



Doris Batts Sawyer

April 15, 1928 - January 14, 2019

Celebrating a Life Well-Loved and Well-Lived

Doris B. Sawyer was born on April 15, 1928 in Elm City, North Carolina to Turner and Chessie Batts. On Monday, January 14, 2019, Doris, an amazing matriarch, mother-of-three, grandmother, and great-great-grandmother went home to Glory at the age of 90.

Doris was educated by Wilson County (now known as Elm City) Public Schools. Here, she gained a deep respect for education which she instilled in all her children. She worked for 28 years at Norfolk State University, where she retired as a Supervisor of Housekeeping, Buildings, and Grounds.

On May 21, 1955, she married Edward Lee Sawyer, and together they raised two daughters, Linda and India, and one son, Gregory. Doris also raised her eldest granddaughter, Keisha.

Doris had an indomitable spirit, a generous heart, and was well-known for her feisty and often comedic attitude. When she was feeling particularly sassy, Doris would tell people her name was "Hattie Mae McDonald Cunningham". She was an avid wrestling fan and enjoyed spending Monday nights watching WWE with her friend of over 40 years, Retha Jordan. If you called or dropped by on 'wrestling night', you would find her in her favorite chair yelling at the TV. She also enjoyed spending time with family and friends and cooking until her

health no longer allowed her to do so.

Doris loved the Lord and was well loved by her church family for over 50 years, Divine Baptist Church. She was a faithful woman of God. She was an Usher and a missionary member. As one of the eldest members of Divine, she often encouraged other members to love God and become all He has called them to be. On April 1, 2005, Doris was honored with a Certificate of Life Membership for her Faithful Commitment to the Cause of Christian Missions by the Baptist General Convention of Virginia.

Our Sister, Mama, and Granny ... You were 90 years young, or "nineteen" as you liked to say. You will be missed beyond measure, but we know you have simply traded in your temporary wings for your permanent ones. We take comfort that while you may be absent from the body, you are present with the Lord; your suffering has come to an end. "Where, O death, is your sting? Where, O death, is our victory? But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Corinthians 15:55, 57).

Doris was preceded in death by her parents, Turner, and Chessie; husband Edward; and her sister, Minnie. She is survived by her brother, James "Buddy"; sister, Joyce; three children, Linda (Percy Sr.), Gregory (Hope), and India; six grandchildren, Keisha (Eric), Percy Jr. (Maggie), Corey, Catrisha (Robert), Dorescia, and Takeisha; ten great-grandchildren, Marquel (Queen), Malique, Justice, Judah, Honesty, Honor, Noah, Shiloh, Isaiah, and Anaya; four great-great-grandchildren, Siyonee, Londyn, Paris, and King; her nephew, Josiah Jr. (Tyreese); her friend of 40-plus years, Retha Jordan; and a host of other relatives and friends.

Cemetery Details

Woodlawn Memorial Gardens

6329 Virginia Beach Blvd.
Norfolk, VA

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 18. 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

J.T. Fisher Funeral Services
1248 N. George Washington Hwy.
Chesapeake, VA 23323
(757) 487-3700
info@jtfisherfuneralservices.com
<https://www.jtfisherfuneralservices.com>

Wake Service

JAN 18. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

J. T. Fisher Funeral Services Chapel
1248 N. George Washington Hwy
Chesapeake, VA

Service

JAN 19. 12:00 PM (ET)

Divine Baptist Church
2917 Old Galberry Rd
Chesapeake, Va

Tribute Wall



“ *J.T. Fisher Funeral Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Doris Batts Sawyer*



J. T. Fisher Funeral Services - January 18, 2019 at 03:51 PM



“ *Granny you did your thang on this planet. You made us laugh, you gave us wisdom and most importantly you gave us JOY. Thank you and well done....Love Shirley....(but really Shellie)*

Shellie Ward - January 19, 2019 at 08:45 PM



“ *LadyBug as I affectionately called her will be greatly missed and her neighborly and loving kindness will forever be remembered in our hearts.*

*The Ferguson Family
Craig Cheryl Shayla and Jaylon*



Cheryl Ferguson - January 19, 2019 at 07:20 AM



“ *Summer's Light Bouquet was purchased for the family of Doris Batts Sawyer.* ”



January 19, 2019 at 01:04 AM



“ *George & Pamela Easter lit a candle in memory of Doris Batts Sawyer* ”



George & Pamela Easter - January 18, 2019 at 11:43 AM



“ *Vanessa Scott lit a candle in memory of Doris Batts Sawyer* ”



Vanessa Scott - January 17, 2019 at 05:00 PM



“ *Pamela Boone Blanco And Family lit a candle in memory of Doris Batts Sawyer* ”



Pamela Boone Blanco and Family - January 17, 2019 at 10:59 AM



“ 30 files added to the album Life Tributes



J. T. Fisher Funeral Services - January 17, 2019 at 09:43 AM



“ Sending love and hugs to Keisha and Family in the passing of your loved one! May God wrap his arms closely around you all 🌹❤️🙏

Verna Bowden - January 17, 2019 at 07:21 AM