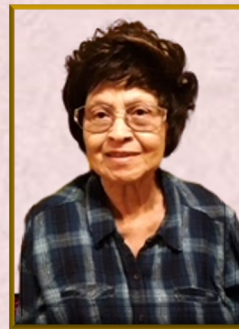
When I come to the end of the road
And the sun has set for me
I want no rites in a gloom-filled room.
Why cry for a soul set free?

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!

by Christina Rossetti



“Strength and honor are her clothing; and she shall rejoice in time to come. She looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness. Her children arise up; and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her.” **Proverbs 31: 25, 27-28**

Funeral Arrangements Entrusted to: Willis Funeral Home, Inc.

2011 Martin L. King, Jr. Blvd. Dalton, GA 30721 706-278-3808

www.willisfuneralhomedalton.com

“A Complete and Dignified Service to All.”

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Susie Brown 706.2607190

Celebration of Life



Saturday, September 14, 2024

1:00 PM

Honoring

Mrs. Christine Harris Mathews

Mtn. Ridge Baptist Church

1401 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd

Dalton, GA 30721

Dr. Jerry D. Jones, Sr., Eulogist

December 25, 1935

September 7, 2024