



Mrs. Stella M. Ellis

May 12, 1933 - October 27, 2024

Stella Mae Beasley Ellis was born May 12, 1933, to Lillian and Nathaniel Beasley in Chickasha, Oklahoma, a town of less than 10,000 inhabitants at the time, 43 miles southwest of Oklahoma City. This is where the earth is red, black gold lies beneath and spending nights in the root cellar because of tornadoes was a common occurrence. The family included older brother Lester, who loved fishing and would chase little Stella with night crawlers and crawdads from his fishing tackle box. Older sister Pearlle would convince young Stella to catch, kill, pluck, and fry a chicken, before their mother made it home from work! What memories to be had from Chickasha, Oklahoma.

Stella's teen years included involvement with church, as well as an education from Lincoln High School where dreams of boys, marriage, and career began to blossom. Stella was a cheerleader and the Homecoming Queen in her senior year of high school. After graduating in 1952, and moving to Kansas City, Missouri to stay with her cousin, Opal Garrett, there was a chance meeting at a dance in 1953, where she locked eyes with the handsome Price Ellis! The rest of that story is for another time. Stella Mae Beasley, became Mrs. Stella Ellis in 1954 and from their union, four children were born, Stephen (wife Kim and granddaughter Nia), Stanley (deceased), Vivian, and Valerie (grandson Jourdan).

After initially being a “stay at home mom” Stella joined the labor force in 1964

and began working at Southwestern Bell, which became Western Electric, which became AT&T, which became Alcatel, which finally became Lucent Technologies. She worked there for more than thirty years and retired when the plant closed.

Stella earned an undergraduate degree in business. Her business and community involvement included working with ABWA (American Business Women's Association) and volunteering with City Union Mission in service throughout the Kansas City Missouri metropolitan area.

Since accepting Christ as her personal savior at a young age, Stella knew that was just the beginning of her Christian journey. Faith in God, and local church work became the foundation of life when Stella supported her husband Price Ellis, as he began a ministry, which lasted over sixty years. Shiloh Baptist Church, St. Stephen Baptist Church, and Cleveland Avenue Baptist Church were among local churches in which Stella belonged and served. Over the past 44 years, Stella Ellis had been involved in an array of organizations within Cleveland Avenue Baptist Church. She served as a Sunday school teacher, in Women's Mission Ministry, Ministers and Deacons Wives' Ministry, in the Spirit of Inspiration Choir and a variety of other auxiliaries. Each morning as Stella awakened, she would talk with God. Thanking Him for keeping us as we slept, and for leading us during the day.

Stella's hobbies and interests included attending church, cooking, sewing, reading (i.e., Stephen King's books), crossword puzzles, Sudoku puzzles, golfing, baseball, tennis, Boomer Sooner football, women's track and field as well as traveling. She has traveled to Mexico, Canada, the countries of the Holy Land, Egypt, Germany, France, Italy and several countries of the Caribbean Islands. As for travel within the United States, the only states she has not spent time in are North and South Dakota, Maine, Vermont and New Hampshire.

Stella is preceded in death by her parents Lillian and Nathaniel Beasley, her brother Lester, her sister Pearlie, her husband Price, and her son Stanley.

Celebrating her life are her son, Stephen (Kim), daughters, Vivian, and Valerie, grandchildren, Nia, and Jourdan, a host of nephews, nieces, cousins, other relatives, current, and former members of Cleveland Ave Baptist Church, St. Stephen Baptist Church, Shiloh Baptist Church, friends, neighbors, and former co-workers.

Thank you, Mother.

May the Lord bless you and keep you; may the Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you; may the Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace, this day and forever more. Amen.

Funeral Services will be held on Friday, November 8, 2024, at 11:00 a.m. (today) at Cleveland Avenue Baptist Church 2853 Cleveland Avenue KCMO 64128. Interment: Leavenworth National Cemetery. Visitation: 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. at the Church. Arrangements entrusted to Lawrence A. Jones & Sons Funeral Chapels. Condolence may be shared on our website lawrenceajones.com

Cemetery Details

Leavenworth National Cemetery

150 East Muncie Road
Leavenworth, KS 66048

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 8. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Cleveland Avenue Baptist Church
2853 Cleveland Ave.
Kansas City, MO 64128

Funeral Service

NOV 8. 11:00 AM (CT)

Cleveland Avenue Baptist Church
2853 Cleveland Ave.
Kansas City, MO 64128

Interment

NOV 9. 10:00 AM (CT)

Leavenworth National Cemetery
150 East Muncie Road
Leavenworth, KS 66048

Tribute Wall

LW

“ Thoughts and prayers for you all. Thank you for sharing memories of your mother.

Lisa Wainscott - December 11, 2024 at 11:52 PM

MW

“ Condolences to the Family of Mrs. Ellis. She was a beautiful, classy and prayerful lady. She will be missed.

Marena Anne Williams

Marena Anne Williams - November 08, 2024 at 06:18 PM

CB

“ My condolences to the entire Ellis Family. Mrs. Ellis was a beautiful and sweet lady.

Cathy Bolden - November 08, 2024 at 02:03 PM

RS

“ Our deepest condolences and sympathy ' Ms Ellis has been such an inspiration for us 'her compassion and kindness will never be forgotten She loved when Otis would call her Ms Besley' May you continue rest in paradise ❤️ Otis and Rhonda Stevenson.



Rhonda Stevenson - November 07, 2024 at 10:30 PM

TA

“ *My deepest condolences to the Ellis Family upon the passing of Mrs. Ellis. She was such a beautiful person inside and out. She will be forever remembered.*



Tonja Ashcraft-Foster - November 06, 2024 at 08:13 PM

PM

“ *My condolences to the Ellis Family at the passing of Mrs. Stella Ellis. Her quiet, sweet spirit will be deeply missed. She was always such a lady!*

Pat Misher - November 06, 2024 at 05:19 PM

LC

“ *My very deepest Sympathy to the family of my close friend, Stella Ellis. She exemplified a true Christian woman and an excellent First Lady. We met at St Stephen's Baptist Church back in the early 1960's. We both sang in the Inspirational Choir. At Cleveland Avenue Baptist Church, she was my Sunday School Teacher, my 1st Lady and my close friend friend.*

Lola Carney - November 04, 2024 at 02:51 PM

CD

My deepest sympathy to the family Stella and I worked together at Western Electric she was a sweetheart she will be missed Carolyn DUGAS

Carolyn DUGAS - November 10, 2024 at 02:12 PM

PC

“ With our deepest condolences. Sis. Ellis will be sorely missed. I loved our quiet conversations and her beautiful smile. She will always be my barometer for a Queen.

Penelope Collins & Family

Penelope Collins - November 03, 2024 at 09:52 PM

LE

“ Condolences to the Ellis family on the passing of Sis Ellis. She will forever be my favorite First Lady and I will truly miss her smiling face.

Lends M and family 🌹



lenda - November 03, 2024 at 09:38 PM

YW

“ My Deepest Condolences. Sister Ellis' soft spoken and beautiful spirit will forever be missed. I will always remember our long talks and how much she meant to me and our family for so many years. Rest well.

Yvonne Woodley & Family

Yvonne Woodley - November 02, 2024 at 08:52 AM

CC

“ Our deepest condolences to the family. We loved Mother so much. She and Pastor were a big part of our family and lives. They will forever be missed. The Carter Family

CYNTHIA CARTER - November 01, 2024 at 04:58 PM