

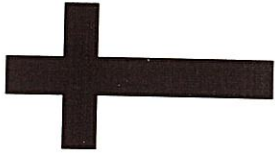
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The Final Tribute. A Service by:
THOMPSON, HALL and JORDAN
FUNERAL HOME
11400 Winton Road
Forest Park, Ohio 45240
(513) 742-3600



Psalms 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies; thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.





Letter From Heaven

*To my dearest family, some things I'd like to say.
But first of all, to let you know, that I arrived okay.
I'm writing this from heaven, here I dwell with God above.
Here there's no more tears of sadness, here is just eternal love.
Please do not be unhappy, just because I'm out of sight.
Remember that I am with you, every morning, noon, and night.
That day I had to leave you all, when my life on earth was through.
God picked me up and hugged me and he said, I welcome you.*



In Remembrance of Our Beloved

Aretha Byrd

Obituary

Order of Service

Acknowledgement



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Aretha Byrd

Sunrise

September 8, 1942

Sunset

January 6, 2004

— *Funeral Services* —

Thursday, January 15, 2004
11:00 a.m.

Quinn Chapel A.M.E. Church
10998 Southland Boulevard
Forest Park, Ohio 45240

Reverend Charles Scott, *Officiating*



*A precious one from us is gone,
A voice we loved is stilled.
A place is vacant in our hearts,
Which never can be filled.*



Aretha Byrd

Obituary

Order of Service

Acknowledgement

Mrs. Aretha (Gunn) Byrd was born September 8, 1942 in Hollandale, Mississippi. She was the daughter of the late Lawrence Mills and Ollie Gunn, and adopted by Arthur and Virginia Gunn. She departed this life on Tuesday, January 6, 2004 at Mercy South Hospital of Fairfield, Ohio.

She accepted Christ at an early age and was baptized at First Baptist Church of Hollandale, Mississippi. She was a member of Quinn Chapel A.M.E. Church of Forest Park, Ohio.

She received her education at Mississippi Valley State University and taught Business Education in Dayton, Ohio Public Schools for several years before moving to Cincinnati, Ohio as a homemaker for the past 33 years.

Aretha touched many lives in many ways and will always be remembered for her generosity, boldness, wit and determination.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Ollie, Lawrence, Arthur and Virginia; her son, Terrald Gunn; three sisters, Maxine Sullivan, Earlean Wilkerson and Amy Moore; nephews, Roosevelt Wilkerson, Jr., Lamon Lashley, and a niece, Najmah Sullivan.

She leaves to cherish her memory: her beloved husband, Cleotha Byrd; two daughters, Shelia Gunn and Laquinda Byrd; three brothers, Henry Sullivan, Perry Jones and Quintous Johnson; 10 sisters, Clotee Gaitor, Bobbie Henry, Sandra Foley, Ruth Robinson, Mahalia Jackson, Katherine Marshall, Danziola Johnson, Belinda Spicer, Felecia Johnson and Audrey Mills; three granddaughters, Sylvester Gunn, Britney Byrd and Erica Armstrong; four grandsons, Quint Gunn, Brandon Byrd, Brent Byrd and Brian Trotter; four great-grandsons, Terrald Gunn, Javier Richardson, Elijah Byrd and Lamont Langford, II; 57 nieces and nephews, a host of cousins, and very special family and friends.

Obituary

Order of Service

Acknowledgement

Chiming of the Hour — 11:00 a.m.

Organ Prelude.....Organist
Parting View.....The Family
Prayer.....Pastor Charles Benton
Scripture — Psalm 30:1-5.....The Minister
Hymn of Confidence.....Choir
 “Blessed Assurance”
Remarks (2 minutes, please).....Family/Friends
Obituary.....Read Silently
 *(A time to think, a time to pray, and a time
 to reflect upon the life of Aretha Byrd.)*
Solo.....Laquinda Byrd
The Eulogy.....Pastor Taylor T. Thompson
Hymn of Acceptance.....Organist
 “The Lord’s Prayer”
Benediction.....Pastor Charles Scott
Recessional.....Clergy, Pallbearers and Family

Interment

Vine Street Hill Cemetery

Following the interment, the family will receive
friends at the Quinn Chapel Fellowship Hall.

*God saw the road was getting rough,
the hills were hard to climb.
He gently closed those loving eyes,
and whispered, Peace be thine.”*
*The weary hours, the days of pain,
the sleepless nights have passed.
The ever patient worn out frame,
has found sweet peace and rest at last.*

Order of Service

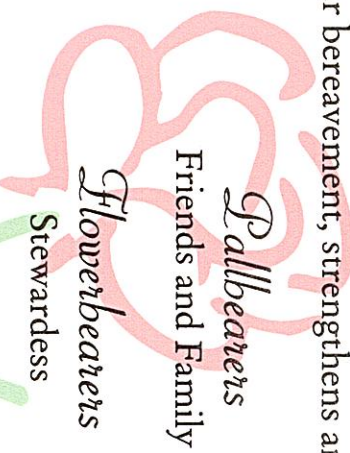
Acknowledgement

To Those I Love and Those Who Love Me

When I am gone, release me — let me go.
I have so many things to see and do.
You mustn't tie yourself to me with tears.
Be happy that we had so many years.
I gave you my love, you can only guess,
How much you gave to me in happiness.
I thank you for the love we each have shown,
But now it's time I traveled on alone.
So grieve a while for me, if grieve you must.
Then let your grief be comforted by trust.
It's only for a while that we must part;
So bless the memories within your heart.
I won't be far away, for life goes on,
So if you need me, call and I will come.
Though you can't see or touch me, I'll be near;
And if you listen with your heart, you'll hear all my love, soft and clear.
And then when you must come this way alone,
I'll greet you with a smile and say, "Welcome Home".

Acknowledgement

The family wishes to express sincere thanks and appreciation for the many comforting messages, floral tributes, prayers and many other expressions of kindness and concern. Knowing that you shared our bereavement, strengthens and comforts us.



When You Think of Her

Remember her for the good times, for the times she laughed and loved.
Remember her for the smiles, for the times she listened and cared.
Remember her for the times she was happy, and for the times she did her best,
in the best way that she knew how.
Remember her for her courage to fight on when life was winning.
But most of all, when you remember her, think of the joy that we will share
when we rise together in Christ!

Acknowledgement