



Bertha Thompson Coleman

May 7, 1908 - February 19, 2012

Bertha Thompson Coleman was born on May 7, 1908 in Areola Arkansas to Reba and John Thompson (both preceded her in death). While still a young girl, she was raised in Westlake Mississippi by her Uncle Warwick and his family. Bertha pursued her education at a plantation school and every day, she had to walk two and a half miles to and from school.

From the ages of twelve to twenty years old, Bertha chopped and picked cotton; She said, "One of the tricks to get more money for it was to wake up very early while the morning dew was still settled on the cotton, that way it was heavier and you would get paid by the pound." When Bertha was twenty, she also cooked and cleaned wherever she could find work in order to help support the family.

In 1930, Bertha gave birth to her only child, Roger Ivy Figures (in 1996, preceded her in death). Bertha was married in 1943 to Ira Coleman however, there were she had no children during this union. Because she often heard her uncle talk about how wonderful it would be to live in California, in 1947, Bertha decided to join her sister, Leona Thompson Green, and moved from Mississippi to California. At the age of 45, she worked at Fosters located in San Francisco, CA, until she retired.

Bertha Graduated from the San Francisco School of Practical Nursing, held in the Veterans' Auditorium, On April 4, 1951. In 2002, The Help Hospitalized Veterans Organization awarded her for past kindness, thoughtfulness, constant caring, and unselfish years of service and generosity towards

worthwhile charitable causes. On December 29, 1995, she received an award of recognition as a Valued Supporter from The National Children's Cancer Society.

Bertha accepted Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior, was baptized and became a faithful member of McGee Avenue Baptist Church in Berkeley CA since the 1940s. Throughout her years of membership, she was also given numerous certificates of achievement and recognition for her dedication, faithful participation and continuing service and support in 1995.

Cemetery Details

Sunset View Cemetery

101 Colusa Avenue
El Cerrito, CA

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 28. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (PT)

McGee Avenue Baptist Church
1640 Stuart Avenue
Berkeley, CA

Service

FEB 28. 11:00 AM (PT)

McGee Avenue Baptist Church
1640 Stuart Avenue
Berkeley, CA

Tribute Wall



“ 9 files added to the album Memories Album



Harris Funeral Home - April 03, 2015 at 02:40 PM