



## Velma Isabella Morris

April 11, 1935 - November 27, 2017

Velmar Isabella Polk Morris, 82, the sixth sibling of the late Ulysses Samuel Arthur Polk, Sr. and Velmar Frances Dorman Polk, born on April 11, 1935 in Salisbury, Maryland. She departed this life on November 27, 2017 at Southern Maryland Hospital in Clinton, MD.

Velmar attended Allen Elementary School in Allen, MD grades 1- 7. She graduated from the Former Salisbury High School on Lake Street, Class of 1953. She received her Bachelor of Science Degree in Elementary and Junior High Education from the former Bowie Teachers College (Bowie State University) in 1957. "Oh Bowie State, dear Bowie State". She later earned her Master's Equivalency and Master's in Administration and Supervision from Salisbury State University in May 23, 1981. After servicing one year in Wicomico County and thirty-one years in Worcester she retired in 1992.

She was joined in marriage to Roscoe Clemoth Nutter on June 21, 1958. To this union two children were born Chandra Tenise and Patricia Arlene Nutter. Many years after Roscoe's death, she married Nathan Collins, Sr. on August 4, 1979. Velmar married William Morris on September 14, 2002, after the death of Nathan.

Velmar began her teaching career at Flower Street School in Berlin, MD. She ended her professional career as a classroom teacher and curriculum

coordinator at Pocomoke Middle School with The Board of Education of Worcester County. She was a member of the Maryland State and Worcester County Retired Teachers Associations.

Velmar joined Friendship United Methodist Church of Allen, MD at the age of twelve. She held various positions including Administrative Board Chairperson, Church Treasurer (over Twenty years), Church School Superintendent, Church Historian, and Community Youth Leader. Velmar was a member of the Friendship cluster group, Friendship Community Choir and United Methodist Women. She implemented several annual events in the church such as Friends and Family Day.

She loved her family history which inspired her to co-author “History of the Polk Family of Allen, Maryland” in 1976. Velmar was one of the founders of the Polk/Dorman Family Reunion and held the position of treasurer for many years. Velmar was the granddaughter of Thomas Elzey Polk, Sr., a buffalo soldier. This inspired her to become the founder of the Thomas Elzey Polk, Sr. Chapter of “Ninth & Tenth Horse Cavalry Associations of the Buffalo Soldiers.”

Velmar founded The 4-H Club “Allen Tornadoes” and The Youth Enrichment Team, Inc. (tutorial program). She served as vice-president of The Allen Improvement Association, which addressed issues on community enhancement and environmental developments of the roads.

She served as the only African American on Worcester County’s Initiative to Preserve Families Board of Directors. The purpose was to prevent mental and behavior problem children from leaving the state for treatment and education.

Velmar was a member of The American Legion Auxiliary – Spirit of Democracy – Post 145 in Salisbury. She held positions of past president and chairperson of the Girls’ State Committee. She was also a lifetime member of

the Salisbury High School Association. In support of Nathan Collins, Sr., she served as president of the Quettes for several years, which is the ladies auxiliary of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. – Pi Alpha chapter.

Velmar has been a member of the National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa, Inc., - Beta Tau Chapter. During that time, she served as Basileus, Epistoleus, First anti-Basileus and Historian. She was also chairperson of Newsletter, Fund-raising events, Teach-A-Rama, Human Relations and Constitution committees. On the regional level, she served as committee chairperson of Teach-A-Rama, Marshalls, and Historian. As an active member of the Beta Tau Chapter, in 1993, Velmar served as chairperson of “Men in Our Lives”, and chapter historian. She was actively involved in standing committees including Budget, Dean of Pledges, Public Relations, and Assault and Illiteracy. Velmar obtained petition signatures to support the non-sale of The Salisbury Nursing Home, which was founded by Beta Tau chapter. Her hobbies included traveling and organizing trips, photography, history, and coordinating weddings and other social events.

In addition to her parents she was also preceded in death by her husband’s William Morris (2015) and Nathan Collins, Sr. (1999) and Roscoe Nutter (1963); her brothers Leonard, Elmer (Elizabeth) and Ulysses, Jr., and one sister Alice DeShield.

Velmar is survived by her loving supporting daughters Chandra (Bernard) Ward of Clinton, MD and Patricia Nutter of Upper Marlboro, MD; a special great niece, Brendia DeShield ; two great-great nephews K’Lin DeShield and Keith Davis, Jr.; one great-great niece Ka’Ryah Dennard of Salisbury, Maryland; four steps sons Nathaniel, Jr. (Wanda) Collins of Waldorf, MD, Marcus Collins of Baltimore, Maryland, Gerald and Gary Morris of Delaware; two step daughters Tamara Gutierrez of Baltimore, MD and Gail Morris of

Dover, DE; two step grandson Nathaniel Collins, III of Waldorf, MD and Lucas Gutierrez of Baltimore, Maryland; one step granddaughter Sidney Smith of Baltimore, Maryland; one sister Leoner Battle of Randallstown, Maryland; one sister-in-law Doris Polk of Allen, MD and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and other relatives.

To send flowers to the family or plant a tree in memory of Velma Isabella Morris, 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 - December 04, 2017 at 12:00 AM

PN

“ Sending love & prayers of comfort & peace to the Family of Velma Polk Morris. Saddened to hear of her passing. Praise God for her life and legacy, and all those she touched as she passed this way. May precious memories comfort your hearts.

Pastor Shirley Polk Nixon  
Decatur GA

Pastor Shirley Polk Nixon - December 02, 2017 at 12:00 AM

MJ

“ I would like to offer my condolences for your loss. I hope you will find comfort in knowing 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 - November 30, 2017 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 that you 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 sincerely with all of you.*

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**George & Christine Ragusa** - November 30, 2017 at 12:00 AM

AW

“ *Extending deepest sympathy to family and friends in this time of sorrow. Please find comfort in knowing that soon all those in God's memory will hear Jesus' voice and live again. (John 5:28,29) Until that blessed day, may Jehovah, the God of all comfort, grant you peace while many fond memories warm your hearts.*

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**Annie Wingfield** - November 30, 2017 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ *Please accept my deepest sympathy in the loss of your loved one. Death is an enemy to us all, but Almighty God is going to remove death, sickness and pain in the near future. Please look forward to that time. Until then may your entire family be comforted and blessed.*

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**Doretha Sampson** - November 29, 2017 at 12:00 AM

JO

“ *I would like to offer my personal condolences to your family. I hope that you will be able find strength in Gods promise at Revelation 21:4 that soon: he will wipe out every tear from their eyes, and death will be no more, neither will mourning nor outcry nor pain be anymore. The former things have passed away. You are in my thoughts and prayers and once more I am deeply sorry for your familys loss.*

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**JoyceA** - November 29, 2017 at 12:00 AM