

Reflections of Georgia's Life & Legacy

Sister Georgia Ruth Sanford, beloved educator, devoted Christian servant, and cherished member of her family and community, transitioned peacefully from this life at the age of 93 on August 28, 2026 at Atrium Health-Main in Charlotte, North Carolina. Born on September 15, 1932, in Lincoln County, North Carolina, she was the fourth of six children born to Henry and Susie Nichols Sanford.

Sister Sanford was raised in the Lincoln County Public Schools system and graduated from Catawba Rosenwald High School in June 1949. She went on to attend Shaw University in Raleigh, North Carolina, before relocating to Cincinnati, Ohio, where she continued her education. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Secondary Education from the University of Cincinnati in 1965, majoring in Social Sciences with a minor in English. Her love of learning led her to further achievement, completing a Master of Education degree in 1980 and undertaking post-master's study at Xavier University between 1987 and 1989, specializing in Library Science and Media Center Services. In 1981, she was inducted into Phi Delta Kappa, the national and international education fraternity.

Sister Sanford's professional life was distinguished by service, dedication, and excellence. She began her career as a Nutrition Diet Lab Technician at Good Samaritan Hospital, where she worked for eight years. She later embraced her calling as an educator, serving Cincinnati Public Schools faithfully for 27 years. During that time, she also mentored aspiring teachers as a Cooperating/Supervising Teacher for Miami University, Marion College, and the University of Cincinnati. Her commitment to Christian education was equally strong, teaching for the Greater Cincinnati Council of Christian Communions for nine years.

Her spiritual journey was central to her life. Born again in March of 1960, she was baptized at Revelation Baptist Church the following month. She served joyfully and tirelessly as a Sunday School teacher, Assistant Sunday School Superintendent, Bible Study instructor, Mission member, and leader in Christian Education. She was a founding member of the Greater New Light Baptist Church in 1966 and remained an active servant there until her relocation in 2004.

After moving to Charlotte, North Carolina, she joined Greater Mt. Moriah Primitive Baptist Church, where she continued her lifelong ministry in teaching. She served faithfully as a member and teacher in multiple Sunday School and Bible Study programs, touching lives with her wisdom, compassion, and steadfast devotion to the Word of God.

In addition to her parents, Sister Sanford was preceded in death by her siblings, Petrone Sanford, Ervin Sanford, Robert H. Sanford, Mildred M. McElroy, and Ezelle Sanford, Sr.

Those left to cherish her memory are her nephew, Ezelle Sanford, Jr. (LaTanya) of Charlotte, North Carolina; three nieces, LeOne' Patsy Chapman (Julian) of Chicago, Illinois, Teresa Sanford Williams (Anthony) of Chesapeake, Virginia, and Denise Sanford Williams (Gregg) of Charlotte, North Carolina; her god sister, Mary L. Smith of Cincinnati, Ohio; her goddaughters, Karen Brentley and Shirlene Britton, both of Cincinnati, Ohio; a host of great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins, and friends; and her extended/god families, including the Robinsons, Kitchens, McClendons, Samuels, and the family of Monica Thompson. Among those especially dear to her heart was her longtime best friend and "sister in Christ," Sister Minnie Mizen Burns.

Sister Georgia R. Sanford lived a life of unwavering faith, quiet strength, and profound influence. She taught with grace, served with humility, and loved without limits. Her legacy will live on in the lives of the countless students, parishioners, family members, and loved ones she touched.

Her journey was long and full—and her impact everlasting.



*Well done, good
and faithful
servant.
Matthew 25:23*

Processional

Ministers & Family

Receiving of Family and Friends

11:30 A.M. – 12:00 Noon

Order of Service

Elder Chester F. Brown III, Officiant

Call to Worship

Elder Chester F. Brown III

Hymn

Amazing Grace

Old Testament Scripture

Isaiah 40:6-8

New Testament Scripture

Romans 8:35-39

Prayer of Comfort

Elder Larry Soles

Selection

Order My Steps

Reading of Acknowledgments and Obituary

Selection

May the Work I've Done Speak for Me

Eulogy

Elder Chester F. Brown, III

Recessional

Committal/Interment

Indian Creek Primitive Baptist Church Cemetery
Vale, North Carolina

I'm Free

*Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free
I'm following the path God laid for me.
I took His hand when I heard Him call
I turned my back and left it all.*

*I could not stay another day
To laugh, to love, to work or play
Tasks left undone must stay that way.
I found that place at the close of day.*

*If my passing has left a void
Then fill it with remembered joy.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss
Ah yes, these things, I too, will miss.*

*Be not burdened with times of sorrow.
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.
My life's been full, I savored much
Good family, Good friends, good times,
A loved one's touch.*

*Perhaps my time seemed all too brief;
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your heart and share with me
God wanted me now, He set me free.
Author Unknown*

Floral Bearers and Pall Bearers
Friends of the Family

In Gratitude

The family would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone for your kind words and support during this difficult time.

Arrangements Were Entrusted to:

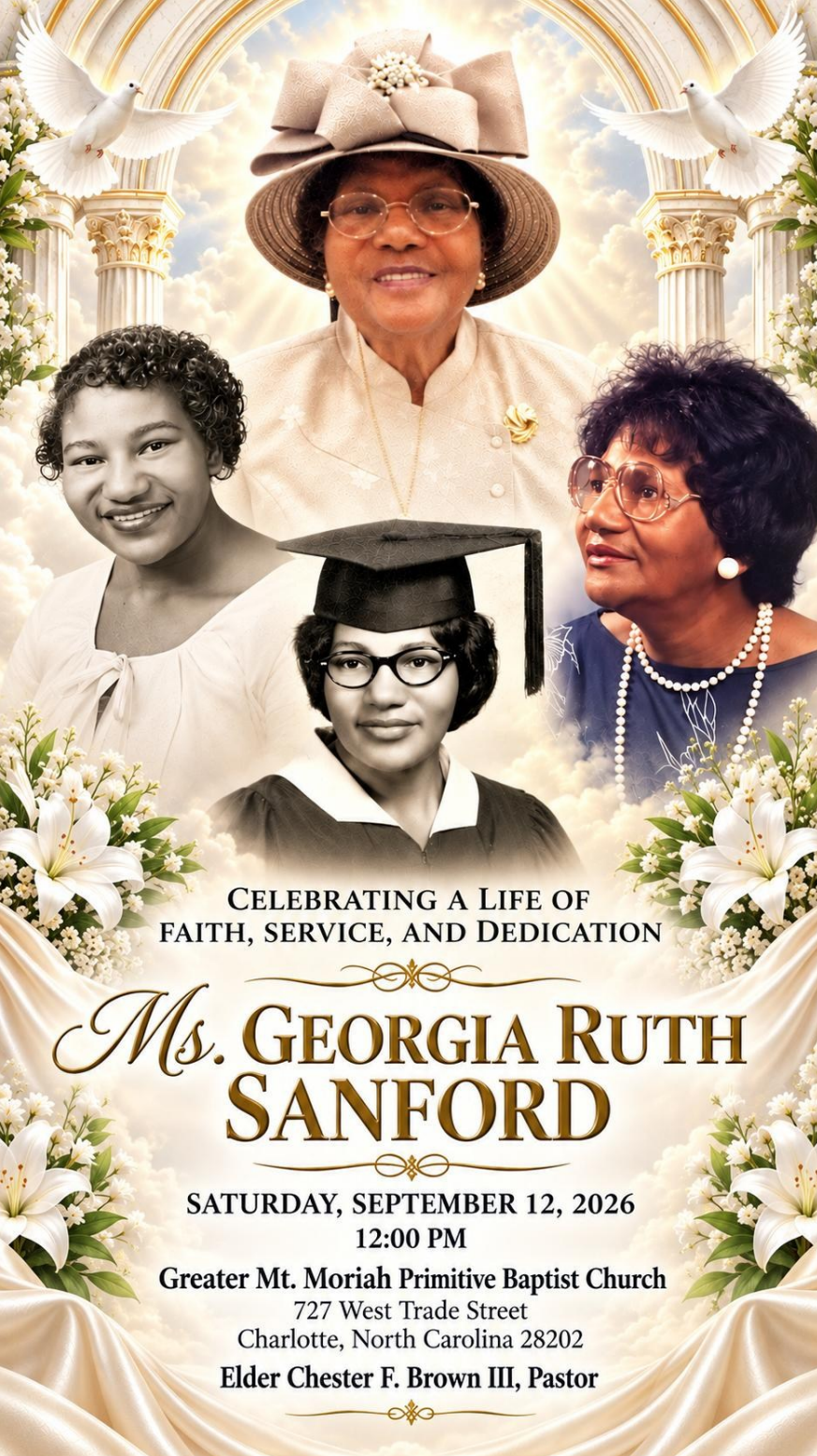
Ebony & White's Funeral Service, Inc.

1139 E. Pine Street | Lincolnton, NC 28093

Phone: 704-732-1041

"Dedicated To Those We Serve"

www.ebonyandwhitesfuneralserviceinc.com

The obituary features a composite photograph of three women. At the top is an older woman with glasses and a large bow on her hat. Below her are two younger women, one in a white top and the other in a dark graduation cap and gown. The background is a heavenly scene with white doves, clouds, and classical columns. The text is elegantly styled with a mix of serif and script fonts, surrounded by white lilies and a draped fabric border.

CELEBRATING A LIFE OF
FAITH, SERVICE, AND DEDICATION

**Ms. GEORGIA RUTH
SANFORD**

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2026
12:00 PM

Greater Mt. Moriah Primitive Baptist Church
727 West Trade Street
Charlotte, North Carolina 28202
Elder Chester F. Brown III, Pastor