



## Iris Valentine

June 22, 1932 - July 17, 2021

July 17, 2021 Iris Ogburn Valentine was called to her Heavenly home to be with her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, whom she dearly loved.

The first of four children, Iris was born to Robert and Hattie Ogburn on June 22, 1932. She accepted the Lord at a young age and publicly proclaimed her faith in Christ at the age of 12 in Temple Gate RZUA in South Hill, VA.

Iris grew into an industrious competitive teen and in 1948 she graduated as the Valedictorian of her class from Mecklenburg County Training School. She went on to fulfill her mother's educational dream by graduating from Virginia State College in 1952. Following her degree, she served three decades as an educator in Portsmouth Public Schools as well as in the New York City School system.

As long as her health permitted, Iris' passion for learning, teaching and serving found many outlets in Sunday School, Adult Education, Bible College, Hospitality, and many other ministries. She passed on her love of learning to her six children and thousands of students from elementary school age to adults.

Iris leaves to continue her legacy: Avis (Victor) Gregory, Loris (Benjamin) Ayirebi and their children and grandchildren, Unis Clinton and her children and grandchildren, O. Zachary (Dionne) Bass and their children and grandchildren, the children and grandchildren of Janis Phillips, Thomasina Valentine, and a multitude of spiritual children including Virginia Darlene (Sydney) Hunt, Walter Brickhouse, and many more.

Siblings: Florence Branch, Bobby (Joyce) Ogburn.

Nephews: Horace Tabb (Pamela) Branch Jr. and children, Glenn (Jo Marie) Sharpe and children, Christopher Ogburn, and niece Erin Carrol Ogburn and children.

Special friends: Janice (James) Adamson, Alma (William) Brown, and a host of loved ones.

Iris was preceded by her daughter: Janis Phillips, her parents: Robert & Hattie Ogburn, her brother: Glenn Ogburn, as well as Otis T Bass II and Thomas J. Valentine Jr.

Iris was a gift from the Lord. She trusted the Lord, she worked for the Lord and she has returned to the Lord. Rejoice with us for He lent her to us, and we have been blessed.

The family of Iris Valentine extends much appreciation for the gracious comfort and care from The Ayirebi, Clinton and Phillips families, Dr. Vivian Artis, Visiting Physicians of Norfolk, Farmers Home Healthcare, MOWP, The Grace Hospice Team, and Chaplain Jessica Yandell. We thank you for the many kind acts of love and support, words of comfort, prayer and thoughtful gestures extended to Iris and her family. May her memory be a blessing.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL **25.** 2:00 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>

## Graveside

JUL **26.** 12:30 PM (ET)

Dinwiddie Memorial Park  
7324 Church Road  
North Dinwiddie, VA 23803

# Tribute Wall



“ J.T. Fisher Funeral Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Iris Valentine



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**J. T. Fisher Funeral Services** - August 03, 2021 at 07:29 PM



“ J.T. Fisher Funeral Services created a Webcast in memory of Iris Valentine

**CLICK HERE TO  
VIEW SERVICE**

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**J. T. Fisher Funeral Services** - July 25, 2021 at 01:42 PM



“ It is with sincere sympathy that we send heartfelt condolences. May you all find comfort in God's loving arms.  
Joyce L Clark Copeland, Denise Clark Wright & Family 🌸🌸🌸

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**Joyce L Clark Copeland** - July 26, 2021 at 09:57 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Iris Valentine.*



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July 25, 2021 at 11:55 AM



“ *42 files added to the album Life Tributes*



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**J. T. Fisher Funeral Services** - July 24, 2021 at 11:13 AM



“ *I was saddened to learn of the passing of Sister Valentine. She was a great woman of God. She was known for her faithfulness to God, and for her consistent work and effort for the Kingdom. She has gone, but she still lives in many. My prayers and thoughts are with you.*

*Joyce Lewis Carcana*

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**joyce carcana** - July 23, 2021 at 10:49 AM

FB

“ Tribute to our Sister

*Our sister raised her children on God and “togetherness.”*

*To those who are believers, God speaks for Himself, but the “togetherness” was defined as “oneness.”*

*As an example, she told them, if you were to find yourself with one slice of bread, you cut it into equal pieces and all would eat.*

*For those of you who have been around to observe Iris’ illness, then you saw cohesiveness come into play. We saw the togetherness she had taught in action.*

*How proud we were watching each working feverishly at their task. When one found themselves falling short in their chores, another stepped in to pick up the slack. Little could Iris have known that the “piece of bread” would be her. Instead of eating the one piece of bread, they spent years sharing in the care of ‘one’ – their Mother.*

*To God Be the Glory. We salute you all.*

*Love,  
Florence and Bobby*

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**Florence & Bobby** - July 22, 2021 at 08:52 PM

BS

“ I was saddened to hear about the passing of Master Educator, Mrs. Iris O. Valentine, a long time former co-worker at Westhaven ES in Portsmouth, VA. Prayers are extended to her family during this difficult time. Hold on to your fond and beautiful memories of your Mom. Rest in Heaven Mrs. iris O..🙏❤️ Beth Cross Smith

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**Beth Cross Smith** - July 22, 2021 at 06:23 PM

CW

“ So sorry to hear of he passing of you beloved Mother, She was truly one of a kind. May the God of love bless you and the family in your time of sorry. Elder Charles & Barbara Williams

charles & Barbara Williams - July 21, 2021 at 01:19 PM

RH

“ Rhoda Harris lit a candle in memory of Iris Valentine



Rhoda Harris - July 20, 2021 at 10:40 PM

PV

“ Patricia Valentine lit a candle in memory of Iris Valentine



Patricia Valentine - July 20, 2021 at 10:01 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Iris Valentine.



July 20, 2021 at 12:21 PM

FC

“ *Fcsykes lit a candle in memory of Iris Valentine*



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**Fcsykes** - July 20, 2021 at 08:32 AM

TV

“ *.Mom, my friend, is now resting peacefully from her labor of love. She gave her best and now God has given mom His best, to be in His presence forever. A woman who taught all of her children to love God, family & education. Mom died knowing that I will continue her legacy like I did in your life. As in life mom's departing send-off celebration will be in two-parts as she deserved & inclusive of her church, educational & extended family! The work my mom did is not in vain!!!*

*Love Always, Thomasina Valentine #6 & only Valentine*

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**Thomasina J. Valentine** - July 20, 2021 at 02:56 AM