



Ethel R. Poteat

July 26, 1930 - June 13, 2006

Ethel Lucille Robinson Poteat, a native of Washington, DC and a District of Columbia school teacher, died of cancer on June 13 at George Washington University Hospital.. She was born on July 26, 1930.

Educated in the Public Schools of Washington, D.C. she obtained her undergraduate degree in Elementary Education at Miner Teachers College, and received her Masters degree in Urban Education from George Washington University in 1975.

Ethel was an active lifetime member of Galbraith A.M.E. Zion Church, serving on many Ministries. Ethel began her life long professional career as a teacher, primarily at Langdon Elementary School. For thirty-six years she taught the class that most appealed to her gentle nature, Kindergarten. Upon her retirement after 36 years of teaching, she gained other employment. Her father and his brothers were owners of a funeral home in Greenwood, South Carolina, and as a youth, her dream was to become a Mortician. Little did she realize that in 1990 she would accept a position at Marshall's Funeral Home. For sixteen years, until her recent illness, she worked as the personal administrative assistant for public relations to the owner, Mrs. Julia Marshall. This position was truly the perfect place for her to demonstrate her love of people, compassion, understanding and patience as she helped clients in decision making in their hour of

bereavement. Her gentle nature, the quietness of her voice, the tenderness of her demeanor made her an asset to Marshall's.

Ethel was committed to helping others in need. She was involved in many community-based services, feeding the hungry, clothing drives, gathering needed supplies for college bound students displaced by Katrina. Not content to work solely with her home church, she lent her expertise in community based matters to other churches. And so it was of no surprise when the Century Club, on April 30, 2006, recognized her for "Outstanding Community Service."

Ethel was asked to be a part of many organizations, but she chose those that were doing good things for our youths. When she became a part of an organization, she became a "worker". She could be counted on to complete any task/assignment given in an exemplary manner. She gave every task her best. She added her class, grace and talents to the following organizations, This Old Gang, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Tots and Teens Interlocking Neighbors, DC Parent Teacher Association, Maya Angelou Charter High School Board, Langdon Schools Birthday Bunch, and Dunbar High School Alumni Class of 1947.

Ethel exemplified her love for God through her actions. She dedicated her life to the loving care of her mother, Bertha Robinson, and became the primary care giver for all family members requiring her assistance during their periods of illness and incapacitation. She was unselfish and tireless in providing for their care. Her patience, love, goodness, coupled with her soft spoken demeanor, was like soothing balm to them and made their illness and incapacitations bearable.

Ethel made lifetime friends and they became family members. Through friendship she gained the sisters and brothers she never had. The daughters

and sons of others became her children, and Grandchildren, These family additions brought much joy to her life. She cherished the close lifetime friendships.

She leaves to cherish her memory, a legacy of love of family and friends.

Surviving her is a loving daughter, Adrienne Poteat; a loving son, Weldon Poteat; two grandchildren, Leonard Marshall and Robert Poteat; two Sisters-in-law, Doreane Sumlin Elmer, and Barbara Jean Nickens Macon; nephews Robert and Kevin Nickens; former husband and friend Willard Poteat.

To send a lasting tribute or condolences to the Poteat family, please sign the Online Guestbook below. Click "Sign Guestbook".

Tribute Wall



“ *Ethel R. Poteat*

October 23, 2023 at 08:15 AM



“ *Just wanted to sign the guestbook for a wonder person. I have worked with Ms.Poteat a few time on funeral's with Marshall's Funeral Home.She always me feel very good working with her. I was talking to a local funeral director and question him about Ms.Poteat. He she had passed a few month's ago I was very shocked. Sorry to missed her funeral. Just feel very gateful to have known such nice lady. So to Ms.Ethel R.Poteat Rest in Peace.Thank you for all you have done for me.*

*www.MauriceFuneralEscort.com##imported-begin##Maurice
Robinson##imported-end##*

September 29, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ *Glad to have known ,and work with her.Sure do miss
you.##imported-begin##Charles Ingram##imported-end##*

September 23, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ TO the family, friends and staff of Marshall's Funeral Homes,

May you find peace, joy and understanding and your own level of comfort in knowing that ETHEL POTEAT's life was well lived and she is resting in eternal bliss.

Oh what a profound blessing to have shared a life here on earth with such a unique woman. Her life brought so much joy to so many and that joy will live on in the lives of many that will be passed down to generations to come.

May GOD continue to bless all of you and know that He will never forsake but is preparing all of us to be more and more loving like Ethel Poteat was. She is an Angel, truly the embodiment of love and happiness.

Prayerfully yours,

*Alberta & William Kinard##imported-begin##Alberta C.
Kinard##imported-end##*

June 23, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ *Weldon, my prayers and expressions of love are with you at the passing of your mom. I will miss her smile & wit. May God grant you peace and comfort in the days ahead. Your Mom will always be in your heart.##imported-begin##Tawana Warren##imported-end##*

June 20, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ On behalf of Beatrice Scott former Kenilworth ES teacher and the entire Scott family, we wish to express our most sincere and deepest condolences to the loved ones of Ethel Poteat. Ethel was a wonderful colleague and friend, and she will be deeply missed. May God continue to bless and strengthen you through your time of loss.

Sincerely,
Beatrice Scott and Family##imported-begin##Beatrice
Scott##imported-end##

June 19, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ ms. poteat, a lady you may have known for a little while, but a lady you will always remember-a lady who you were glad you knew. ralph and dianne lee##imported-begin##dianne lee##imported-end##

June 19, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ To the Poteat, Sumlin and Nickens families -- You have my deepest sympathy in the lost of your loved one. May God continue to Bless you all.##imported-begin##Rachel G. Palmer##imported-end##

June 19, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ *Adrienne and Family:*

My prayers are with you during this season. May God continue to comfort you. Sometimes it hard to understand but your Mother will live on in each of you. Take Care.

Love,

Brenda Ward##imported-begin##Brenda Ward##imported-end##

June 19, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ *Dear Mrs. Marshall,*

I was saddened to hear about the death of Mrs. Poteat. She was a joy to work with on funerals. May the God we serve continue to sustain you and the Marshall Funeral Home Family.

With love and prayers,

Dorothea Belt Stroman

Pastor, Clinton UMC

Clinton, MD##imported-begin##Pastor Dorothea

Stroman##imported-end##

June 19, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ *Adrienne,*

May tender memories soften the grief of you and your family. May the family find comfort in the legacy your mom leaves. She enjoyed life, its works and fun. Living her faith from day to day, she sowed good seeds along the way. With her spirit now free in the fields of immortality, she may claim a task of greater worth than any she had known on earth.##imported-begin##Michelle Giles##imported-end##

June 18, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ You will always remain in our thoughts and prayers.

*Mae, Tracy Jr. and children-Adrienne, Tracy 3rd, Terri, and
Brien##imported-begin##Dr.&Mrs. Tracy M. Walton, Jr.##imported-
end##*

June 18, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ A TRIBUTE TO ETHEL R. POTEAT

?A life well lived: A race well run: And now she sleeps.?

Ethel Poteat was no ordinary person. No one else was just like her. She was SPECIAL. Her physical stature, personality traits, her habits and intelligence all made her one of a kind. She loved to wear her African attire, and she wore a hat at all times. She would also carry some kind of a bag. A real Bag Lady. She was not the product of some cosmic assembly line, she was unique.

Ethel was a cheerful, loving and caring person who always brightened the lives of those around her. She showed great concern for others without regards to herself. She was committed to her family, her church, her friends and her work. Many times when other staff members had gone home, and there was still special work to be done, Ethel would stay right there with me to help get it done not matter how long it took or regardless of the time it took. She was a dear friend and we shared each others secrets and dreams. We were there for each other no matter what.

As my personal assistant at work, I could depend on her to keep me informed of both business and social events. Often time she would serve in my stead.

During the sixteen years, she worked at Marshall's Funeral Home, she endeared herself to many families. Because of her concern and caring attitude, families would often request her to assist them. Now that she is gone, a void has been left in my life and the staff. We will miss her, especially those who came to get important papers notarized.

Beyond our personal relationship, she was a valuable Christian, who loved God and lived it in her daily walk. Her hands were outstretched to help those in need. She enjoyed feeding the hungry and distributing clothes to those in need. She also loved to sing not only with her church choirs, but also in the community. On April 30, 2006, under the auspices of the Business and Professional Women's Club, we were able to honor Ethel for her outstanding community service work and to give her some flowers while she

lived.

Ethel's uniqueness will be missed. I believe she would have me leave this thought with you:

?Don?t be concerned about me now. I?m well with God: Forgive me for the wrong?s I?ve done and with the love that?s left Thank God. Thank God for my soul?s resting. Thank God for I?ve been blessed, Thank God for all who loved me. Praise God, who loved me best.?

Forever Friends###imported-begin##Dr. Julia P. Marshall###imported-end##

June 18, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ I was saddened to hear of Ethel's homegoing. We were coworkers at Kenilworth Elementary School many years ago.Ethel always had a beautiful smile and a pleasant personality. She had a genuine concern for others.My prayer is that God will comfort the family at this time.###imported-begin##Barbara Hood###imported-end##

June 18, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ My deepest sympathy goes out to you, Adrienne, and the rest of the family. It is not easy to lose someone that is so dear to us, but please know that you are in my prayers and I will continue to pray asking the Lord to comfort you and give you strength during this difficult time. If you need anything, I am here. All you have to do is call. Good Bless.###imported-begin##Debi Fulton###imported-end##

June 16, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ To the Poteat family,
Our heartfelt condolences and prayers go out to you on the occasion of your mother's homegoing. Ms. Ethel Poteat "Momma Poteat" was great lady who ministered to us all. May God continue to comfort you, as the word of God tells us: "I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. 1 Ths 4:13-15. Peace Be Unto You##imported-begin##Charles and Louise Bowman##imported-end##

June 16, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ Dr. Julia P. Marshall and the entire staff of Marshall's Funeral Homes wish to extend our deepest condolences, thoughts and prayers to you on the passing of your loved one. Ms. Ethel R. Poteat was a precious gem to us and many of the families we served. Time will never take away the memories we've shared with Ms. Poteat. Those memories will remain with us forever. Please know we share your grief during this time of bereavement and understand.##imported-begin##Dr. Julia P. Marshall and the entire staff of Marshall's Funeral Homes##imported-end##

June 16, 2006 at 12:00 AM