



Celebration of *Life*
for
Elnora Tibbs Bonton



April 13, 1935 ~ February 23, 2022

Eastern Star Baptist Church

548 15th Street * Port Arthur, TX 77708

Dr. L.W. Scott, Pastor

Saturday, March 12, 2022
11 AM



Obituary

Elnora Bonton, 86, was born Elnora Tibbs on April 13, 1935, in Morrow, Louisiana. She passed away on Wednesday, February 23, 2022, in Houston, Texas.

Elnora was a servant of our Lord Jesus Christ, wife, mother, grandmother, sister and aunt. Elnora was the fifth child of seven born to Tom Tibbs and Leola (Johnson) Tibbs.

Elnora accepted Christ while growing up in Morrow, Louisiana at the Little Rock Baptist Church. She was joyful in hope, patient in tribulation and faithful in prayer.

Elnora married her loving husband and friend, Pierre Bonton, Jr., on September 26, 1953 and four children were born to this union. The Bonton family moved to Port Arthur, Texas where Elnora was a resident for over 60 years. During her husband's life, Elnora served beside him as Deaconess, Baptist Training Union Leader and Choir member. After his death in 2006, Elnora became an active member in Women's Ministry and Sunday School at Eastern Star Baptist Church.

Elnora worked at Jim Carr Motors and with other private employers as a domestic and caregiver for the elderly. Her priority, however, was creating a comfortable and peaceful home for her family and bringing joy to her large extended family with her excellent cooking and loving hospitality. Her industrious spirit, determination and organized administration served as an example to her children and grandchildren as they gained confidence and excelled in educational and career pursuits.

Elnora moved to Richmond, Texas in 2015, due to failing health. She continued her faith walk with the Lilly Grove Missionary Baptist Church, Houston Texas. She loved listening to great preaching and praising the goodness of God.

Elnora's prayer was "Lord, add years to my life and life to my years." She and her husband loved to travel and were blessed through vacations and joyful family celebrations with their children. Elnora's courageous spirit and witty humor added laughter and fun to her relationships with family and friends. Elnora's quiet wisdom and loving spirit will truly be missed while her legacy will never be forgotten.

Elnora was preceded in death by her parents, Tom and Leola Tibbs, her husband of 53 years, Pierre Bonton, Jr., her siblings, Tom Tibbs, Jr., Carrie Lee Barzar, Marvin Tibbs, Enix Tibbs and daughter, Lois Bonton Ponder.

Elnora is survived by her son, Donald (Shirley) Bonton; daughters, Cathy (Frank) Walker and Debra Bonton Ross; son-in-law, Wesley (Lois) Ponder, and eight grandchildren: Frank, Lisa, Jessica, April (Josh), Christian, Jason, Wesley Isaac and Michael; siblings, Ed Tibbs and Lillie Mae Roy.

Theme: Awaiting The New Body

Scripture: Therefore *we are* always confident, knowing that, whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord: (For we walk by faith, not by sight:) We are confident, *I say*, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.

2 Corinthians 5:6-8 (KJV)

Order of Celebration

Processional Clergy & Family

Parting View

Selection..... Choir
“What a Friend (we have in Jesus)”

Scriptural Comfort
 Old Testament
 New Testament

PrayerAppointee

Selection..... *Choir*

Resolution (s)/Acknowledgements

Expressions (2 minutes, please)

Solo Oneal Roberts
“Jesus, You’re the Center of My Joy”

Eulogy Dr. L.W. Scott

Call for Christian Discipleship

Recessional Clergy & Family
“Bye and Bye”





"Tribute from the Children"

A good mother pours love in the pot, stirs it slowly with prayer and serves it with an admonition to thank God for his grace and mercy. God blessed us through you and Daddy, Mother, with physical and spiritual nourishment as we grew up and it was a blessing for us to care for you in your later years. Your compliments, encouragement and even "throwing us under the bus" made us better, to the glory of God.

Take comfort. We are yet "holding on" to the faith and loving each other.

Your children, Donald, Cathy and Debra



Dear Mow Mow,

You always use to say, "thank you for loving me." But your love for us was truly an immeasurable gift we could never thank you enough for. Thank you for all the hugs, laughs, and warm meals (especially the rice and gravy). Thank you for the wisdom that you gave us, correction and guidance, and the safe spaces you created for us to speak our minds. Your wise words, grace, humility and love for Christ will continue in all of us. You showed us all unconditional love, honesty, and what hard work looks like.

You shared that when Paw-Paw first passed away you needed gospel music to get to sleep and the music helped you through some rough nights. They say, "Time will heal" and eventually you didn't need music to go to sleep only Jesus...now you are with Jesus every day. Where you are now, there is no more searching for the cures of diseases known to man. Every ailment is remedied by the leaves of the tree and you are healed once and for all. We believe we will see you again and we look forward to it. Until then we will continue to carry on your legacy.

Rest in Glory Mow Mow! The blessing you've been will always be with each one of us. We will definitely miss you; and we love you forever and ever.

*Love,
Your Grandchildren*

John 14:2-3 'In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you unto Myself; that where I am, there you may be also'

I'm Finally Home

I'm glad that my life has been full and complete. I'm glad I've tasted the bitter and the sweet. I'm glad that I've walked in sunshine and rain. I'm glad that I felt both pleasure and pain. I'm glad that I had such a full and happy life. I'm glad that I walked with courage each day. I'm glad that I had strength each step of the way. I'm glad for the comfort that I found in prayer with my God. I'm glad for God's blessing, His love and His care during my life's journey.

I'm safely home in Heaven though I know you miss me so. The love I've always felt for you, within my heart still flows. My spirit will remain with you every single day, appearing as a rainbow or as ocean waves at play. I'm in the gentle rain that falls and the morning dew. All you see that's beautiful reflects my love for you. I didn't mean to cause you pain, my time had simply come. The work that I was meant to do on earth had all been done. I'm safely home in Heaven where eternal peace is mine. And when God had called you, too, I'll be forever Thine.

Remember Me

Remember me when flowers
bloom early in the spring.

Remember me on sunny
days, in the fun that summer brings.

Remember me in the fall, as
you walk through the leaves
of gold. And in the winter
time – remember me in the
stories that are told.

But most of all remember
each day – right from the
start, I will be forever near
for I live within your heart.



Active Pall Bearers

Frank Walker, Jr.
Brandon Washington
Wesley Isaac Ponder
Rodney Heath

Toney Kaye Jones
Jason Ponder
Josh Jackson
Kenneth Heath

Honorary Pall Bearers

Donald Bonton
Wesley Ponder
Kenneth Bonton

Frank Walker, Sr.
Ed Tibbs
Clarence Michael Ross

“Together Again”



Acknowledgement

When it seemed that our loss was too great to bear,
We looked up and our friends were there.
With flowers and words written and spoken,
With faces smiling and hearts that were open.
You comforted us and shared our grief,
God will bless you and grant you all relief.
Our gratitude cannot be adequately expressed,
With mere words but that they are our best.
Thank you for lifting the clouds
And letting the sunshine through.

Interment

Greenlawn Memorial Park
3900 Twin City Hwy * Groves, Texas 77619

Services Entrusted To

Gabriel Funeral Home
3800 Memorial Blvd. * Port Arthur, TX 77642