



Ruth Elizabeth Taylor (Stokes)

June 17, 1937 - January 13, 2018

With construction of her heavenly mansion completed, the Lord called from labor unto reward, our beloved mother, grandmother, aunt, cousin, and friend, Ruth Elizabeth Stokes Taylor. She took up residence on Friday, January 12, 2018.

Ruth was born on Thursday, June 17, 1937 in Carrsville, Virginia to the late Jasper Lee and Kate Lee Rawlings Stokes. She received her education in Suffolk Public Schools where she was consistently an honor student. Ruth graduated from East Suffolk High School with the great class of 1954. While a teenager, she was mesmerized by Jesse Riddick Yates of Suffolk, VA and together they parented two daughters, Paula Delphine and Kermethia Antoinette.

Following her mother to Seaford, Delaware, she was employed for a short time by Caroline Poultry and Stewarts Cleaning Service. Attempting to better her life, she moved to New Jersey where she completed and excelled in secretarial business school. At the same time, she was working full time at Ronco Toys (now known as Toys R Us). After that, she worked at Ford Motor Company alongside her father, uncles and cousins.

When she returned to Seaford, Delaware, she met and married Airman Leonard "Stick" Taylor, in 1964. To this union was born a third daughter,

Cammi Nanette. After a short time, the family relocated to Dover, Delaware, and Ruth began her employment journey with Delaware State College. She held various positions on campus serving as secretary to the faculty, Secretary for the Executive Assistant to the President and her final post as Executive Secretary to the President of Delaware State College.

Ruth gained an impeccable reputation in her years at Delaware State University. She was a mentor to many, a confidante, an honest, trustworthy individual, with a kind nature and a pleasing personality.

She was well known for her wit and sense of humor. Her witty expressions were lovingly referred to as “Ruthisms” and she had one for every occasion. Ruth had a generous heart and would never see anyone go hungry or be left out in the cold. Back in the day, Rev. Coleman, the chaplain at Delaware State and a counselor, would always touch base with her regarding temporary housing for students. Even while raising her granddaughter, Brittany, she rarely, if ever, said no. She took her role as surrogate mother very seriously and was “Mama T” to so many.

Her talents extended outside of the job, and for several years she served as recording secretary under the leadership of Bishop L. T. Blackshear, who was the state Bishop of COGIC for Delaware. As a Sunday School teacher for several years, her many students received the benefit of her firm, but loving discipline and her intense knowledge of the scriptures. Another talent was her creative flair for naming children. She named all of her sisters’ children and other friends’ children as well.

In 1996, she graduated cum laude from Delaware State University, after seeing her children attend and graduate as well. She retired, after 38 years of service, in 2001.

Ruth loved spending time with family, attending church and watching her westerns. She was a proactive and faithful member and a church Mother of Frontline Ministries. After retirement, "Ruthie" spent lots of time laughing and loving with her Breakfast Besties.

She was preceded in death by her father, Jasper Lee Stokes; mother Kate Lee Jenkins; a sister, Velvet Lee Norwood and a brother, Rev. Dr. Jule Jenkins, Jr.

Left behind to cherish her memory forever are daughters, Paula Delphine Stokes of Dover, DE; Kermethia Stokes Armstrong (Gilbert) of Lanham, MD; Cammi Nanette Taylor of Dover, DE, two granddaughters, Brittany Taylor Williams of Dover, DE; Quinn Stokes Armstrong Ball (Howard) of Largo, MD; a grandson, Julius Armstrong of Lanham, MD; and one great-grandson who was her "best boy," Jasiah Davis, who resided with her. She also leaves her nieces, Tegra Robinson (Michael) of Dover, DE; Karlyn Johnson of Philadelphia, PA; and Siobhan Jenkins of New Jersey; nephews, Darryl Norwood of Hyattsville, MD; Kendric Norwood (Tanya) of Bear, DE and Jule Jenkins, III of New Jersey; a sister-in-law Carolyn Jenkins of New Jersey; a special "son" Stephen Williams of Upper Marlboro, MD; and a multitude of special angel cousins, nieces, nephews, very special friends and caregivers.

In the words of Ruth: My last few days on Earth I didn't feel "worth a cuss." "That "John Brown" cancer thought it had the best of me, but thank God I had no pain and I am now resting in the arms of Jesus."

Lovingly Submitted
The Family

To send flowers to the family or plant a tree in memory of Ruth Elizabeth

Taylor (Stokes), 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 - January 22, 2018 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ *To the Family:*

I was deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Mrs. Taylor. Mrs. Taylor and I worked together for over 15 years at Delaware State University in the Office of the President under the tenure and leadership of Dr. William B. DeLauder. To this day, those years are incomparable and unparalleled in terms of respect and admiration for two co-workers. Mrs. Taylor and I shared an unusual bond between supervisor and administrative assistant, yet the line of authority was never compromised.

We often spoke of family trials and tribulations. She had an enduring love for her three daughters and described Kermethia as her intellectual genius, Paula as her independent giant and Tammy as her spirited angel. She adored her grandchildren, but her love for Julius transcended grand parenthood. She shared his many escapades and we laughed uncontrollably at them.

Mrs. Taylor never boasted about her qualities of honesty and integrity and you can only marvel at the way she handled unexpected developments in the office and probably in life. She kept me grounded and had the temerity to offer her opinion when I occasionally veered in the wrong direction.

Mrs. Taylor epitomized the qualities of a virtuous woman. Never given to self-adulation, she was resolute, astute, honest and discerning.

I will miss her because I no longer will have the opportunity to relive those precious and delightful times we shared together. To her family, I hope you find solace in knowing that Mrs. Taylor lived a life that engenders emulation.

-----Drexel B. Ball

Drexel B. Ball - January 19, 2018 at 12:00 AM

FI

“ *Sincerest condolences to Ms Ruth Family. May the God of Comfort be with the family at this difficult time. Revelation 21:4*

Fisher - January 19, 2018 at 12:00 AM

MJ

“ I would like to offer my condolences for your loss. How comforting it is to know that Jehovah, the God of all comfort, will soon eliminate all grief and provide permanent consolation when “all those in the memorial tombs will hear Christ’s voice and come out!” (John 5:28, 29) God promises that “he will do away with death forever, and the Sovereign Lord Jehovah will wipe away the tears from all faces.” (Isa. 25:8) Then, instead of having to “weep with those who weep,” all earth’s inhabitants will “rejoice with those who rejoice.”—Rom. 12:15.

M Jones - January 19, 2018 at 12:00 AM

AD

“ I am very sorry for the loss of your mother, and I send my condolences during this difficult time.

Abdul Deloatch - January 19, 2018 at 12:00 AM

WD

“ I extend heartfelt condolences to the family of Ruth Taylor on the loss of your loved one. Ruth was a gentle person who related easily to persons from many different backgrounds. She was an important part of the staff of the president of Delaware State University during my entire tenure of sixteen years. We know that she is now in a good place along side her King.

William B. DeLauder - January 19, 2018 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ I am sorry to hear of the loss of your loved one. Death is an enemy to us all, but the bible tells us at Revelation 21:4 that death, tears and pain will soon be removed. Please look forward to that time, also to the time when the dead will be resurrected. (Acts 24:15) Until that time may the God of all comfort grant your entire family peace.

Doretha Sampson - January 18, 2018 at 12:00 AM

GR

“*My dear wife and I would like to extend our condolences for the loss of your loved one. All of us have experienced the pain of death in some way sad to say. And, so, at difficult times like this we are confronted with the stark reality of how precious and fragile life can surely be (James 4:14). So, my wife and I send this condolence to you with the hope that we can in some small way comfort you as it has comforted us with what the Bible reveals to us about GOOD NEWS from Almighty God. Please be assured that we are in no way trying to impose our faith on you; but we sincerely just want to extend comfort to you during your grief (Proverbs 17:17).*

As recorded in the Bible, God's only-begotten son, Jesus promises that one day he is personally going to bring back to life all those who have died, just as he did when he was on earth as a man (John 5:28, 29; 11:43, 44). Just as death is an enemy to us, it is also an enemy to God (1 Corinthians 15:26). For that reason, as well as others, He promises to remove FOREVER all the pain, suffering, wickedness, and DEATH that mankind has had to endure for thousands of years (Revelation 21:3-5; Psalm 37:10, 11, 29). What a glorious and almost unbelievable day that will be! It's a reality and a sure hope we can rely on because it is absolutely impossible for God to lie (Titus 1:2; Isaiah 55:10, 11).

It is our hope that you NOT take our word for what has been written in this condolence; but we encourage you to please take a moment to read and meditate on all these referenced scriptures in your own Bible (1 Timothy 4:15, 16). My wife and I are confident you will be encouraged and comforted by the marvelous hope God has in store for us (Psalm 1:1-3; John 17:3). Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you.

George & Christine Ragusa - January 18, 2018 at 12:00 AM

TW

“ SORRY FOR YOUR LOSS!

Thomas & Libby Widgeon - January 17, 2018 at 12:00 AM

JO

“ *I am so sorry for the loss of Mrs. Taylor and I would like to extend my deepest condolence to the family. May you find comfort in God's words in (Revelation 21: 4.)*

JoyceA - January 16, 2018 at 12:00 AM

IR

“ *I am sorry for the loss of your loved one. Read Isaiah 41:10 for comfort and peace.*

Irene - January 16, 2018 at 12:00 AM