



EDNA HOLMES

January 5, 1935 - March 14, 2024

Edna G. Holmes was born January 5, 1935, the only child of Lula Mae Godbolt and Ed Preston in McComb, MS. She began her early childhood education in the Pike County Mississippi school system. Moving to New Orleans with her mother, she attended and finished high school in New Orleans as a proud graduate of McCarty High School. While she was quite proud and spoiled as the only child, God gifted her with a “battalion” of cousins whom she loved as brothers and sisters. Edna met the Love of her Life, Willie James in New Orleans shortly after his honorable discharge from the U. S. Navy on February 19, 1946 and they were married in 1948. From this union of 76 years, seven children were born. Her work life was a mosaic. Edna’s principal call of duty was a full-time mother and homemaker. She was affectionally known and recognized in the neighborhoods as “the lady with all the children.” To financially support her industrious husband, she became

a small business entrepreneur. She sold “sweet treats” aka Huckabucks (see Wikipedia) in the neighborhood to children and adults for 5 and 10 cents. She leveled up a bit and became the Top Region Sales Representative for Avon, Inc. for over 30 years. Edna accomplished that without ever leaving her home, ringing doorbells - “Avon Calling.” She and Willie strategically developed a customer base that expanded to Lula & dad’s workplaces, of course, he was voluntold to be order taker, deliveryman and money collector. Their life-time partnership in raising their children during tough economic and social instability was prayerfully anchored in their love and commitment to grow their family in love (and corrective discipline with the help of “Tan Annie”). Unlike her husband, she was the disciplinarian; your “spanking” by her always included a verbal cadenced sermon of correction with every “lick.” Edna made life in our family fun and contagious. She was the heartbeat of our home and with her there was no heartache.

Edna’s compassionate heart for all children in her village, neighbors, friends and yes, even strangers was most seen in her intentional acts of kindness. Her home was open to them all day. She was a life instructor, coach, good listener, confidant, and encourager, always ready to expose your heart to an opportunity to do and be

better. If you were wrong be ready to hear her, unapologetically, tell you just that! Edna was also a culinary genius, a chef w/no recipe book; during Covid she held a Master-Class in cooking New Orleans seafood gumbo from scratch via Zoom. She was a fierce competitor; she sponsored impromptu game nights, and you could not beat her playing “jacks” or scrabble. Edna had an intense obsession with Major League Baseball; she was a fanatic for only one team in her lifetime, the New York Yankees! Like her husband, she had a good sense of humor too. Edna had the gift of turning ordinary moments into extraordinary memories.

As a young mother, Edna accepted Christ. With her young children present, she was baptized, and worshipped faithfully at Caffin Ave. Church of God under the early leadership of the late Rev. George W. Burns followed by the leadership of Pastor Victor Simon. There she found God’s family of servants and worshippers. She instantly connected with other young moms and developed life-long relationships with a special circle of girlfriends. She also began her Christ-centered work in the church as an Usher, Youth Counselor, Trustee Board member, and Vacation Bible School director.

Edna was elected Church Secretary. She was humbled and taken aback by the unanimous election because she lacked experience for the role. Yet, with a novice heart and teachable spirit, she accepted and served the LORD, ministry leaders and the congregation with excellence for over 25 years. Through her fervent prayers to God, her husband found his way back to the LORD.

Hurricane Katrina, a divine relocation plan, moved mom and dad along with Lula, Donald, and Jason Sr. to Texas. They were affectionately called the Rocheblave crew.

Heartbroken by the loss of their home and belongings, mom made the pronouncement prayer God would “restore all that she’d lost”! She stood faithfully on that promise and

yes, restoration and re-settling in Texas was manifested. She became a member of St.

Stephens Missionary Baptist Church the North Star under the leadership of Dr. B.J.E.

McQueen. Edna was a member of the Greeter and Culinary ministries. She was a

student of the Bible and actively participated for five semester/yrs in comprehensive studies offered by BSF -Bible Study Fellowship.

On March 14, 2024, God healed her broken heart over the passing of her husband, life-partner. He called Ms. Eddy home for a sweet and joyful rest. She was

preceded in
death by her parents, stepbrothers, sib-cousins, her daughter-n-law, Mary
Hughes-
Holmes, her baby girl Lula Felicia, and her “little piece of heaven,” husband
Willie
James. She leaves to continue her legacy of love, compassion, strength, and
wisdom,
six (6) birthed children, Willie Ray Holmes, Muskogee OK, Linda Holmes-
Thomas
(Eon), Jacquelyn Holmes-Bell (Lawrence), Calvin James Holmes (Jacque),
Donald
Joseph Holmes (Marlene), and Deirick Jarae Holmes (Sharon) of Austin, TX.
Demitria
S. Allen, Eight grandchildren, Brette C. Joseph, Pflugerville, TX, Melissa D.
Holmes-
Julien (Greg), Baton Rouge, LA, Jason A. Joseph Sr., Austin, TX, Krystal W.
Evans
(Rader), Pearland, TX, Stephanie R. Holmes, Baton Rouge, LA, Devreeon
Allen,
Atlanta, GA, Charles Allen III, New Orleans, LA, Joi A. Bell, Pflugerville, TX.;
Eight
great grandchildren, Ciara, Jaisa, Jason A Jr., Adam, Chelsea, Carter, Rader
V., Marion
and Ronja; one great grand-dog, Duchess; a generation of cousins, other
special sons

and daughters not birthed but bathed in her love, guidance and care; a
multitude of
friends and neighbors.
Edna, Ms. Eddy, Mom, Mother, Granny, Gran-Gran, MaMoo, Auntie, Mr.
Willie’s wife,

left an indelible mark on our lives. We are all charged to be authentic in carrying on her legacy of love compassion, strength, and wisdom. Cherish the legacy, reflect on the profound impact she had on us and the values she instilled and demonstrated. We all have witnessed the unfolding of a “great love story” throughout Edna’s love of her husband and through his passing. Edna’s love was unconditional, unwavering, and forever. Love for God, her husband, her family, her friends; it was love with no boundaries and was the purest love anyone could experience.

“And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.” 1 Corinthians 13:13 (NIV)

Cemetery Details

Cook-Walden Capital Parks

14501 IH 35
Pflugerville, TX 78660

Previous Events

Celebration Service

APR 6. 1:00 PM (CT)

St. Stephens Baptist Church_The North Star
12300 Amherst Drive
Austin, TX 78727

Tribute Wall

DG

“ It was a delight to meet and spend time sharing Gods' word with Ms. Edna at BSF. Praying for your family comfort and strength doing this difficult time.

Dee Dee Greer - April 06, 2024 at 12:09 PM

 Verilyn LaFrance

Father God, THANK you for placing, such a godly, caring, loving and motherly lady in my life. Someone, I could call to reminisce, laugh, sing church hymns, and of our New Orleans times spent either at Caffin Avenue Church of God or our family times at each other's homes. Memories, that will forever be, a part of me and I'm truly thankful. To my COG family, you are forever in our hearts. Love, Auntie Ann, & Verilyn LaFrance. 🙏💕📖.

Verilyn LaFrance - April 07, 2024 at 02:04 AM

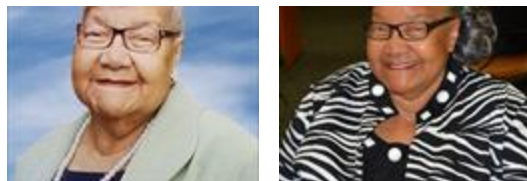
JH

“ Edna was a friend that I met in Bible Study Fellowship on Thursday's for the past 2 years. She always had a big smile and an encouraging word for everyone she met. She was such a Christian mentor for me as she shared all her spiritual wisdom in class. I was so blessed to have known her those 2 years. I will be praying for her family as they go on their grief journey. In him, Judy Hunter

Judy Hunter - April 04, 2024 at 05:19 PM



“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



A Life Celebration by Franklin - April 04, 2024 at 03:03 PM



“ *My deepest condolences and love go out to your family at such a tremendous challenge. I thank God for the beautiful spirit and joy that Mom Edna demonstrated everyday and the impact of her faithfulness to God's word and family.
I will miss her smiling face at BSF.
Linda Harvey*

Linda Harvey - April 04, 2024 at 11:17 AM



“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



A Life Celebration by Franklin - March 27, 2024 at 06:46 PM