



Doris Platt Benson

September 11, 1932 - July 30, 2015

Doris Platt Benson was born on September 11, 1932 in Dillon County, South Carolina, the youngest of five children born to Carlie Platt and Frances McEachern Platt. She was educated in the Dillon County public schools and graduated from high school at the age of 16. She went on to attend college at South Carolina State University in Orangeburg, S.C., where she received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Library Science. During college, she was inducted into the Alpha Xi Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta, Incorporated and was a lifetime member of her sorority.

Mrs. Benson was married to Joseph Hoefler Benson and they had four children, Gale, Eric, Torre and Sterlin. The family lived in Columbia, S.C. and became a viable part of the community. Doris was planning to attend graduate school in library science, when her husband was diagnosed with terminal cancer. After two years of caring for her husband, she was widowed at the age of 37. Despite her devastating loss, her unwavering faith sustained her while raising four children alone. Mrs. Benson was a well-respected educator whose career with Richland County (SC) School District One spanned nearly 30 years. Her tenure with the district began in 1966 as a librarian at Fairwold Elementary School. In 1970, she went to work as a Media Specialist at Burnside Elementary School, where she was much loved by students for her creative and dramatic style of storytelling. She retired from the school district in 1992. Mrs. Benson was so committed to her profession, she rarely missed a day of school during her decades of service. A typical librarian, Doris was an

avid reader, who spent hours combing through bookstores long after her retirement. Mrs. Benson was a dedicated member of the historic First Calvary Baptist Church in Columbia, S.C., where she was a member of the Board of Trustees, the Pulpit Aid Club, worked with the youth group and served as the Women's Day speaker. She was also active in numerous civic, social and educational organizations including the Columbia Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta, Incorporated.

After living in Columbia, S.C. for nearly 40 years, Mrs. Benson moved to Charlotte, N.C. 18 years ago after the birth of her granddaughter, Symphony Webber. She was very instrumental in raising Symphony and felt truly blessed to see her graduate from high school in May and prepare to attend college at Duke University. Doris loved living with her daughter, Sterlin and her beloved son-in-law Spurgeon, while watching Symphony grow up. She endeared herself to everyone who entered their home and some of her happiest days were spent preparing meals for family and friends.

While Mrs. Benson devoted her entire life to caring for her children and her grandchildren, she still found time to become a mother figure to many others. People were drawn to her patient, calm demeanor and strong Christian values. Doris showed kindness to everyone she met and amassed a large circle of friends. Even as she was clinging to life, she was still bringing people into the fold. The staff at Carolina's Medical Center grew fond of her, as friends and family filled her hospital room to surround her with love.

Doris Benson was a loving mother, proud grandmother, loyal friend, lifelong educator and devout Christian, who attended Friendship Missionary Baptist Church during her time in Charlotte. She was preceded in death by her husband, Mr. Joseph Hoefler Benson, two brothers, Mr. Ernest Platt and Mr. Carlie Platt, Jr., and a sister, Mrs. Inez Newberry. She leaves her children a lasting legacy of faith, something she valued more than anything else. Her legacy will live on in her daughters, Gale Patrice Benson, Sterlin Benson Webber and son-in-law, Dr. Spurgeon Webber, III are all of Charlotte, NC, her sons, Eric Carlton Benson of Summerville, SC and Torre Hanes Benson of

Charlotte, NC, six grandchildren, Marlon Levar Benson, Erik Clayton Benson, Brandon Kyle Benson, Emery Benson, Adrienne Monique Coleman and Symphony Bouvier Webber, two great-grandchildren, a brother, Dr. Russell L. Platt, of Akron, Ohio, a sister-in-law, Mrs. Mary Ruth Byuarm, of Charlotte, NC and a host of nieces, nephews and friends.

Cemetery Details

Oaklawn Cemetery

Charlotte, NC

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 8. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Jane M. Smith Memorial Church
Johnson C. Smith University
Charlotte, NC

Service

AUG 8. 12:00 PM (ET)

Jane M. Smith Memorial Church
Johnson C. Smith University
Charlotte, NC

Tribute Wall

FB

“ I am from Latta, SC; residing in Charlotte. I learned the sax from Mr. Benson and knew the family. Comfort to all.....
Deacon Frank Bethea and Family of Floyd & Alma Bethea (deceased).

Frank Bethea - August 08, 2015 at 10:20 AM

AB

“ Sterlin,

*The loss of a mother is so hard to bear, but knowing that she was loved by many off afar. I pray that God's Love and Guidance will keep you near to His heart, and just remember that she may not be in your presence but she'll never leave your heart.
God Bless You and your Family in this time of grief.*

Arlene Boyd - August 08, 2015 at 08:31 AM

EM

“ Our deepest and sincerest condolences. Mrs. Benson left such an enduring legacy that spans numerous generations within her family, as well as with the lives of those she touched.

Emery - August 08, 2015 at 07:33 AM

GH

“ Mrs. Benson was never without a smile. She brought love into the room. I saw her last at daughter Gale's big birthday celebration in Charlotte the summer of 2013. Now, it'd been years, I mean years, since Mrs. Benson and I 'd been in the same room. But I knew that sweet face and lovely demeanor instantly. She came right over and hugged me, and it felt so real and made me feel so special. That's what any one of us would want, to receive her genuine warmth and timeless grace That's who Mrs. Benson was and what she brought to people. As often and as much as she could. I thank her and Mr. Benson for giving me another ageless and loving soul in my friend Gale. My husband, Roosevelt and I, give the family our deepest sympathy and prayer for peace. Love without end. Gwen Harvey & Roosevelt Cater, Portland, Oregon.

Gwendolyn Harvey - August 07, 2015 at 10:13 PM

NH

“ Nieces and Nephews Latt, Myrna,Deirdre and Deibari Harris-SC purchased the Pink Tribute Spray for the family of Doris Platt Benson.



Nieces and Nephews Latt, Myrna,Deirdre and Deibari Harris-SC - August 07, 2015 at 11:25 AM

BI

“ Mrs. Benson was such a sweet soul. I have known her since my childhood and I will miss her smile. Condolences to the Benson and Webber families. Beverly Irby

Beverly Irby - August 07, 2015 at 08:59 AM

RB

“ I am sorry to hear of your loss. The death of a loved one is one of the most devastating experiences a human can face. At times, the loss can seem unbearable. The Bible promises; "God is close to the brokenhearted." It also says: "Throw your burden on God and he will sustain you." (Psalm 34;18 and 55;22) I hope this message will offer some comfort in your time of sadness.

R Brown - August 07, 2015 at 06:36 AM