



Velma Louise Bolden

June 27, 1947 - March 12, 2024

Velma Louise Whitehead Bolden was born June 27, 1947, and went home to be with her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, on March 12, 2024. She was the second of eight children born to the late Richard Isiah Whitehead and Bessie Eleonor Whitehead, of Northampton County, Va. Velma was preceded in death by two brothers, Timothy Whitehead (Melvina) and Sidney Darnell Whitehead (Viola). She is survived by her siblings, Ella Whitehead Brooks (Nathan), Richard Whitehead, Jr. (Eunice), Kamau “Wayne” Chenelo (Maria), James Whitehead, Sr. and Andre Whitehead (Katrina).

Velma married her husband, Luther Bert Bolden, Jr., in 1971. They were married for 52 years. Their marriage produced three children: Olu Bert Bolden (Melissa), Minkah T. Allen and Issa T. Bolden (Casie). Velma is survived by five grandchildren: Jadon Olu Bolden, Janiah Lissette Bolden, Leila Zurielle Bolden, Selah Naomi Allen, and Ezra Salaam Bolden.

Velma graduated from I.C. Norcom H.S., Portsmouth, VA., in 1965, where she was a member of the cheering squad. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Old Dominion University, Norfolk, Va., and a Master’s Degree from State University of New York at Albany (SUNY) in Speech Pathology. She taught in the public school system in Johnstown, N.Y., before returning to Portsmouth, VA where she homeschooled her three children, from K-12th grade.

Velma loved serving and supporting efforts related to sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ to every "...tribe and language and people and nation." While homeschooling her three children, she taught youth Sunday School at Calvary Evangelical Baptist Church (CEBC), conducted and hosted "Good News Bible Clubs" and CEF (Child Evangelism Fellowship) summer clubs for many years. She also was very active in CEBC's Mission Ministry, taking several short-term missionary support trips to various countries in West Africa, the Philippines and Singapore. Her passion was active ministering and supporting the Gospel message to children and adults, at home (USA), and to all nations (around the world).

Cemetery Details

Albert G Horton Jr. Veterans Memorial Cemetery

5310 Milner's Road
Suffolk, VA

Previous Events

Service

MAR 17. 3:00 PM (ET)

Calvary Evangelical Baptist Church
205 Gust Lane
Portsmouth, VA 23701

Tribute Wall



“ J.T. Fisher Funeral Services created a Tribute Video in memory of
Velma Louise Bolden



J. T. Fisher Funeral Services - March 20, 2024 at 09:47 AM

GL

Mrs. Bolden has always been a kind and Godley Lady. It was a Blessing to know her. Glory Linston

Glory Linston - April 06, 2024 at 10:42 AM

JW

“ Deepest sympathy & prayers to the Bolden family in the passing of your loved one. May God bless and comfort you during this difficult time.



Estherine J. Harding, NSU Retiree, 2016 Distinguished NSU Alumna, Life member NSUAA - Chesapeake Chapter

Johnny and Estherine J. Harding of the W - March 18, 2024 at 12:03 PM

SB

“ Sending our sincerest condolence to the Bolden family. We pray God's peace and power will mend your broken hearts. God bless you all from the entire Hockaday family.

Shirley (Hockaday) Broadue - March 17, 2024 at 09:19 PM

LS

“ May Luther and the Family continue to find comfort in knowing that Velma is ok now. She is resting in that mansion that God prepared for Her many years ago. I did not know Her as well as I knew Luther but I did know about how She was during these years. She will be missed by those that She has inspired during Her life time. Hold on to the memories that You may have.



Leigh M. Burton, Sr. - March 15, 2024 at 07:23 PM

IW

Rest in his arms niece, you will be missed! Aunt Inez

Inez Whitehead - March 17, 2024 at 10:36 PM



“ 32 files added to the album Life Tributes



J. T. Fisher Funeral Services - March 15, 2024 at 03:40 PM

JS

“ *Sister Bolden was a true servant of God in the purest sense. She was a consummate mother, wife and teacher. I shall always be eternally grateful how she shepherd and contributed to the maturation of our son's journey to Christ, who is now a pastor in Baltimore, Maryland.*

Julius Thomas Sr. - March 15, 2024 at 12:41 PM