

Honorary Pallbearers

Benedict Alumnae Club # 1

Pallbearers

Members of the Official Board of Deacons of
Saint John Baptist Church

Honorary Floral Bearers

The Bailey, Green, Brown, and Hingleton Family Ministry Unit

Floral Bearers

Columbia Branch of the National Association of University Women

Acknowledgement

We, the family of Mrs. Rubie Nixon Schumpert, wish to express our sincere appreciation for all acts of compassion and kindness rendered to us during our time of bereavement. A special thank you to the caregivers and medical staff for your responsiveness and commitment. May God continue to bless each of you with His grace and mercy.

Services Entrusted To:

Taylor Street Chapel

1831 Taylor Street
Columbia, SC 29201
(803)771-7799

I. S. Leevy Johnson
-Owner & Director-

Leevy's

FUNERAL HOME

Chris Leevy Johnson
-President & Managing Director-

Lower Richland Chapel

9120 Garners Ferry Road
Hopkins, SC 29061
(803) 776-6922

Leverette A. Williams, II
-General Manager-

A Service of Remembrance
Celebrating the Life
of
Mrs. Rubie Ella Nixon Schumpert

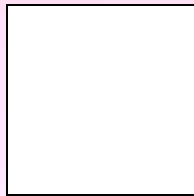


Monday, April 8, 2024
1:00 p.m.

Saint John Baptist Church
3404 West Bellline Boulevard
Columbia, South Carolina

Reverend Dr. Jamey O. Graham, Sr.
-Pastor-





A Service of Testament and Celebration of Life

Prelude..... “Marche Blanche”
Processional
Viewing.....Funeral Directors
Prayer of Comfort..... Reverend Richard F. Dozier, Honorably Retired
Old Testament Reverend Dr. Samuel Lewis, Pastor of First Calvary Baptist Church
New Testament Reverend Dr. Ricky Ray Ezell, Sr., Pastor of Central Baptist Church
Epistle Reverend Dr. William Tucker, Pastor of Providence Baptist Church
Selection “Total Praise”..... Saint John Baptist Church Choir
Reading of Obituary..... Deacon Robert Mickle
Solo “ Ave Maria” Mr. Russell Martin, Jr.
Remarks..... Benedict Alumnae Club # 1 Representative

Dr. Felicia Scott-Strickland, *Zeta Phi Beta Sorority*
Reverend Tyron McCoy, *Former Student*
Mr. James Randolph Washington, *Nephew*
~ Read by Mr. Marshall James, *Great Nephew*

Resolution..... Ms. Lasandra Melton, *President Columbia Branch of the National Association of University Women*
Poem “Going Home” Ms. Doris Adams
Solo “I Bowed On My Knees and Cried Holy”..... Ms. Sharon D. Minnieweather
Words of Comfort Reverend Dr. Jamey O. Graham, Sr.
Recessional
Postlude

Committal, Benediction & Interment

Mt. Zion Baptist Church Cemetery
100 Broomstraw Road
Chapin, South Carolina



When Tomorrow Starts Without Me

When tomorrow starts without me, and I’m not here to see,
If the sun should rise and find your eyes, all filled with tears of me.
I wish so much you wouldn’t cry, the way you did today,
While thinking of the many things we didn’t get to say.
I know how much you love me, as much as I love you,
And each time you think of me, I know you’ll miss me too.
But, when tomorrow starts without me, please try to understand,
That an angel came and called my name and took me by the hand.
He said my place was ready, in Heaven far above,
And that I’d have to leave behind all those I dearly love.
So when tomorrow starts without me, don’t think we’re far apart,
For every time you think of me, I’m right here in your heart.

-Author Unknown

Grandma’s Gone To Heaven

“One Quiet day the angels came and took grandma far away,
But in the stillness of the night, I can almost hear her say,
Dear grandchild – I will miss you, you mean so much to me,
But Jesus called me to His side, in Heaven I will be.
A place of God’s great beauty, no tears or earthly care,
Only peace and joy forever and love beyond compare.
So remember all the good times, don’t think about the sad,
Treasure all the special moments through the years we’ve always had,
And if you Trust Jesus, I can promise you this and more,
You will get a hug from Grandma someday on
Heaven’s Golden Shore.”

-Author Unknown

She was presented with the Key to the City of Columbia and a Proclamation of Rubie Schumpert Day by the Honorable Mayor Steve Benjamin. Further proclamations in her honor were issued by U.S. Congressman James E. Clyburn and S.C. House of Representative Leon Howard. She was awarded the Outstanding Educator's Award by the National Association of University Women. The Congressional Record tribute and a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition on the 100th birthday was presented to her by the Honorable James Clyburn for her distinguished service in education and recognition as a centenarian. She received the Enduring Spirit Award from Friends of African American Arts and Culture (FAAAC) for her work in the community. The Presbyterian Women of Northminster Presbyterian Church honored her at the Women of Faith Celebration for her inspiring and uplifting spiritual journey. She was presented with the Smucker's 100th Birthday Celebration Award by Al Roker on the NBC Today Show. The Distinguished Graduate Honor from Barber Scotia College was bestowed upon her by the President, Dr. Melvin Isadore Douglass. She was honored by her beloved alma mater with the Resolution of Commendation from Benedict College, and one of her greatest honors was her 100th birthday celebration hosted by her daughters and eldest granddaughter at Trinity Baptist Church's Family Life Center.

She was admired by many and looked upon as a woman of wisdom, strength, style, beauty and kindness. Having lived more than a century on this earth, she often shared and gave witness to many historical events. She lived through World War I and World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, two Gulf wars, 9/11, and the insurrection on the Nation's Capital. She survived the Great Depression and the Great Recession. She lived through the Jim Crow era and witnessed Martin Luther King, Jr.'s leadership during the Civil Rights era, and later his assassination. She watched as the Confederate flag was hoisted a top of the South Carolina State House in 1962 at the dawn of the Civil Rights era. For more than 50 years, she watched as that Confederate flag waved freely until its removal in 2015 in the wake of the mass shooting of the Emmanuel Nine at Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, SC. During her lifetime, she saw 19 men become president of the United States, including Barack Obama, the first African American President in 2008. In 2020, she was able to see another first in politics when Madam Kamala Harris became the first Black female Vice President. She was proud to see African Americans travel into space, one of which was her former student Charles Bolden; and she was featured in a New York Times article entitled "Black Schools Restored as Landmarks" which highlighted her and the two-room school house in the Pine Grove area.

As much as she loved traveling, she devoted much of her time to the community. She held membership in many professional and civic organizations including her Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, National Education Association, National Association of University Women, Broad River Heights Community Association, American Business Women, and Benedict College Alumnae Club #1. Her greatest joy was spending time with her family where she regularly welcomed them to her home. Culinary art is a prominent part of African American culture, and Rubie wore this badge of honor proudly. Her specialties included squash with red peppers and candied yams with pineapples. She loved entertaining and playing the organ. She hosted the first Nixon Family Reunion on the back lawn of her home, before the gatherings developed into the Nixon Family Reunions at various venues.

Faith was central to Rubie's life. As a child and young adult, she was a devoted and faithful member of Pine Grove AME Church. After her marriage to John Barton Schumpert, she moved her membership to Mount Zion Baptist Church in Chapin, SC. It was there that they served as a family until her husband's passing in 1961. To be closer to home, she moved her membership to Saint John Baptist Church in Columbia, SC where she served for many years. She worked in many ministries including the Sunday School, Missionary Society, and one of the family units. For many years, she hosted her church family unit in her home for the annual Christmas celebrations. Her favorite scripture, Psalm 23, was learned as a child and guided her path throughout her life because it lifted her spirits daily.

Rubie's husband, Barton, promised to take her on a trip around the world, but due to his untimely death, their joint travels did not happen. Her desire to see the world led her to join with a dear friend, Mary Tompkins, a widow of a military officer, to travel around the world. Together, they traveled throughout North America, South America, Europe, Asia, and Africa. Rubie wrote, "One of the most incomparable experiences a person can have is an opportunity to study the culture of other people in their native setting and see history come alive." She enjoyed sharing her travel experiences. During her travels, she amassed international garments and cultural expressions of which she shared in fashion shows, lectures, and cultural showcases. She received credits from the South Carolina Education Department for the chronology of her global travels. When asked about her travels, she proudly said, "I walked the path that Jesus walked on his way to Calvary."

She was preceded in death by her beloved husband, John Barton Schumpert. Additionally, she was predeceased by eight brothers and sisters: Novie Nixon, Lester Nixon, Ollie Nixon Washington, Cleoniece C. Nixon Rhett, Ada Nixon Heller, Mabel Nixon Guider, Lessie Nixon, and Ione Nixon Knight.

Mrs. Rubie Ella Nixon Schumpert is survived by her two children, LaVerne (Alphonso) Bassard and LaMaris Mack; four grandchildren, Bartina Lorick Edwards of Charlotte, NC, Darrell Mack of Atlanta, GA, Howard Shelton Lorick of Columbia, SC, and Camilla (Silas) Whaley of Columbia, SC; one sister-in-law, Mattie Lee Nixon of Columbia, SC; five great grandchildren, Onya Edwards of Chicago, Illinois, Nailah Mack of Columbia, SC, Kennedi Whaley of Columbia, SC, Keirston Lorick of Columbia, SC and Kamille Whaley of Columbia, SC; blended family, Roderick (Djuna) Bassard of Charlotte, NC, Torrance Bassard of Myrtle Beach, SC, Sydney Bassard of Charlotte, NC, Kennedy Bassard, Lauren Bassard, and Ashton Bassard of Myrtle Beach, SC, and Andrew Bassard of Charlotte, NC; long-time caregiver and neighbor, Ms. Louise James, and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends, all of whom will miss her dearly.

