



Mrs. Dorothea Williams Ford

Sunrise 10/19/1928

~

Sunset 12/24/2015

“Listen”

Mrs. Dorothea Williams Ford

“Be a rainbow in someone else’s cloud”...

...Maya Angelou

Mrs. Dorothea Williams Ford, a daughter of the late Reverend John Oscar Williams and the late Mrs. Maggie Wheeler Williams, departed this life Thursday, December 24, 2015 at the Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, SC. She was born on October 19, 1928 in the Turbeville Community of Clarendon County.

Her formal education was received at Hickory Grove and Goodwill Parochial Schools. She earned a Bachelor’s Degree in Elementary Education from Morris College in Sumter, SC and a Master’s Degree in Elementary Education from the University of South Carolina, Columbia.

Mrs. Ford began her teaching career in Brooklyn, New York. After teaching in New York for many years, she relocated to South Carolina and resumed her teaching career. Mrs. Ford was employed at St. Paul Elementary School as a classroom teacher. After years of success in the classroom, she became the district’s Reading Coordinator for Clarendon School District One.

Dorothea was a lifelong active member of Hickory Grove Freewill Baptist Church. She served faithfully as a member of the Gospel Choir, chairperson of the Hospitality Committee, Homecoming and Career Day Committees and in any other capacity as needed.

Mrs. Ford always championed causes for peace, education, justice, and equality. She was a life member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (Manning Branch). Dorothea served as a member of the Manning Branch Executive Board for fifty plus (50+) years and served as chairperson of the Santee-Wateree Expo Committee for forty one (41) years. Mrs. Ford also chaired the Manning Branch’s Coronation Committee.

Dorothea was a lady of strength, dignity, and strong religious convictions. She stood firmly for love and humane understanding in the family, church, school, and community. Mrs. Ford was a strong advocate for young people.

In addition to her parents and son Glen (1970), she was preceded in death by her husband, Al Ford, and her siblings: Benjamin Franklin (Aug., 1921), John Coolidge (Apr., 1931), Carrie (Nov., 1999), Virginia (Aug., 2004), Julius (Mar., 2006), Olin (Apr., 2006), James (Sept., 2013), and Janie (Dec., 2013).

Mrs. Ford leaves to cherish her memories one sister, Georgia (William) O’Pharrow of Washington, NC; one brother, Charles (Lottie) Lincoln of Baltimore, MD; one sister-in-law, Gertrude Williams of Pittsboro, NC; nephews, Mark, William, Jr., Jay and Derek; nieces, Jenice, Joan Renee, Michele, Corliss, Judy, Kim and Constance; surrogate sons, Willie McCray, Robert Pearson, Sam Player and Joshua Rogers and a host of other relatives and friends.