



Mother Shirley L. Stokes

September 12, 1937 - February 26, 2024

Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all. Favor is deceitful and beauty is vain, but a woman that fears the Lord, she shall be praised. Proverbs 31:29-30

The Woman

Shirley Louise Stokes was born September 12, 1937, to the late Bishop Isaac Harrison Hundley and Elizabeth Finney Hundley in Hollandale, MS. She was the seventh child of ten born to this union. She was preceded in death by her parents, three brothers; Jake Hundley, Curtis Hundley, and Clinton Hundley, three sisters; Ernestine Whittington, Rosie Lee Smith, and Martha Zewalk, and her only daughter, Janice P. Boyd.

She received her education in Sharkey County, MS, and completed her High School education with a career interest in sewing and home economics. Shirley was an independent thinker and feisty at times, but she always had goals and aspirations for her life. After high School, Shirley moved to Memphis, TN, to further her education and attended LeMoyne-Owen College, a private historically black college and the 5th oldest HBCU. In 1959 she earned an Associates of Arts degree in Home Economics. She also attended college in Farmington, MA, taking additional classes in other areas of career interests. While living in the Boston area she worked as an Office Manager for a magazine publishing company, which ultimately, prepared her for a lengthy

career with Blue Cross Blue Shield where she retired in 1992 as a Team Lead in the Document Services department. Her love for sewing allowed her to hone becoming quite the seamstress, creating, and designing clothes for bridal parties, special occasions, and casual wear.

Her Family

Sister Shirley moved to Kansas City in the early 1960's and settled down in marriage and was blessed with three beautiful children, David, Janice, and Alvin. She absolutely loved and adored her family! She would often share fond memories of her parents and some of the joys of growing up on a farm. She was incredibly happy about all her children and enjoyed spending quality time with them as well as her grandchildren Elizabeth "Lizzy" and Alvin Jr "AJ". Her three great grandchildren, Jeremias, Janyla, and Jahira, kept her on her toes. A striking and attractive woman, she loved beautiful clothing, wearing hats, and spending time with family and friends. She was known as a globe trotter and traveled to nearly every state within the United States. She looked forward to traveling bi-annually to the Hundley family reunions and they were legendary! They were filled with lots of love, good food, volleyball competitions, and of course no family reunion started or ended without praise to God. Don't forget the family prayer is the Hundley family mantra. She was an excellent cook, and many looked forward to enjoying her delicious dishes. Shirley counted it a tremendous blessing to be in a family with a rich history and legacy of serving God.

Her Faith

Sister Stokes was a servant of the Lord-- true saint. She gave her life to Jesus Christ at an early age and was active in various capacities of ministry in her youth and all her adult life. She received her Christian education and training from her home church, Hollandale Church of God, where her father, Bishop

Isaac H. Hundley was the Pastor. Upon moving to Kansas City, she joined Boone Tabernacle Church of God In Christ under the pastorate of the late Elder Floyd H. Thuston and continued her membership under the pastorate of his son, Bishop Lemuel F. Thuston. While at Boone Tabernacle Sister Shirley matured in her faith and service to the Lord, serving as the local Sunday School Superintendent for 40 years. The Sunday School was a powerful arm of the church under her administration. She sponsored teachers' meetings, field trips, banner competitions and picnics. She also served on the Mother's Board, The Missionary Circle, The Christian Women's Council, The Zion Singers and The Pastor's Aide Committee. One of her greatest joys was coordinating annual trips to the Church of God in Christ Women's International Convention. Many women from the region were invited to travel on a chartered bus (or two) to various cities across the country for over ten years. Many women's lives were blessed and transformed because of Mo. Stokes' travel ministry. Her brother, affectionately known as, G-Bob, worked for Greyhound and Crossroads Bus companies and served as their driver for many years.

Perhaps the greatest honor and privilege of her ministry was being appointed to serve as District Missionary for the Wyandotte District by the late Bishop William H. McDonald, prelate of the Kansas East Jurisdiction at that time. She made sure that her district was always well represented and strived to involve everyone. She loved women's ministry and was a mighty prayer warrior. She loved singing the gospel hymns. Even as her health began to fail, if you sang a gospel hymn or read a scripture to her, she would sing along or quote the scripture with you. God's spirit was inside of her. She was indeed a woman of great faith.

Her Friends

She was a woman of hospitality with a kind and generous heart. She had a way of making others feel welcomed and at home in her presence. She spent her life helping and serving others and never asked for anything in return. She was a servant leader and a true friend. To truly know her was to love her. She often hosted family and friends in her home that were visiting or traveling through Kansas City. She enjoyed feeding others and many feasted at her dining room table. She did it all unto the Lord. She never met a stranger-- just people who weren't friends yet! She had a kind and generous heart and will be missed dearly by a host of family and friends but never forgotten.

On February 26, 2024, at 10:45 a.m., at the Kansas City Hospice House, Mo. Stokes went home to be with the Lord.

She leaves to cherish her memories her two children David S. Stokes (Crystal) of Kansas City, KS; Al W. Stokes (Brenda) of Phoenix, AZ; two brothers, John Hundley (Millie) of Atlanta, GA, Gloster A. Hundley (Ethel) of Lee Summit, MO, one sister, Dorothy Marshall of Jackson, TN two grandchildren Elizabeth Patrice Boyd (Jermaine) of Overland Park, KS; Alvin Stokes, Jr. of Kansas City, KS, three great grandchildren, and a host of cousins, nieces, nephews, and friends.

Funeral Services will be held on Saturday, March 9, 2024, 1:00pm at Boone Tabernacle COGIC. Interment XII Gates Memorial Gardens. Visitation will be from 11:00am-1:00pm at the church. Services conducted by Lawrence A. Jones & Sons. Condolence may be shared on the website.

Cemetery Details

XII Gates Memorial Gardens

9500 East Bannister Road
Kansas City, MO 64138

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 9. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Boone Tabernacle COGIC
1317 E 12th St,
Kansas City,, MO 64106

Funeral Service

MAR 9. 1:00 PM (CT)

Boone Tabernacle COGIC
1317 E 12th St,
Kansas City,, MO 64106

Tribute Wall

MP

“ My name is Michelle Pepper Peppers, I cared for Mother Stokes at The Piper Assisted Living. Mother Stokes was a joy to care for I would song a church song There's a Leak in This Old Building where she would join in with me, I'm going to miss this BEAUTIFUL SOUL. Rest Well Mother Stokes, your Pepper.

Michelle Pepper Peppers - March 12, 2024 at 02:29 PM

VW

“ I LOVED MY AUNT SHIRLEY!!! She really cared about me and my daughters, and my late brother, Sam!!!! She came to check up on me. She spoke to me on the phone , sent me birthday cards with Sam and her name on it. I saw Aunt Shirley, at the Holy Convocation in Memphis, Tennessee. She came with Aunt Martha and Uncle John to my wedding in July, 1992. I stepped up being my 2nd mother, when my mom died, in April, 1991. I will miss your talks, and encouragement, Aunt Shirley!!! Rest in peace, "Auntie".

Vanessa Whittington-Brown - March 09, 2024 at 05:55 PM

FR

“ To the Stokes Family, may our God continue to comfort, strengthen, and give you peace during this time as Mother Stokes rest in the Lord. Much love and appreciation. 🙏💜

Frederick Morris aka Ricky - March 09, 2024 at 09:10 AM

AH

“ I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing. 2 Timothy 4:7-8

God in His infinite wisdom called Mother Shirley Stokes from mortality to immortality. She has crossed from Glory to Glory and gone to receive her crown. Long ago, she decided to follow Jesus. What an Amazing Woman of God! We were blessed by her willingness to serve the people in whatever the LORD assigned her to do. Mother Stokes has established a legacy of Faithfulness and Love. We the members of the Suburban District Department of Women share in this time of grief. The greatness of this prayer warrior will be missed, but we know that she went to meet King Jesus. To the entire Stokes family, may God bless and comfort your hearts during this time of bereavement.

Suburban District Department of Women
District Missionary Arieta J. Henson

Arieta Henson - March 08, 2024 at 02:27 PM

RM

“ Ray and Kana Mott purchased the Pink Tribute S pray for the family of Mother Shirley L. Stokes.



Ray and Kana Mott - March 07, 2024 at 02:50 PM

SH

“ *Saundra Harris planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mother Shirley L. Stokes.*

Saundra Harris - March 06, 2024 at 05:30 PM

SH

“ *Saundra Harris purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Mother Shirley L. Stokes.*



Saundra Harris - March 06, 2024 at 05:30 PM

CF

“ *Counts Family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mother Shirley L. Stokes.*



Counts Family - March 06, 2024 at 01:34 PM

BB

“ *Praying for the Family!*

May God Bless and Keep You!!!

Brenda Bass - March 04, 2024 at 02:22 PM

DY

“ 11 files added to the album Aunt Shirley



Debra Young - March 01, 2024 at 09:33 AM

DR

To the family, friends, and love ones I offer my deepest condolences to you in the loss of this beautiful, kind, sweet, and oh so funny saint. I thank you for sharing her with us. Though I regretfully knew Mrs. Shirley for a short time it was as if she was family right away. The times we played balloon volleyball, when she would hurry up and eat those little pecan pies I was sneaking in at the piper for her, and I'll never forget the times I would knock on her door and she had the cover over her head, and as I pulled it off to sit and talk with her I was greeted with the most pleasant smile, which was almost hidden by that darn piece of gum. I will absolutely cherish those moments that God allowed me to have with her. I pray that God in only the way he can fills that void in your hearts, and provides the strength to endure this difficult time. May God bless you and keep you is fervent prayer.

David Robinson - March 04, 2024 at 12:03 PM



“ Pink Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Mother Shirley L. Stokes.



February 29, 2024 at 11:53 PM

TF

“ *The Hundley Family purchased the Pink Tribute S
pray for the family of Mother Shirley L. Stokes.*



The Hundley Family - February 29, 2024 at 11:43 PM