

Obituary

Our Beautiful Mother

Pearl Smothers Mashia

A quiet and lovely lady passed our way. She shined for many years -- a beacon of light! There was so much to be done, so much to learn during her Christian journey -- family, friends to cherish. She would like to say she needed more than the 94 years she was given, but she wasn't one to be greedy.

Pearl Smothers Mashia was born Sept. 3, 1923 to parents, Rosalie Haley Smothers and Will Henry Smothers in Bains, West Feliciana Parish, Louisiana. Surrounded by her loving family, she entered into eternal rest on Jan. 8, 2017, passing angelically as she looked up



into the face of God.

Mother Pearl accepted Jesus Christ as her personal savior and was baptized at the tender age of 5. She loved the word of God and worked diligently in the church from childhood until God called her home.

In 1965, she relocated her family from New Orleans to

Portland (7 girls and 3 boys) and immediately joined New Hope Missionary Baptist Church under the pastorate of Rev. A.A. Newton.

A faithful servant, she was a member of Usher Board #1, a Sunday School teacher and president of the New Hope Mothers' Board. She was a

member of the Sermonette's singing group and served the Portland/Vancouver Gospel Music Workshop Chapter.

She was a dedicated member of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority's Mothers and Patroness Club. She studied the Bible daily, completing a Bible Study Fellowship classes twice, always wanting to grow in the knowledge of Jesus Christ.

A great seamstress, she worked at Meier and Frank in Ladies Alterations, retiring at age 65. Never one to sit idle, she began working as "Grandma Pearl" with the Foster Grandparent Program as a volunteer.

She was an attendance secretary at P.O.I.C.-Rosemary Anderson High School until she was 90 years old!

Mother Pearl leaves to cherish her memory, her children; Pearl Thomas, Donna Harris (Antonio), Anita Craig (Donovan), Rose Mashia-Jones, AJ Mashia (Joanie), Lucy Mae Mashia, Eric Mashia (Magdeline), Linda Mashia-Jones, Ava Mashia and Lance Mashia (Charlene).

Preceding her in death were her parents; three brothers, Henry (Gertrude), Leon and Charles Smothers; son-in-law Willie Thomas Sr.; and grandson Leonard James Irving Jr.

She leaves to mourn 24 grandchildren, 23 great-grandchildren, 6 great-great children and a host of nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.

Home Going services will be Saturday, Jan. 20 at 10 a.m. at Mt. Olivet Baptist Church. Viewing will be Friday, Jan. 19 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at her home church, New Hope Missionary Baptist.

Katz Public Tribute

Art Museum to host celebration of life

Loved ones, colleagues and admirers of the late Portland Mayor Vera Katz will have a chance to celebrate her life on Sunday, Jan. 28, at 2 p.m. at the Portland Art Museum.

Katz died on Dec. 11 at the age of 84 due to complications from leukemia and kidney failure. Elected in 1972 to the Oregon legislature, she became the state's first woman speaker of the house and only the second in the nation to lead a state house of representatives, serving what was then a record three terms.

In 1993, she became Portland's third woman mayor, leaving office



Vera Katz

in 2005 after three terms. Upon her retirement from 32 years in public life, The Washington Post's David Broder saluted the "feisty" Katz as "one of the pioneers and paceset-

ters for the women's movement, education reform, health care and urban planning."

Because his mother was known to shy away from pomp and circumstance, Katz's son, Jesse Katz, said the event will be an unpretentious and uplifting tribute.

"Mom always said that the most important thing to her was to make a difference," said Jesse Katz, a Los Angeles author and journalist. "Based on the condolences I've received these past few weeks, I can see just how many lives she touched—how profoundly she inspired others to do more and be better."

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested that donations in Vera Katz's honor be directed to Lan Su Chinese Garden, or your favorite local arts organization or public school foundation.

Boys & Girls Club Advocate Remembered

Club to hold memorial service

Family and friends are mourning the death of Linda K White; a long time child activist and a retired manager of the Blazers' Boys and Girls Club. She died peaceful-



ly at home Jan. 5, 2018 after battling complications from diabetes.

A memorial service will be held Friday, Jan. 19 at 11 a.m. at the Blazers' Boys and Girls Club; 5250 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Blazers Boys and Girls Club in memory of Linda K. White.



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