



Bernice Frances Schley

March 26, 1934 - October 11, 2014

Bernice Frances Tatem Schley was born March 26, 1934 in Bloxom, Virginia to James Colin Tatem and Elizabeth Mizell. She was the fifth of eight children. At the age of eight, Bernice relocated to New York to live with her maternal aunt and uncle, Florence and John Gethers.

Bernice married Albert J. Schley on August 19, 1951.

While living in New York City she became a Jehovah's Witness on July 1, 1970 and was a dedicated member until her untimely death.

One of her greatest joys came when she gave birth to her daughter Stacey Belinda Simmons.

In addition to her daughter, her greatest joy was her granddaughter Shaunice. She loved her granddaughter immensely and loved the time that they spent together. Nothing made her day brighter than hearing her granddaughter calling her "gamma."

Bernice was a very caring, giving and loving mother, grandmother, sister, aunt and friend to all of those in her circle. Her focus were her family, serving Jehovah and work.

In 2007 Bernice moved to Salisbury, Maryland. While living in Salisbury she became a Foster Grandparent in the Wicomico public school system from 2009 until she became ill.

Bernice was a remarkable and active woman who refused to allow an illness to keep her from enjoying life.

On October 11, 2014 she lost this battle.

She is survived by her daughter Stacey Belinda Simmons and granddaughter Shaunice Brittany Simmons of Willingboro, New Jersey, one brother William Tatem of Modestown, Virginia and one sister Geneva Godwin of Onancock, Virginia, devoted niece Cheyenne Tatem Scarborough (Carroll) of Salisbury, Maryland, devoted nephews Vernon Tatem of Perth Amboy, New Jersey and Keith Godwin of Onancock, Virginia along with a host of other nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her siblings, James Tatem, Madeline "Honey" Tatem, Wilbur Tatem, Mabel Tatem Hudson and Catherine Tatem Coleman.

Bernice Frances Tatem Schley will be missed by all who loved her. one son, Frank Dean, Sr.; three brothers, Charles Dean Sr., Preston Dean Jr., and Robert Dean.

Lovingly Submitted

The Family