



## Laura Belle Pitts McCann

June 9, 2023

Laura Belle Pitts McCann was born on October 24, 1925 in Porter, Oklahoma, the sixth of eight offspring of the union of Jesse Elic Pitts and Bell Beatrice Bonds Pitts.

The sunset of Laura's life was on June 9, 2023. She completed her elementary education in Porter, and rode a bus to attend Mark Hanna High School in

Tulahassee six miles away where she graduated in 1943 as valedictorian of her

class. Laura was the first clerical assistant to the first Black County and Home Demonstration Agents in Porter. On November 16, 1943 in Porter, she married

Andy K. McCa

nn who served his country during World War II in the U.S. Army in the China

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Burma theater of action. Upon his honorable discharge, Laura and Andy moved to Muskogee before moving to Oakland, California in 1946. Three children

were born of this union. Laura

was employed with the Naval Supply Center before

joining the U.S. Forest Service in Berkeley until her retirement in January 1993 as an Executive Secretary.

Laura undertook studies in business administration and real estate at Contra Costa College. She

possessed the unique talent of writing ambidextrously. Laura was very active in her church, the Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church of Richmond, California. She graced the congregation with her beautiful soprano voice as a member of the Senior Choir. Since

re dedication marked her participation in numerous organizations, including the NAACP, Neighborhood Council, and the

Heroines of Jericho. Laura served as the Worthy Counselor of Court of Calanthe,

Grand Assistant Secretary to the Court of Calanthe, and a lifetime member of the

Golden State Grand Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, Prince Hall Rite of Adoption,

State of California, in the positions of Esther, Associate Conductress, Conductress,

Associate Matron, Worthy Matron, Secretary, Marshall West, Marshall East, Grand

Deputy, and Past Matron. Laura lived to be the eldest member in Ashlar Chapter No.

47.

Preceding her in death were her parents; husband Andy McCann, Sr.; siblings Vonya

Johnson, Velma McCann, Naomi Leroy, Lavada Duncan, Lydia Elliott, and Jesse Pitts;

son Andy McCann, Jr.; daughter Letitia Terrell; and grandson Jamie Terrell.

Laura was a loving daughter, sister, wife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother, great great grandmother, godmother, and aunt. She leaves to cherish her memory

he

r brother Floyd Pitts (Inez); daughter Vonya McCann (Richard Roberts); grandchildren Micheal Terrell (Lorenza), Jordan Roberts, and Jillian Roberts; great

grandchildren Jamie Markeal Terrell, Jamie Micheal Terrell, Kiona Terrell, Zaneya

Terrell, Micheal Te

rrell, Milani Terrell, and Zaire Terrell; great great grandchild Jamie Terrell; goddaughters Donna Ambeau, and Lanna Butler

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McCoy; caregiver Gladys

Brown; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

# Previous Events

## Viewing

JUN 29. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (PT)

Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church  
684 Juliga Woods Street  
Richmond, CA 94804

## Service

JUN 29. 11:00 AM (PT)

Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church  
684 Juliga Woods Street  
Richmond, CA 94804

## Interment

JUN 29. 1:45 PM (PT)

Rolling Hills Memorial Park  
4100 Hilltop Drive  
Richmond, CA 94803