



Ethel Shockley

December 26, 1938 - March 6, 2020

Our mom, Ethel Mae Shockley, was born on Monday, December 26, 1938, in Dover, Delaware, to parents Elva Summers and Fletcher Baynard. From the age of five, she was raised by her mother and beloved stepfather, Franklin Wisher. She was the oldest of three children. After more than two decades of health challenges, she entered into her eternal rest early Friday morning, March 6, 2020. She was 81 years young.

Mom's early childhood education started at Star Hill Elementary School and continued in the Dover School District. She then attended William Henry High School in Dover, Delaware, where she met the love of her life, Joseph Shockley, Sr. They were joined in holy matrimony on October 2, 1954, and God blessed that union with five sons and four daughters.

Mom took her role of wife and motherhood very seriously and made the decision to be a stay-at-home mom until her youngest child entered first grade. For many years, she was a Den Mother for her son's Cub Scout troop, and, as her children got older, she sat on an unlimited number of bleachers at various sporting events (football, basketball, and baseball), in which her accomplished sons were involved. Her children gave her much to contend with, from broken limbs, to field trips, to proms, to weddings, to college, to grandchildren, to un-announced dinner guests, and everything in-between. She shared whatever she cooked for her family with neighborhood kids and

others who were present at mealtime. Whether it was a pot of beans or spaghetti, pans of fried fish and fried potatoes, or a helping of hamburger gravy...it was all available for her own and for excess children and other guests. Mom always opened her home, even for friends and family who needed a place to live. God gave her and daddy a large home, and she filled every inch of it with love for all. She simply never missed a beat and was a constant cheerleader for her family and friends.

When mom finally began working outside the home, she became employed for a few years at Drug Fair before starting her 25-year tenure at Playtex. She accepted Christ and joined First Pilgrim Baptist Church in Camden, Delaware, where she served faithfully on the choir for more than 20 years. She then joined Calvary Baptist Church in the early eighties and served on the Pastor's Aide Committee and the Floral Guild, until her health began to decline. She loved gospel music, and she was especially pleased that modern technology allowed her to be a part of Calvary's Sunday services through live streaming on YouTube.

Mom had a greeting card ministry, which allowed her to send cards to various people to celebrate their birthdays and other special occasions. Each year at Christmastime, she would send nearly 200 Christmas cards to her friends. She also loved to do her daily early morning Bible Study, which bolstered her belief in her favorite scripture: "I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me" (Philippians 4:13).

Mom believed in keeping her mind sharp, so she would journal the day's events and regularly used her iPad to play Solitaire, Word Search, and Paint by Numbers. Each day was not complete if she did not get her daily dose of old TV shows, like Andy Griffith, I Love Lucy, The Duggers, and Little House on the Prairie. She was a trusted friend to many, and we called her blessed. She was fun-loving, honest, dependable, and God-fearing.

In addition to her parents, mom was preceded in death by our dad, Joseph Shockley, Sr.; our baby brother, Eric Shockley; our oldest brother, Larry Shockley; and our aunt (her sister), Agnes Sudler.

She leaves to cherish her memory, seven children: Deborah Anderson and Karen Shockley, both of Camden, DE; Joseph Shockley, Jr. (Joy), Newville, PA; Sonia Grant (Bruce), Manchester, NJ; Kevin Shockley, Camden, DE; Stephanie Scott (Chester), Felton, DE; and Jeffrey Shockley (Theresa), Dover, DE; one brother, Benjamin Wisher (Terinda), Dover, DE; 19 grandchildren: Ashley Shockley, Dover, DE; Stacey Blanchard (Ron), Camden, DE; Briean Anderson, Dover, DE; Harold Anderson, Jr., Chantilly, VA; Shannon Robinson (Matthew), Newville, PA; Tony Fletcher (Jackie), Atlanta, GA; Joseph Shockley III (Tiffany), Charlotte, NC; Marie Shockley, Harrisburg, PA; Kristin Shockley (Kyle), Newville, PA; Derrick Grant, Fairfield, CA; Noel Grant (Bonita), Hyattsville, MD; Jason Grant, Hyattsville, MD; Bruce Grant, Jr., Lakewood, NJ; Shanya Shockley and Krystyna "Kay" Shockley, both of Frederica, DE; Mike Scott, Milford, DE; Latasha Valentin (Thenard), Townsend, DE; Robyn Newman, Camden, DE; and Latoya Thomas Meyers, Clarksville, TN; 27 great-grandchildren; three great-great grandchildren; a special daughter-in-love, Phyllis Cannon (Ronnie), Dover, DE; a special cousin, Marguerite Harris, Dover, DE; a special foster sister, Elaine Martin; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and other close relatives and friends.

Humbly Submitted by the Family

Tribute Wall

MC

“ To the family of Mrs. Ethel Shockley: I will always remember how your mom excepted my daughter Lanita Winfrey and me into her home to share Easter Dinner with her entire family. Our intentions was to visit and drive back to Maryland where my daughter was stationed. Once we got to The Shockley home, we were ask to stay the night, we didn\u2019t bring any clothes to stay the night, but were provided clothing for church service on Easter Sunday. We made friends with the entire family that day. I always got a Christmas card each year after that visit. I thank God for Mrs. Ethel Shockley because she did the things God want us all to do and that is just love everyone. I will miss her so much. She is the example of a virtuous woman. I thank God I made friends with Karen and have met all the family. I love you all. Stay strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Maxceen Crawford

Maxceen Crawford - March 16, 2020 at 09:15 PM

RX

“ Sonia and Bruce, So sorry for you loss of your beautiful Mom. All our love,

Rudy and Eileen xoxoxo - March 13, 2020 at 11:15 AM

DA

“ Such an example of a woman well known, well loved and well respected. Such a pleasure to have known Ms. Shockley, who will be missed and always remembered. From time to eternity may HIS Love, Peace and Grace continue to be with the family as it was with her. A dimmed light not darkened for there is, "a bright side somewhere", where there is rest. Dorphine Abrams-Rojas

Dorphine Abrams-Rojas - March 11, 2020 at 09:54 PM

HS

“ *Our heartfelt prayers and sincere condolences for you all.*

Heartfelt Sympathies Store - March 11, 2020 at 01:49 PM

HS

“ *To Sonia and Family, Our deepest condolences during this difficult time. Monmouth Middlesex Managers, Assistant Managers, Bryan Z, Nicole J and Pam W*

Heartfelt Sympathies Store - March 11, 2020 at 01:31 PM

HS

“ *With deepest sympathy. Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this sad time.*

Heartfelt Sympathies Store - March 11, 2020 at 09:09 AM

HS

“ *Remembering our Mom and MomMom. We will miss you dearly, Mom. You will always be in our hearts. We love YOU! Bruce, Sonia and your grandchildren*

Heartfelt Sympathies Store - March 10, 2020 at 02:36 PM

HS

“ *We are thinking of you at this difficult time.*

Heartfelt Sympathies Store - March 10, 2020 at 12:29 PM

MS

“ *Rest in Peace Mrs. Shockley. It has been a great pleasure being considered part of the family! The Seldon/Moore families of Fayetteville North Carolina.*

michael seldon - March 10, 2020 at 11:09 AM

HS

“ With loving memories of "Ethel Shockley", The Seldon/Moore families of Fayetteville, NC.

Heartfelt Sympathies Store - March 10, 2020 at 10:04 AM

HS

“ Please accept our most heartfelt sympathies for your loss... Our thoughts are with you and your family during this difficult time.

Heartfelt Sympathies Store - March 10, 2020 at 09:38 AM

MC

“ I loved this beautiful woman of god like a mother. Taking care of her was always a pleasure and never a chore. I will miss her dearly as everyone else will. Heaven gained a beautiful Angel and a strong God loving woman.

Mary Chamberlain - March 08, 2020 at 06:25 PM