

Virginia Ardell Powell



Virginia Ardell Powell, affectionately known as “Ardell”, began her earthly journey on Oct. 17, 1936 and bid this world farewell on Saturday, March 6, 2021. She was baptized and joined the Rocky Mount Baptist Church at an early age. Ardell graduated from West End High School and attended Bluefield State College and Southside Virginia Community College, where she amassed courses in general education. She worked in textile for a number of years before accepting positions with the Mecklenburg County Public School System as an educational aide and bus driver.

She is the former church clerk for the Rocky Mount Baptist Church and also served as a member of the board of trustees. She was a pillar in the community and always greeted people from all walks of life with a smile and words of encouragement. With the help of Lillie B. Wright, she organized and directed the Rocky Mount Angels Youth Choir and traveled to churches throughout the east coast. She was a proud member of the West End Alumni Association, former member of the Chase City Rescue Squad Auxiliary and a local chapter of the Household of Ruth. She enjoyed spending time with family and friends, gardening, table games, arts and crafts, reading, writing poetry, and listening to gospel music.

She leaves four children to cherish her precious and loving memories: Earnadette P. Farrar (Wayne) of Indianapolis, Ind.; Euretha F. Powell of Temple Hills, Md.; Earther P. Tucker (Irven) of Washington, DC; Edwin W. Powell (Liz) of Washington, DC and reared a grandchild Latoya S. Powell-Walker (Olden) of Washington, DC. She also leaves 10 grandchildren: Latoya, Destiny, Deshae, Tia, Dayla, Ty, Quinn, Chase, Chassidy, Reid and one great-grandson, Malcolm. Ardell leaves two brothers Robert Floyd Smith (Betty) of Chase City, Nathaniel H. Smith (Laura) of Liberty, N.C.; two aunts Lucy Carter and Geneva Carter of Chase City, three sisters-in-law, Lenora Boyd of Newark, N.J., Arnella Powell of Chase City, and Grace Powell of York, Pa. ^[SEP]She loved her nieces and nephews and looked forward to receiving calls from her niece Vanessa D. Dodson. Ardell valued her three godsons: Henry D. Tucker, Ronnie Davis and Ronnie Allen; and goddaughters, Keisha Barnes, Leisha Barnes and Gloria W. Brown. She spoke daily to all of her children and a few phone buddies: a special cousin, Cornelia W. Reed, Betty Smith, Emma Long, Rosa Wright, Judith Freeman, Lucy Carter, Ethel Snead, Jean Smith, Dora Kelly, Eleanor Bacon, Easter Coffield, Arnella Powell, Patricia Ligon, Ruth Hayes, Blanche Smith, Margaret Moody and Vanessa D. Dodson.

Ardell was preceded in death by her parents Jessie and Rosa Smith, her son Ernest Godfrey Powell and siblings Willie Grace, Edna, Lucy and Madeline. Graveside services were held on Saturday, March 13, at 2 p.m. at Rocky Mount Baptist Church.

Funeral Services are entrusted to Carter’s funeral Home.