



Annette Yearby Ashley

April 17, 1942 - March 23, 2023

Annette Yearby Ashley, transitioned into eternal rest on Thursday, March 23, 2023 at home surrounded by her family. She valiantly fought a long battle with Colon Cancer since June 2019. Annette was born on April 17, 1942 in Chattanooga, Tennessee as the youngest child to Grady and Bessie Yearby. Annette attended Joseph E. Smith Elementary and Orchard Knob Middle School and Howard High School in Chattanooga. After graduating in 1960, Annette attended Tuskegee Institute in Tuskegee, Alabama. While initially wanting to go into nursing, Annette found her true passion and calling in education. Upon graduation, she began her teaching career in the Hamilton County School System. Annette received her Masters Degree in Counseling at the University of Tennessee Chattanooga. She married Willie Ashley in April of 1968 and had her only child, Courtney in April of 1975. As a devoted daughter, she balanced caring for her own mother until she died in 1986. Professionally, Annette was a revolutionary teacher whom all of her fellow teachers and students loved. She made Civics and American History come alive. She took her students to Washington DC every year and she was especially passionate about Black History. After a 30 year teaching career in Tennessee, she moved to North Carolina to be closer to her family. She just couldn't stay away from education and shortly went back to work as an elementary school guidance counselor at T. C. Berrian Elementary School. Annette was not only a talented educator and basketball coach but also a very talented seamstress. She could create garments without patterns and

recreate other items and make them better.

From a child, Annette loved the Lord and was raised and attended the East Third Street Church of Christ in Chattanooga, Tennessee. As an adult, she attended Spring Lake Church of Christ as well as Country Club Church of Christ in North Carolina. In Virginia, she attended Downtown Church of Christ and most recently, Inner City Church of Christ in Virginia. She was always very active with the youth and loved to attend special ladies' events. Annette served as a Youth Director and taught Sunday School. She helped organize events as well as served as Mistress of Ceremony for several functions. Annette was known to attend the Ladies Day Annual Retreats and attended most of these since their inception in 1986 in Atlanta, Georgia.

Annette was also an active member of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. She crossed Graduate Chapter with the Chattanooga Alumnae chapter in 1972.

Annette never met a stranger and she loved everyone with the love of Christ. She possessed amazing kindness and generosity. If she had anything you needed, you could be certain she would give it to you. Her love was truly for her grandsons because once they were born, she dropped everything and moved to Virginia to help raise them. Her heart was truly genuine and pure and she was a great listener and friend. She had a youthful spirit and loved to travel and stay active. One of her bucket list items (that she was unable to accomplish) was to travel to Switzerland and have a picture taken with her standing on the ski slopes to appear that she was skiing. Then she wanted to go inside and drink hot chocolate.

Annette is preceded in death by her father Grady Yearby, her mother Bessie Yearby, her brother Robert Lee Yearby and her nephew Michael Yearby. She is survived by her daughter Courtney Jackson (Darrin Jackson), her only sister Ruby Williams, grandsons Clive Brownbill, Jr. and Caelan Brownbill,

niece Kellie Garris (Derrick Garris), nephews Rodney Yearby, Gregory Williams (Sherrill Williams) along with a host of great nephews, great nieces, cousins and friends. Annette will lie-in-state on Saturday, April 1, 2023, at 9:30 a.m. at Inner City Church of Christ, 3110 Sewells Point Road, Norfolk, VA 23513. Funeral service will follow at 11:00 a.m. at the church.

Previous Events

Lie-In-State

APR 1. 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Inner City Church of Christ
3110 Sewells Point Road
Norfolk, VA 23513

Service

APR 1. 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM (ET)

Inner City Church of Christ
3110 Sewells Point Road
Norfolk, VA 23513

Tribute Wall

BB

“ *It was so wonderful to have had you in my life. You will be greatly missed. Rest in peace with our Lord and Saviour.*

Barbara Bartlow - April 03, 2023 at 05:32 PM

EW

“ *Courtney, Ruby I send my condolences to your family. My heart is full on the loss of my dear friend. I am glad our paths cross and cherish the time we spent together.*

Evelyn J Witt - April 02, 2023 at 03:52 PM

M,

“ *TO COURTNEY AND FAMILY;
THE GARYS SEND OUR DEEPEST GRATITUDE FOR THE
OPPORTUNITY OF KNOWING ANNETTE AND HAVING HER IN
OUR LIVES. SHE WAS A HELPER TO EVERYONE THAT
CROSSED HER PATH. MAY YOU ALL REST KNOWING THAT
SHE OBEYED THAT FORM OF DOCTRINE THAT WAS ABLE TO
SAVE HER SOUL... AMEN.. WE LOVE THE FAMILY ...*

MOOCHIE ,JOYCE,BUNDLES - March 31, 2023 at 06:21 AM

M,

TEKE AND BUBBA AS WELL

MOOCHIE ,JOYCE,BUNDLES - March 31, 2023 at 06:22 AM

SW

“ Dear Courtney and family,

We send our love, prayers and condolences. May the Lord send His Comforter to each of you. We loved Annette. We are so thankful we had many early years with you two at the E. Third St congregation. Matthew 5:4.

*Much love,
J. J. and Sharon (Hester) Winston
Ooltewah church*

Sharon Winston - March 30, 2023 at 10:32 PM

FM

“ Felton and Jeanette Moore purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Annette Yearby Ashley.



Felton and Jeanette Moore - March 30, 2023 at 11:14 AM

VK

“ My sincere condolences go out to Courtney and Ruby Mae for the loss of your mother and sister. I grew-up with Annette at East Third Street Church of Christ. As a young girl, I admired Annette and spent Sunday afternoons with her and her mother. She taught my son at Tyner Middle School. My heart is saddened to learn of her passing; but I can accept God's will because I know she was a Christian woman. Again, I send love to the family of my friend and sister-in-Christ, Annette.

Vickie Dozier Kellum

Vickie Kellum - March 29, 2023 at 10:46 AM

KC

So sorry for your loss. Remember, she knows you're sad, but she wants you to smile because she lived. May her memory always bring a smile to your face. Bill and Kittye Craig-Jackson.

Kittye Craig-Jackson - March 30, 2023 at 02:20 PM

CL

*Courtney and Family,
Annette was my friend, soror, and co-worker. She was one of a kind. I have no words to take away the the sadness you feel now. Please know that we share in your grief. Cherish the memories of the good times you shared. Sending love and prayers to you and your family.
Cheryl Locke and Family*

Cheryl Locke - April 08, 2023 at 05:47 PM