



Laretta M Freeman

September 23, 1932 - December 28, 2025

away in 1973; but then followed by the birth of Efrem, their godson/nephew, who was born in 1974.

She became a school librarian for 37 years. She was a member of Mount Olive A.M.E. Church in Worton, Maryland where she served as a financial secretary, usher, Sunday School teacher, choir member, church secretary, trustee, Missionary and wherever else she could help.

One of her last missionary works was starting the Food Bank Give-Away under Rev. Isaac Wilson.

It would be nothing to look up and see Laretta and a carload of ladies from Mount Olive, going to Cambridge and Salisbury for a meeting.

Laretta loved to listen to BET Gospel Hour and watch the Baltimore Ravens on TV. She got a

big surprise when Ray Lewis sent her a birthday cake. Lamar Jackson could do no wrong in her

eyes. She also liked to watch "Family Feud" and would answer the questions before the family

did; fussing at their answers.

"May the work I've done, speak for me"

Lauretta was the Missionary Area Chairman of the Missionary Society and also served as a Delegate of the Baltimore Conference to the General Conference, held in various cities throughout the United States and was a member of the AKA Alpha Phi Alpha Sorority. Her church service includes Steward Board President, Senior Ministry President, PME Missionary Society, Usher, Financial Secretary, Sunday School teacher, Treasurer of Love Ye One Another Choir, President of the Busy Bees, and a member of the Commission on Stewardship & Finance.

Loretta's community endeavors include: Advisory Council of Upper Shore Aging, Board of Directors, Upper Shore Aging, Advisory Board of Diversity of Washington College, Kent County Committee on Maryland's Youth Promise, President of Kent County Retired Teacher's Association, Kent-Queen Anne's Hospital Board of Directors, Democratic Club of Kent County, Maryland Rural Development Corporation, Kent County Board of Elections – Judge, Kent County High School Portfolio Committee, Kent County Chapter of the NAACP, Kent County High School 21 Century Committee, Kent County Public School Committee and the Velsicol Community Advisory Panel.

Lauretta leaves to cherish fond memories her son, Sobeye (Michelle) Freeman of Warner Robins, Georgia, special nephew/son, Efrem Murray, Sr., whom she raised, daughter-in-law,

Melissa Brown Freeman, loving niece/daughter, Bernadette Murray of Cambridge, Maryland;
special nephews, Roderick Freeman and Christopher Copper of Worton, Maryland; two aunts;
Betty Murray of Bridgeville, Delaware and Edith G. Murray of Trappe Maryland; God daughters,
Edith V. Murray of Cambridge, Maryland and Mitchelle Thompson of Fairlee, Maryland; nieces,
Youlanda Murray and Kyler of Delaware; Jewell Camper of Cambridge, Maryland, Lauretta
Thomas of Baltimore, Maryland, Rosalind (Emerson) Jones of Petersburg, Maryland, Floydette
(Kevin) Gibson & sons of Los Angeles, California, Cynthia Tilghman & sons, Mary Tilghman, Judy
(Frank) Caldwell & daughters all of California, Garnett Brockman of Washington State, Pete, Rick
& Monte' Murray, all of Delaware; three loving grandchildren: Sobeye, Jr., Raymesha
Weatherhold and Duron Freeman as well as many cousins, other nieces and special friends: Mr.
& Mrs. Larry Walker & daughters/granddaughter; Mrs. Beatrice Finner and Mrs. Margie Baker.
She was preceded in death by her husband, Grover C. Freeman, sons, Bruce Freeman and
Myron Freeman, her parents; Lloyd & Lula Washington, Grandparents, George & Vera Hopkins
Murray, Sr., aunt, Vella Jackson, Aunt, Mary Murray and Aunt Ethel V. Burrough, as well as Uncle
Isadore, Aunt Thelma (Thomas) Cornish, Aunt Vera (Gregory) Brockman, Aunt Esther (Grant)

Tilghman, Uncle George (Annie) Murray, Uncle Hayward Murray, Uncle Floyd (Mildred) Murray,

Aunt Lena Larkin; cousins, Harvey (Agnes) Murray and Arville & Leah Chase.

Lovingly Submitted, The Family

Also preceding Loretta in death were her parents-in-law, Jefferson and Margaret Freeman and her sisters and brothers-in-law; Clyde (Doris)

Freeman, Wendell (Joan) Freeman, Melvin (Joyce) Copper, William (Ermyrn)

Black, Leroy (Ethel) Thompson, William (Jean) Butler, John (Lorraine) Tate,

Carlton Freeman and Bessie Louise Freeman.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 12. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Mt. Oliver A. M. E. Church (Worton, MD)
24840 Lambs Meadow Road
Worton, MD 21678

Visitation

JAN 13. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Mt. Olive A.M. E. Church
24840 Lambs Meadow Road
Worton, MD 21678

Funeral Service

JAN 13. 12:00 PM (ET)

Mt. Olive A.M. E. Church
24840 Lambs Meadow Road
Worton, MD 21678

Live Stream Broadcast on Facebook

JAN 13. 12:00 PM.

Bennie Smith Funeral Home MD / VA

Tribute Wall



“ *Bennie Smith Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Laretta M Freeman* ”



Bennie Smith Funeral Home - January 13 at 12:09 PM



“ *Iris Carter lit a candle in memory of Laretta M Freeman* ”



Iris Carter - January 25 at 02:46 AM



“ *Olia M Hopkins lit a candle in memory of Laretta M Freeman* ”



olia M Hopkins - January 16 at 03:36 PM



“ I remember her from Chestertown Middle school for her stern no non sense approach. But I also remember her for her kind direction when you sought to earnestly learn- & put them books back right ! Later after my time with the Air Force I moved home and in the worton area as an adult not far from where her home was; and would pass her on walks with my children or taking the kidsto school. She was a kind lady who had more history than you knew; you just had to take the time to get to know her. Rest well Ms Loretta Thank you for touching my life and others during your earthly life .

Sandra Jordan - January 16 at 06:13 AM

AD

“ God rest your my Big Little Sister
I thank God for your life and legacy.
Job well done.
Love...Fredababy



Alfreda Dennis-Bowyer - January 14 at 06:58 AM

JN

“ Justine Skinner Niece lit a candle in memory
of Lauretta M Freeman



Justine Skinner niece - January 13 at 09:57 PM

SP

“ Sharon Perkins lit a candle in memory of
Lauretta M Freeman



Sharon Perkins - January 13 at 06:52 PM

DC

“ Devone J Comegys lit a candle in memory of
Lauretta M Freeman



Devone J Comegys - January 13 at 02:19 PM

SG

“ Sis. Freeman was a beautiful lady, a true
missionary who always provided opportunities
for you to share your gifts and talents with
others. I loved and respected her love and
caring for her late mother. Thank you for
opening doors for me. I will miss you.



Shirley Gould - January 13 at 12:45 PM

DF

“ Mrs.Lauretta where do I start? We went to Church together I knew you as Mrs.Lauretta from Church Mt.Olive. Not knowing that I would become the caregiver for you and your mom Mrs.Lula.



A position I had for 7 years Monday-Friday caring for you both. Oh how did I forget Mickie the day. When Mickie got sick I had to take him so he could be put down. We were so hurt once I came back home with his reminds then we prepared for his funeral. I have never been to a pet funeral until Mickie passed away and he is buried with his mom mom Mrs.Lula. I couldn't believe we drove from Worton to Linkwood,Md about an 1hr and 30 minutes away to bury him with his grandmother Mrs.Lula.

We had some good days and we had some bad days. The Mrs.Lauretta at Church and the Mrs.Lauretta at home were 2 different people. But we loved each other.

I had just seen you at the nursing home about a week before and you told me over in over again Davette I want to go home.

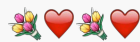
Mrs.Lauretta are are now home with your son Bruce, your husband Cleveland, your mom Mrs.Lula, and Mickie.

I know they were waiting for you with open arms.

We have traveled up n down the roads to see your family, go to Church,go to your hair appointments, and go to eat. Your family treated me like family from day 1. My lady get your rest. I love you forever and always.

Davette Foreman-Smith - January 12 at 11:09 AM

DM



Dae Murray - January 12 at 04:44 PM

JP

“ Janet Pauls lit a candle in memory of Laretta M Freeman



Janet Pauls - January 11 at 10:18 AM

DD

“ I first met Ms Laretta when she was at Denton Nursing Home back in 2023 & boy was she Feisty & I loved that! When Miss Bernadette & Efrem introduced me, she said come here & let me see you LOL!!! When she later went home to Chestertown we'd visit her at least once a month, sometimes more. She said you can stop calling me Ms and call me Aunt, I see my son is happy with you & let me know if he acts up cause that's not how I raised him. I'll definitely miss those rides to Chestertown with Miss Bernadette and Efrem to check on you. Thanks for loving & accepting me in your life.



Danielle Day - January 10 at 09:02 PM

DD

We surely surprised you this day with family for your 92nd Birthday. You Didn't know where you were going but kept asking, one of your favorites .. Cracker Barrel.

Danielle Day - January 10 at 09:04 PM

DW

“ *Dorvonda Warren lit a candle in memory of Laretta M Freeman*



Dorvonda Warren - January 10 at 07:58 PM

JC

“ *I got to know cousin Laretta more the weekend we visited her for her birthday a few years ago and loved that she called me her co-pilot as we navigated the back roads. Always felt welcome in her home and you know you'd be taken care of whether hungry or just needing a good laugh. Bringing her to church was the main highlight because of the message that was given and seeing her light up as she praised God. Love and miss you dearly! - Co-pilot Jazz from California*



Jasmine Caldwell - January 09 at 01:39 PM

LG

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Latonya Gadson - January 09 at 12:47 PM

LG

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Latonya Gadson - January 09 at 12:34 PM

VP

“ Praying 🙏 for the Family.



Voncille Phillips - January 09 at 12:32 PM

LG

“ What a wonderful cousin. She will be missed



Latonya Gadson - January 09 at 12:31 PM

RW

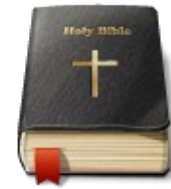
“ Reginald Wilson lit a candle in memory of
Lauretta M Freeman



Reginald Wilson - January 09 at 09:39 AM

TW

“ Sorry For Your Loss



Thomas Widgeon - January 09 at 08:41 AM

MA

“ MY SPECIAL CUZ GONNA MISS OUR WEEKLY TALIKS. RIP IN PEACE BIG L LONE LITTLE MARZELLE AND FAMILY

MARZELLE AUTREY - January 09 at 08:35 AM



“ Sharon McClinton lit a candle in memory of Laretta M Freeman



Sharon McClinton - January 09 at 07:44 AM

RR

“ I've known this classy, sophisticated, lady at least 45+ years! At church or in public she was always the same. She greeted me with a smile, and always wanted to know how i was doing. She was not afraid to speak her mind and let you know exactly how she felt. She was widely known and respected across the AME Church Connectional for work as a missionary. She will be greatly missed! My sincerest condolences to the family.
Sincerely from the heart,
Elder Reginald V. Ryans

Reginald V. Ryans - January 08 at 10:00 PM

JS

“ *Condolences to the Freeman Family, May
The Almighty Savior keep your in his comfort
!!*



James Munson Sr. - January 08 at 05:14 PM

MS

“ *MR.&MRS.TONY ALTON PERRY, SR lit a
candle in memory of Laretta M Freeman*



MR.&MRS.TONY ALTON PERRY, SR - January 08 at 04:42 PM

TF

“ *The Wilson Family lit a candle in memory of
Laretta M Freeman*



The Wilson Family - January 08 at 03:48 PM