



## Bessie Mae Griffin

December 11, 1935 - January 15, 2023

On Sunday, January 15, 2023, God called our beloved Mother, Sister, Aunt, Grandmother, and Cousin Bessie Mae Griffin, home to rest in the garden with her Lord and Savior.

Bessie M. Griffin was born December 11, 1935, to the late mother, Candis Gary-Johnson and father, Herman Washington. She was a native of Weldon, North Carolina and resided in Portsmouth and Chesapeake, Virginia many years. She was a dedicated employee at Hagwood's Cleaners and Crockett-Levy Furniture store.

She was a beloved and faithful member of Little Grove Baptist Church, Suffolk, Virginia. She served as Church Mother, Sunday School Teacher, Noonday Prayer Band Ministry, Women's Fellowship, and Couples Ministry. She loved her church family dearly and was very passionate about her walk with the Lord. Bessie mentored many daughters and sons in Third Baptist and Little Grove Baptist Church. She never met a stranger without being a witness for Christ. We believe she was the only one skillful in cooking the best cabbage and crab cakes with hot water cornbread.

Bessie was preceded in death by her husband, Deacon Earl Louiston Griffin, son-Brian Griffin, Parents Candis Gary-Johnson and Herman Washington.

She leaves to cherish her memory: two sons, Linwood (Beverly) Lewis – Richmond, Virginia; Minister Glenwood (Lenora) Griffin Sr., Bourbonnais, Illinois; One Sister, Bettyann Stateman - Chesapeake, Virginia.

Five grandchildren, Mrs. Kia (Deontrey) Taylor, Atlanta, Georgia; Mrs. Patria (Jay) Crockett, Manassas, Virginia; Mr. Glenwood (Shantel) Griffin Jr., Bradley, Illinois; Mr. Maurice Griffin, Los Angeles, California; and Captain Alex Griffin, El Paso, Texas. Five great-grandchildren, Scooby Taylor, Perion Taylor, Sydney Crockett, Langston James Griffin, and Emmanuel Jordan Griffin.

Bessie two Sister-In-Laws, Brenda Massenburg, Portsmouth, Virginia and Renea (Troy) Cox of Chesapeake, Virginia. Special cousin, Betty Florence Holly, New York; Alma Williams, Hannah Malbourah, Portsmouth, Va., Mother Carrie Baptist, Kankakee, Illinois. Her godchildren; Diane Williams and siblings, Carol and daughter, Charity Bowman, nieces, nephews, cousins and a host of family and friends.

# Cemetery Details

## Greenlawn Memorial Gardens

3920 Airline Blvd  
Chesapeake, VA

# Previous Events

## Service

JAN 21. 11:00 AM (ET)

Little Grove Baptist Church  
6320 Old Townpoint Rd  
Suffolk, VA 23435  
(757) 484-4496

# Tribute Wall



“ *J.T. Fisher Funeral Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Bessie Mae Griffin*



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**J. T. Fisher Funeral Services** - January 20, 2023 at 08:12 PM

ND

“ *Deepest sympathy Glenn & family. We were your neighbor at Dunedin in 1979 You probably don't remember us, but your parents, especially your Mama helped me through so many troubles. We had 2 little boys, a big handful, husband at work constantly & thanks to your Mama, she always would say things to help me without ever making me feel inferior or stupid. She made the best food ever, especially her corn bread! Only living there a couple of years, your Mama left a life time impression on me! A wonderfully sweet, faithful, smart, I could go on & on! She was everything I hoped to be like. It never mattered how many years went by, I always thought about you three & wondered how you were! Seeing her pictures here, she never changed & I wish I could reach in & hug her! Again, I'm so sorry you've lost both of your folks, it's hard when they're gone. God Bless you & yours, Nancy Wade  
John Wade & our boys, Sean & Lewis*



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**Nancy Wade Darling** - December 15, 2023 at 03:30 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *Life Tributes*



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**J. T. Fisher Funeral Services** - January 20, 2023 at 02:13 PM



“ *Serene Retreat* was purchased for the family of *Bessie Mae Griffin*.



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January 20, 2023 at 10:13 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet* was purchased for the family of *Bessie Mae Griffin*.



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January 19, 2023 at 11:05 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of *Bessie Mae Griffin*.



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January 19, 2023 at 10:29 PM

LS

“ Love The Griffin's Cray, Tina & Sons purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Bessie Mae Griffin.



Love The Griffin's Cray, Tina & Sons - January 19, 2023 at 07:56 PM



“ 30 files added to the album Life Tributes



J. T. Fisher Funeral Services - January 19, 2023 at 05:13 PM

TA

*My Great Auntie was our families prayer warrior. She was so special and was always known to “tell it like it is”. She gave me so many life jewels that I will forever carry with me. She was my Grandmother Bettys only sister, and we are going to miss her sooo much. Kiss my mother for me Auntie. Love always, Tasha*

Tasha - January 20, 2023 at 07:11 AM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Bessie Mae Griffin.*



January 19, 2023 at 01:24 PM



“ *Mary Smith lit a candle in memory of Bessie Mae Griffin*



**Mary Smith** - January 19, 2023 at 01:10 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Bessie Mae Griffin.*



January 19, 2023 at 10:39 AM



“ *Love from Richelle, Ronald, and Marilyn purchased the Heavenly Grace Spray for the family of Bessie Mae Griffin.*



**Love from Richelle, Ronald, and Marilyn** - January 18, 2023 at 09:37 PM

TF

“ *The Merene Family purchased the Gold Rush Chocolate Gift Basket for the family of Bessie Mae Griffin.*



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**The Merene Family** - January 18, 2023 at 08:50 PM

LS

“ *My memory of Sister Bessie Griffin are how She loved Serving at Third Baptist Church and singing in the Gospel Choir along with Her Mother and Father In Laws for many years. She was always the same when ever I saw Her even when She moved Her membership to Little Grove. I leave this scripture with the Family to think about John 14:1-6. God will continue to take care of each of You.*

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**Leigh M. Burton, Sr.** - January 18, 2023 at 06:43 PM

GN

*The Little Grove Wednesday Noon Day Prayer group sends our sincere condolences to the family of Sis. Bessie. May your memories bring you a smile and comfort, knowing that her life was rooted in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.*

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**Gerri L Norman** - January 19, 2023 at 07:05 PM

DS

“ *Deacon M. Burton, lit a candle in memory of Bessie Mae Griffin*



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**Deacon Leigh M. Burton, Sr.** - January 18, 2023 at 06:29 PM



“ Love you gram! Thank you for always loving me as your own! I'll always remember you and keep you in my heart!

Your adopted grandson Freddy

Love you family ❤️❤️

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Frederick J. - January 18, 2023 at 04:44 PM



“ Love you Gram!!! I'll never forget you and your love! I can still smell all of the delicious food!

Your Adopted Grandson Fred 🥰🥰❤️❤️ #foreverinmyheart love you family!

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Frederick J. - January 18, 2023 at 04:43 PM

AH

“ There are Aunts who you look up to. There are Aunts who are wise. Those who are good friends and those who advise. There are Aunts that have that special touch that can hug you like your mother. There are Aunts who tell it like it is...like no other (smile). There are Aunts if you are lucky you can call and have a prayer and if anyone needs her she is always there!

*My thoughts are flagged with such good memories as I type...so thick as a forest on fire with smoke that rises higher and higher. Memories of special times spent with my Aunt Bessie; I thank God for loving me so much that he blessed me with her. I thank God for those special Bible studies that we shared when I was growing up. I thank God for that soft ice-cream she gave me in a cone or cup. I enjoyed those days spent with her and Uncle Earl on their front porch. Staying out so late that we could have used a torch. (smile)*

*Memories of going to a Revival with her and grandma under a large white tent of such; removing sawdust from my socks really didn't bother me that much. Her special visits back home from Chicago really excited me so much! We went out to shop, and went out for meals. I presented her with red roses that she felt it was such a big deal.*

*It is true what they say give your flowers to the living; because when they are gone....what are you giving?*

*In the 66 years of my life I have been richly blessed through her consistent presence. I will miss her smile, the sound of her laughing, her need to control things without your asking (smile).*

*She was our spiritual Monarch one who remain strong. Now she has earned her wings and has moved on. I know she is watching*

*over us just as she always did. Love Muffin*

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**Angela Holland** - January 18, 2023 at 12:12 PM

DH

“ 1 file added to the album *Bessie Mae Griffin*



**david holland** - January 18, 2023 at 11:23 AM

DH

“ 2 files added to the album *Bessie Mae Griffin*



**david holland** - January 18, 2023 at 11:21 AM