



Esther Mae Holland

October 25, 1942 - April 24, 2018

Esther Mae Garrison Holland was born on Sunday, October 25, 1942, in Accomack County, Virginia to the late Alonzo Richard Garrison and Lottie Mae Garrison. She passed away peacefully, on Tuesday, April 24, 2018.

Esther was educated through the Delaware School system originally beginning in a one room classroom setting. She often spoke about having to walk long distances everyday, but the pursuit of education was a sincere goal. She graduated from William C. Jason Comprehensive High School in Georgetown, Delaware, in the Class of 1960. She then went on to further her education at Delaware State College in Dover, Delaware, obtaining a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Education. Esther also attended Germana College in Spotsylvania, Virginia, studying Early Childhood Education and Constructive Discipline. Following the Lord's calling, she attended Faith Bible College and Seminary in Washington, D.C., obtaining a Masters of Divinity.

Esther met and married the love of her life, James Holland, on July 29, 1967. After traveling and living a military lifestyle in Germany, the family settled in New Jersey for 21 years, to be near her parents. God blessed this union with two sons, James Holland, Jr. and Darryl Holland. The family later relocated to Fredericksburg, Virginia, in 1990 for a period of time, and later settled in their current home in Seaford, Delaware, in 2004. James and Esther were devoted to one another and happily married for 50 years.

Esther gained inspiration from the path of her mother in becoming an educator. She said that she enjoyed the area of early childhood education because, "I could mold them, in addition they were easier to learn. When they are motivated and have a teacher to encourage them, they will want to learn more each day." The children were the light of her life and she came home nightly telling stories about her experiences. She also said about the children, "Just coming to work and seeing a smile on a child's face and knowing that I accomplished something to help them grow to the learning experience and hearing their different reactions, was a reward."

She diligently worked in this field for more than 20 years in various positions including but not limited to: teacher, assistant teacher, early childhood specialist, center director, case worker, and teacher/administrator. She would often speak about retiring, but could never seem to pull herself away from her passion; being with her little angels right up until the very day of her sudden illness.

Esther also had a sincere heart for sharing the gospel and the word of God to all. She was a true disciple of God, visiting the elderly in the nursing homes, senior centers and various Bible classes. She knew that the hand of God was only just a prayer away, and would fervently and zealously intercede to her Lord and Savior with faith that could move mountains. She was known as, the "little lady with the big voice", preaching to sin-sick souls as she was so commissioned to by God. She was always an Evangelist, but during her membership at New Dimensions Family Ministries, under the leadership of Bishop Abbott, she became an Elder. She often said that a title never fit her, because the title meant nothing, but the inscription of her heart spoke volumes. She didn't want the limelight, always deferring it back to her Creator.

Esther had a number of hobbies such as collecting roosters, studying the

Word, being a local restaurant connoisseur, especially regarding seafood, and most of all, SHOPPING. She could literally shop until she dropped. Always intending to come home before it was dark. She could lose all track of time, stating that shopping was her exercise and she really stayed on the move. She never met a stranger and never passed up the opportunity to send praises to Heaven.

Esther leaves to mourn, her devoted husband of 50 years, James Leon Holland, Sr. of Seaford, Delaware; her children, James Holland, Jr. (Teyya) of Charlotte, North Carolina; and Darryl (Denise) Holland of Perth Amboy, New Jersey; step-children: James Leon (Pastina) Tingle of Berlin, Maryland, and Gracine Sheppard of Georgetown, Delaware; stepdaughter, Vonda Armstrong of Worcester County, Maryland; god daughter Robin (John) Newsome of Glassboro, New Jersey; 14 grandchildren, 24 great grandchildren; a brother, Edgar (Clarita) Garrison of West Orange, New Jersey; brother-in-law, Preston (Pearl) Riley of Selbyville, Delaware; maternal aunt, Helen Showell of Bishopville, Maryland; paternal aunts, Bessie West of Millsboro, Delaware and Mildred Mills of the Eastern Shore of Virginia; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and family friends.

To send flowers to the family or plant a tree in memory of Esther Mae Holland, please visit our
Heartfelt Sympathies Store.

Tribute Wall

HF

“ My deepest condolences for the loss of your dear loved one. While nothing will completely take away your grief, by meditating on Gods promises found in the Bible, you can find real hope and the strength to keep going. My family and I have found the scripture at Isaiah 25:8 to be especially comforting. Here it promises that God "will swallow up death forever and the Sovereign Lord Jehovah will wipe away the tears from all faces."

H. Fields - May 05, 2018 at 12:00 AM

VM

“ I am so sorry for your loss. May the God of all comfort (2 Cor. 1:3) give you what you need to endure as you wait on his promises to be fulfilled at Isaiah 25.8 and John 5:28, 29.

V Maeberry - April 28, 2018 at 12:00 AM

MJ

“ I am sorry for your loss, please accept my sincere condolences. I hope the family will find some comfort and strength in Jesus promise of the earthly resurrection(Acts 24:15)and the renewed Paradise earth, where death will be no more and no family will mourn the death of a loved one.-Revelation 21:3,4;John 5:28,29;Luke 23:43. may GOD(Psalms 83:18)grant you peace and comfort now, during this grievous time.-Matthew 5:4.

M Jones - April 28, 2018 at 12:00 AM

IR

“ Sorry for your loss of a loved one. Read Isaiah 41:10 for words of comfort and peace.

Irene - April 28, 2018 at 12:00 AM

JO

“ *May the God of all comfort strengthen the family of Esther Holland during this time of deep sorrow. Those who pass on, God keep in his memory because they are precious in his eyes. Please except my sincerest condolence.*

JoyceA - April 28, 2018 at 12:00 AM

TW

“ *Sorry For Your Loss!
Jesus Loves Me!*

Thomas & Libby Widgeon - April 28, 2018 at 12:00 AM