

Pallbearers

Trustee Board of Reid Chapel A.M.E. Church

Floral Bearers

Women's Missionary Society of Reid Chapel A.M.E. Church

A Beautiful Mother

by Amy Finley

Your love, your sacrifice, your smile
You left a legacy in even the smallest things
You gave so much of yourself
Loving others unselfishly
and unconditionally.

You were a light, a beacon, a fire
Burning bright through the years
You put your burdens on the shelf
Giving your heart so freely and beautifully.

You brought laughter, learning, and joy
Into moments large and small

Your heart was your true wealth
A beautiful mother inside and out.

Acknowledgement

We are so greatly appreciative of the many kind words, deeds, and prayers from family and friends, during this period of extreme sorrow. Although "...weeping may endure for a night..." we have faith "...joy cometh in the morning...". We love you and may God bless and keep you.

The Family of Mrs. Earnestine W. Dawkins

Services Entrusted To:

<p>Taylor Street Chapel 1831 Taylor Street Columbia, SC 29201 (803)771-7799 I. S. Leevy Johnson -Owner & Director-</p>	<p>Leevy's FUNERAL HOME Chris Leevy Johnson -President & Managing Director-</p>	<p>Lower Richland Chapel 9120 Garners Ferry Road Hopkins, SC 29061 (803) 776-6922 Leverette A. Williams, II -General Manager-</p>
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*Celebration of Life
In Loving Memory
of
Mrs. Earnestine W. Dawkins*



Friday, June 10, 2022

11:00 a.m.

*Reid Chapel A.M.E. Church
704 Gabriel Street
Columbia, South Carolina*

*Reverend Carey A. Grady
-Pastor-*



Obituary
of
Mrs. Earnestine W. Dawkins

Mrs. Earnestine W. Dawkins was born on October 20, 1932, in Columbia, South Carolina. She was the third oldest of six children of the late Mack and Corine Williams. She departed this life on the morning of Saturday, June 4, 2022.

Mrs. Dawkins was educated in the public schools of Richland County, South Carolina. She earned her high school diploma from Booker T. Washington High School. She completed her undergraduate degree at Benedict College and her graduate degree from the University of South Carolina.

Mrs. Dawkins worked as an educator for 35 years. She began her education career as an elementary school teacher at Elloree Training School, in 1954. While there, Mrs. Dawkins and twenty fellow African-American teachers resigned from their teaching positions in protest of a state law that forbade state employees from involvement with or membership to the NAACP. This group of civil rights activists were later referred to as "Elloree 21" by national media. After this period of turmoil, Mrs. Dawkins resumed teaching. From 1957 to 1960 and 1961 to 1968, Mrs. Dawkins taught at Voorhees Elementary School in Denmark, South Carolina, Carver Elementary School in Columbia, South Carolina, respectively; and from 1968 to 1989, she taught second grade at Satchel Ford Elementary School in Columbia, South Carolina, where she retired in 1989.

Mrs. Dawkins was also a member of the National Education Association (NEA), the South Carolina Education Association - Retired (SCEA-R), and the Richland County Education Association - Retired (RCEA-R).

Mrs. Dawkins was an active and supporting Benedict College Alumna (half-century). She supported the college financially, and worked through the local Benedict College Club and the Benedict College National Alumni Association.

Mrs. Dawkins was a faithful member of Reid Chapel AME Church for many years. She served the community and her church through the Missionary Society, the Lay Organization, and the Senior Choir in various leadership roles. Mrs. Dawkins served on the V.V. Reid Kindergarten Board of Directors, and taught first grade at V. V. Reid Elementary School.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by, her husband, James Dawkins, and her eldest son, James *Artie* Dawkins Jr.; her sisters and brother, Sarah Wilson, Siretha *Queen* Willis, and Fred Williams

Mrs. Dawkins leaves to mourn her passing and celebrate her home-going her devoted children: Gregory (Shelia) Dawkins, of Columbia, South Carolina, Kevin Dawkins, of Columbia, South Carolina, and Kenneth (Genise) Dawkins, of Charleston, South Carolina; daughter Kimberley (Lionel) Kennedy, of Blythewood, South Carolina; five grandchildren whom she adored, Jabari Dawkins, of Boston, Massachusetts, Gabri-EL Dawkins, of Charleston, South Carolina, Langston Kennedy, of Columbia, South Carolina, Maya (Donald) Mickle, of Alexandria, Virginia, and Daniel Dawkins, of Columbia, South Carolina; one great-grandchild, Alaina Mickle of Arlington, Virginia; her warm-hearted sister, and brother, Edna (Rev. David L.) Thompson, of Winston-Salem, North Carolina and Rev. John C. Williams, of Columbia, South Carolina a host of nieces, nephews, relatives, and friends, all of whom will miss her dearly.

Memories



A Service of Remembrance

- Musical Prelude
- Processional
- Hymn of Praise.....“When Peace Like A River”
- Invocation.....Reverend Janie Williams
- Responsive
- Selection.....“How Great Thou Art”
- Old and New Testaments.....Reverend Gloris McClinton
- Musical Selection.....“Precious Lord”
- Acknowledgements
- Remarks.....Sister Belinda Thomas,
Reid Chapel AME Church, Friend
Sister Bernadette Herbert
Reid Chapel AME Church, Women’s Missionary Society and Community
Sister Tryphena Taylor
Reid Chapel A.M.E. Church, Senior Choir
Mr. Gregory Dawkins
Son
- Musical Selection.....“May The Works I’ve Done Speak For Me”
- Words of Comfort.....Reverend Carey A. Grady, *Pastor*
- Recessional.....“I’ll Fly Away”
- Postlude



Committal, Benediction and Interment

**Crescent Hill Memorial Gardens
2603 Two Notch Road
Columbia, South Carolina**

