



Dorothy Sanders

January 30, 1935 - December 24, 2020

Dorothy Sanders, 85, departed this life on Thursday, December 24, 2020, at home surrounded by her family after a short decline in health. She was a longtime resident of Upper Deerfield and Bridgeton, NJ.

Mrs. Sanders was born on January 30, 1935, in Danburg, Georgia. She was the eldest child of Nell Camellia Anthony Jones and the only child of Gordon Bradley. She moved to New Jersey in 1947. Dorothy married her beloved husband Reverend Nathaniel Sanders Sr. on December 17, 1960.

Mrs. Sanders had a beautiful spirit and a kind heart. "Miss Dot", as she was affectionately known, spent her life opening her heart, hands, and home to many individuals. She was particularly invested in helping young people achieve their dreams. She loved to teach and learn from others. She enjoyed reading books, especially the Bible, and was known to quiz everyone on their biblical knowledge. She would pray with you, for you, and over you. She loved to talk about God's word and the need to seek heaven as your final home. Mrs. Sanders enjoyed shopping and was known for her stylish dresses, beautiful jewelry, and impeccable manners.

Mrs. Sanders was a teacher who was a lifelong advocate for education in under-resourced communities. For several years, she worked as a teacher's aide and secretary for the Adult Education Center at Woodruff Church. In 1969, Dorothy and her oldest son Albert enrolled together at Cumberland County College, where she obtained an associate's degree in education. She worked as the Assistant to the Director of the Educational Opportunity Fund at Cumberland County College while attending classes at night. Mrs. Sanders also taught at Farm Workers Incorporated of New Jersey during that time. In 1971, she enrolled at Glassboro State College before transferring to Shaw University, a historically black college in Raleigh, North Carolina, where she ultimately achieved a bachelor's of arts degree in education. She went on to obtain certifications from Glassboro State College for reading and teaching educationally disadvantaged students. She taught K-12, basic skills and computer programming in the Bridgeton School System from 1973

until 2002, when she retired. She continued to teach night school programs at Bridgeton High School and Cumberland Regional High School until 2006. Mrs. Sanders believed that everyone could achieve their dreams if they had access to knowledge and support from caring individuals.

Mrs. Sanders was a member of several organizations, including the National Conference of Christians and Jews, the New Jersey Realty Association, the National Association for Female Executives Inc., the National Educational Association (NEA), New Jersey Education Association (NJEA), New Jersey Alliance of Black School Educators. She assisted the New Jersey Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court in supporting youth offenders. She also volunteered as a counselor in the Cumberland County Probation Department and was a Peer Mediation Program leader, a substance abuse initiative coordinator, and a Kids Corner Club leader.

Mrs. Sanders received many recognitions over her lifetime including the Bethany Baptist Association's "Ladies of Honor".

Mrs. Sanders began her Christian life at New Ford Baptist Church in Danburg, Georgia. She became a member of Union Baptist Temple in 1947 and a member of New Hope Baptist Church in 1960. Mother Sanders became the first lady of Cedar Grove Missionary Baptist Church in 1983. She was also an active member of the Ebenezer Baptist Union.

Mrs. Sanders leaves behind a legacy of love for her beloved husband Reverend Nathaniel Sanders Sr., and five children, Albert (Priscilla) Jones of Gouldtown, New Jersey; Starlene (Willie Joe) Holland of Bridgeton, New Jersey; Nathaniel Sanders Jr of Millville, New Jersey; Patricia (Jeffrey) Harris of Upper Deerfield, New Jersey; and Emmanuel Sanders (Amanda Tartaglia) of Rosenhayn, NJ. She also leaves twelve grandchildren - Wesley (Crisselle Williams) Bowleg, Albert Jones Jr, Angelica (Shandon) Willey, Whitley Harris, David Jones, Priscilla (Colin Russell) Jones, Dashawn Sanders, Daijah Sanders, Emmani Sanders, Shawn McNair, Amaray Phillips, and Azaiah Phillips. Eight Great-Grandchildren - Sevhon (Lisa Smith) Jones, Wesley Bowleg, Jr., Siani Bowleg, D'Jiyon (Gabrielle Friedman) Jones, Jalon Jones, Brittany McNair, Sumaiyah Akran and Caleb Willey. Three siblings - Christine Hallman of Salem, New Jersey; Marion Jones; and Larry Jones of Cedarville, New Jersey. A Brother-in-Law (Willie Moses (Alice) Sanders of Macon, Georgia and several sisters-in-law Mary Alice Bell of Atlanta, Georgia; Mary Lue Sanders of Fairfield, New Jersey; Francis Williams and Helen Huckoby of Deerfield, NJ, Pearl Sanders and Katie Larkins of Macon, Georgia. One Aunt, Playdis Bradley of Florida and three Godchildren; Rance Crowley of Upper Marlboro, Maryland, Taneisha Jones of Millville, New Jersey, and Ernest White-Bard of Vineland, New Jersey.

Mrs. Sanders also leaves to cherish her memory her cousins Marion (Terry) Kennedy, Larry Bradley, Renee Lewis and Francis (Sam) Hatcher. Special friends Dora Mae Conway and Willa Mae Pernell along with a host of well-loved nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

In addition to her parents, Mrs. Sanders was preceded in death by her stepfather, Thomas Jones (1986), her youngest brother, John Fitzgerald Jones (1999), her eldest granddaughter, Katina Marie Jones (2015), and several in-laws.

In her last weeks, Mrs. Sanders was lovingly attended to by the special nurses at Inspira Vineland 2E where her granddaughter, Priscilla, works as a RN, BSN. When Mrs. Sanders was brought home on hospice, on Thanksgiving, she was lovingly attended to by her daughters with special assistance from her niece, Tammy Lynn Sanders, and loyal church member and friend, Louise Bessey.

The family will hold a memorial service to celebrate Dorothy's life on Saturday, January 2, 2021, at the ALMS Center located across from Union Baptist Temple on the corners of Pine and Willow Streets in Bridgeton, NJ. The viewing will take place from 9 am-11 am. The funeral service will follow at 11 am with Reverend James Goolsby eulogizing. Internment will be at Gouldtown Cemetery immediately following the funeral.

Due to Covid-19, the family has declined a repast. The family would like to thank everyone for their kindness during this time, your prayers, thoughts, cards and flowers are very appreciated.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 2. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

ALMS Center
1 Martin Luther King Jr. Way
Bridgeton, NJ 08302

Service

JAN 2. 11:00 AM (ET)

ALMS Center
1 Martin Luther King Jr. Way
Bridgeton, NJ 08302

Tribute Wall

SW

“ I have been blessed to know Mom-Mom Dorothy through my wife, Angelica. I've never had an encounter with her when she wasn't in good spirits. She was always optimistic, but kept it real! She had a special, unique relationship with everyone she met.
We'll definitely miss her but we can rest easy knowing she's with our Lord.

Shandon Willey - January 02, 2021 at 12:40 PM

PH

Thanks Shan, it really means a lot to read your kind words❤️

Patricia Sanders Harris - January 02, 2021 at 11:56 PM

KB

“ There isn't enough space or time for me to share my treasure trove of memories and love. I was always greeted with her beautiful smile, embrace and encouragement. Her signature “ you're so beautiful inside and out” made me feel like a Queen and the apple of her eye. Her “I'm so proud of you” was always a catalyst to do more and better. She was a constant example and reminder of professionalism. The last time we spoke she shared so many stories of her journey and our family connectedness thru multiple generations and as we parted she reminded me that she loved me and how proud she was of me. I am blessed to have had her in my life and every child that she touched along her way too. Another library has closed but her memory will forever remain as long as we speak her name. Celebrating her entrance into Glory and a life well lived and filled with love. Until we meet again ... your “Pretty Girl” ...
Karen E. Barnett

Karen Barnett - December 31, 2020 at 06:58 PM

PH

Karen this was lovely to read! She always thought highly of you and was so proud of your many accomplishments! She was both blessed and a blessing to everyone she met. Memories will sustain us along with our faith in God.

Patricia Sanders Harris - January 03, 2021 at 12:01 AM

DD

Mom Sanders was such a beautiful woman I loved her so much Every time I would see her she would ask if I could come to her church and sing for her I was so delighted to such a blessing in my life. I am really going to miss her beautiful smile and the love she has shown. Rest in Peace Mom

Deborah DeShields - January 05, 2021 at 12:30 PM

TW

I'm yet reminded how blessed we are to have had Mrs. Sanders in our lives. Our families go way back before i was born. How did I know? I happened to find a picture of her and my mother standing next to each other on Vine St. in Bridgeton. I brought the pic for her to see it and she just smiled. I told my dad this lady looks a woman I worked with in the Middle School. He said, no, we called her Dot Jones. She did confirm it was her. I loved being in her presence, talking, teaching together, laughing and sharing testimonies about what miracles God has done. Mrs. Sanders will always be in my thoughts. Love and prayers

Tyrone "Terry" Williams - 3/26/21

Tyrone Williams - March 26, 2021 at 12:41 PM