



Beatrice C. McCabe

December 10, 1918 - November 6, 2021

Obituary

Beatrice Cleland McCabe passed away peacefully at home on November 6, 2021, following a prolonged period of in-home nursing care. She was 102 and had enjoyed a magnificent life.

Beatrice was born in Boston, Massachusetts on December 10, 1918. She was the first born of two siblings from the union of John Mack Cleland and Marie L. Ward Cleland. Thomas Atwood Cleland, her brother, a decorated warrior, died during his 1946 return trip from World War II. And Irma Dockett Bright nee McCabe was raised as Beatrice's "sister," when Irma's mother, Marie's sister, passed away. Irma died in January 1998.

Beatrice graduated from the Boston Girl's High School before furthering her education at the Boston School of Business. She was bestowed the title "Premiere Role Model" class of 1937 by the Girl's High School Alumni Association, in October 2006.

Beatrice relocated to the District of Columbia over 80 years ago, in 1941, and began her professional career as a dedicated Civil Servant with the U.S. Department of Labor. There she became a pioneer. Working on the Advisory Committee of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), she was the only woman to serve in this capacity that helped establish the framework for its early beginnings. Over the years, her job performance was rewarded with advancement, including the significant promotion which

rendered her one of the first “Negroes” to support White managers in the Federal Government. By the time of her retirement in 1979, she had ascended to the prestigious position of OSHA Records Manager. Her positive legacy led some of her co-workers to annually celebrate her retirement with a luncheon at her home.

Beatrice married the love of her life, Elisha “Bud” McCabe, on May 18, 1947 at John Wesley AME Zion Church. They shared a compatible and loving relationship and lived a glamorous lifestyle until “Bud” died after a brief illness on March 17, 1984. After some time, “Ms. Bea” as she became affectionately known, continued a sensational lifestyle, traveling and entertaining with a long-time friend, Theodore “Ted” Adams, most often at her side, until he too unfortunately died.

Beatrice was an Honorary Alumna of Livingstone College. Her love for Livingstone was instilled by her mother, a graduate of the College. Continuing a family legacy of support dating back to the 1800’s, Beatrice generously supported Livingstone College financially and became active in the Washington, DC Chapter of the National Alumni Association. The highlight of her life came in February 2006 when Livingstone College inducted her into its Hall of Fame as an Honorary Alumna. Beatrice responded, “I graciously accept and dedicate this high honor to the memory of my mother, Marie Ward Cleland, my role model, and my mentor, who graduated from Livingstone 100 years ago - Class of 1905.”

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SHE LIVED A MANY-FACETED LIFE

Beatrice was a faithful, dedicated and committed member of John Wesley AME Zion Church for over 75 years. She served in several church ministries and organizations: Life Member (Matron) of the Women’s Home and Overseas Missionary Society, the Cathedral Choir, the Organ Guild,

Stewardess Emerita, and the Calendar Club. She was a Charter Member of the E. Franklin Jackson Flower Guild. She expressed her love for John Wesley through her extraordinary generous financial donations for many decades.

Beatrice remained an active member of John Wesley until her health declined, and she was unable to physically attend church. However, she continued her support until the end. She thanks God for a life well lived and often sings out, "To God be the Glory for the things He has done for me!"

Beatrice leaves behind a host of loving nephews and nieces: on the Dockett side, Dr. Ronald and Joan Miller née Dockett; and on the McCabe side, William Earl Jr., Danny, Timothy, Nezettia Stevens nee McCabe, and Theresa Adkins nee McCabe; their 15 children; and a devoted godson Paul Lewis. In lieu of flowers, tax-deductible donations may be made to Mrs. McCabe's favorite charity, [LivingstoneCollege/Giving/](#).

Cemetery Details

Fort Lincoln Cemetery

3401 Bladensburg Road
Brentwood, MD 20722

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 17. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

John Wesley AME Zion
1615 14th Street
Washington, DC 20009

Service

NOV 17. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

John Wesley AME Zion
1615 14th Street
Washington, DC 20009

Tribute Wall



“ *Beatrice C. McCabe*

October 23, 2023 at 08:15 AM



“ *Mrs. Beatrice C. McCabe was an extraordinary woman of God, a Queen beloved who served endlessly. Her contributions to the church are innumerable. Her support of the youth of John Wesley was overwhelming as we matriculated in school as she frequently donated to the Blue Ribbon Club - raising money for Scholarships, Zion's Finest, and the Children and Youth Choirs. She was a member of the Organ Guild and she would come to our home for some of the meetings. You could always find her at the December Birthday Club dinner,...I could go on. Her indelible smile, fabulous style, pristine cadillacs, and her unforgettable eye glass collections are fun to remember. I will never forget bringing her and Mr. Adams lunch one day and just sitting with them for hours. In her home, you could find poems and positive quotes sprinkled about. God Bless Paul Lewis for taking care of her and her home daily. She was just lovely and we will miss her dearly. Love The Morgan Family: Alece Morgan, Cecily Morgan, Kimberly Jones, Marc Morgan, and Lawrence W. Howard, Jr.*

The Morgan Family - November 17, 2021 at 01:32 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Beatrice C. McCabe.*



November 15, 2021 at 08:09 PM

CF

“ *CHARLES AND ISSIE JENKINS & FAMILY purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Beatrice C. McCabe.*



CHARLES AND ISSIE JENKINS & FAMILY - November 15, 2021 at 01:16 PM

BG

“ *My deepest sympathy goes out to the family and to Paul Lewis on the death of Beatrice McCabe. She was special to John Wesley and Livingstone College and dear to me and Coletta.*

Bernice Garner

Bernice Garner - November 14, 2021 at 01:58 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Beatrice C. McCabe.*



November 13, 2021 at 07:57 PM

DN

“ *Condolences on the death of a strong and powerful lady.*
Doris North-Schulte



Doris North-Schulte - November 13, 2021 at 06:34 PM

WC

“ *Missing you always, your nephew, William Earl McCabe, Jr. Aka Brother!*



WILLIAM EARL MCCABE, Jr Columbia,SC - November 13, 2021 at 09:22 AM

KL

“ *Dear Family and Friends,*

In lieu of flowers, please feel free to make a tax-deductible donation to Livingstone College, Giving | Livingstone College. This is Mrs. McCabe's favorite charity where her mother Marie L. Ward Cleland graduated and where Beatrice was inducted into the Hall of Fame acknowledging her long time support in honor of her dear mother. Thank you all for your wonderful support! The Dockett Family

Kathleen Dockett, EdD, LP - November 12, 2021 at 06:31 AM

PH

“ *Kathleen and Cora I am so sorry for your loss. But I know she lived a wonderful life and appreciated all you and your family did for her.*

Love You.

Pat and Spyke Henry

Pat Henry - November 11, 2021 at 08:54 PM

KL

Thank you, we appreciate your support! Kathleen and RonDockett and family

Kathleen Dockett, EdD, LP - November 25, 2021 at 06:11 AM

MF

“ Aunt Bea lived an amazing 102 years of life!
We celebrate her and the many adventures
that she shared, funny stories that she told,
and challenges that she overcame.....We
light a candle, to light her way to her new
journey! She will be missed, but never forgotten! Love and peace to
you Auntie.....
Joan, Karen & Jon Miller



Miller family - November 11, 2021 at 07:06 PM

KL

Appreciation to you all For the many ways you support us

Kathleen Dockett, EdD, LP - November 25, 2021 at 06:13 AM

IJ

“ A GRAND LADY, AND ONE WHO WAS DEVOTED TO HER
FAMILY AND HER CHURCH.
Dr. Charles L. Jenkins and Issie L. Jenkins, Esq.

Issie Jenkins - November 10, 2021 at 04:56 PM

AA

“ We are thankful for the life of Ms. Bea, a life well lived. I still feel her warm kisses on my cheek every time I saw her at our family reunions, my children's graduations, weddings, etc. She loved everybody as her own and us six boys she shared her love with a gleam in her eyes. One time I visited her and I gave her a large notebook of pictures of her at so many events and over so many years (40). Our hearts are saddened by the news but we are still able to rejoice about her love for the Lord that she shared to all those around her. God is certainly praised by her lifting Him up.

Tony Adams

anthony adams - November 10, 2021 at 11:52 AM

KL

Thank you Tony, we appreciate the very special nature of her relationship with you six boys and your fine father Theodore “Ted” whom we also miss and send prayers.

Kathleen Dockett, EdD, LP - November 25, 2021 at 06:18 AM

AK

“ *BEATRICE CLELLAN McCABE has been a longtime cherished friend going back to my very young adult life in John Wesley AME Zion Church. Ms. Bea as she was affectionally known by most, was a woman of strong Christian faith and values. She loved life and lived it to the fullest while sharing with others. In that manner, she always showed concern for others by supporting them and giving from her heart. She has always been astute, caring, charming, compassionate, loving, helpful, giving and had a strong spirited soul.*

Ms. Bea was blessed from a privileged background and her upbringing taught her to reach out and help others because she was so enriched with a blessed life.

Praises to Almighty GOD for the life of her years and the undying legacy of Love she leaves for so many! "To GOD Be the Glory Forever and always" for this Sainted Servant, Bea C. McCabe. What an AWESOME life experience for me and many others to have shared this earthly realm with her. Lovingly cherished always, Alberta C. Kinard

Alberta Kinard - November 10, 2021 at 10:12 AM

KL

Thank you 🙏 Alberta, Who are you to a wonderful relationship with Ms Bea Supported her in many ways. The Famil

Kathleen Dockett, EdD, LP - November 25, 2021 at 06:21 AM

TA

“ *Theresa McCabe Adkins (Niece)*



Theresa McCabe Adkins - November 10, 2021 at 08:51 AM

RD

“ Ronald Leslie Dockett lit a candle in memory of Beatrice C. McCabe



Ronald Leslie Dockett - November 10, 2021 at 05:22 AM

CB

“ Cora Davis Boyd lit a candle in memory of Beatrice C. McCabe



Cora Davis Boyd - November 10, 2021 at 05:20 AM

KD

“ Kathleen Dockett lit a candle in memory of Beatrice C. McCabe



kathleen dockett - November 10, 2021 at 05:19 AM

JR

“ Farewell to one of God's most beautiful flowers, until we shall meet again. Rest in Peace.

Julius M. Riddick

Julius M. Riddick - November 09, 2021 at 05:48 PM



“ Sweet Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Beatrice C. McCabe.



November 09, 2021 at 05:20 PM



“ We the March Family and Marshall-March Staff wish to extend our deepest and heartfelt sympathy in the passing of your loved one. Our prayers go out to you and your family in your time of loss. We know and understand that you have received many expressions of love and we will continue to lift you up in prayer. May the memories you cherish of brighter and happier days help to ease your sorrow and comfort you always.

Marshall-March Funeral Homes - November 09, 2021 at 02:40 PM



To God be all the glory for a life well lived.! Her life was full of love from her family, Gods” family, friends, neighbors and loved ones. We rejoice at the good news of the hone going of Sis. McCabe, our next door neighbor and friend.

Yours, Ruth Evelyn Carter (we shared birth dates 12/10) and Ms Ruths Caregiver, Minister Juanita C Garvin.

Juanita Hatcher - November 12, 2021 at 02:39 PM