

Celebration the Life Of

Born Into Life:
March 28, 1928

Born Into Eternity:
November 17, 2018



Erma G. Brasfield

Saturday, February 2, 2019
Trinity Episcopal Church
600 N Euclid Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63108

Life's Reflections

Erma Irene Gentry Brasfield, wife of the late Charles "Chuck" Brasfield, transitioned to be with her ancestors at the age of 90 on November 17, 2018.

Erma was born on March 28, 1928 in Holden, West Virginia to Milo and Jemima Gentry. Her father passed at the age of 5 and her mother, Jemima, moved her family to Gary, IN to support her family through real estate rentals and take advantage of the burgeoning steel industry by renting her apartments to steel workers.

Erma graduated from Roosevelt H.S. in 1945 and then attended Gary City College for one year. She then transferred to Indiana University at Bloomington, where she met and became engaged to her husband for life, Chuck Brasfield, completing her B.S in Social Service in 1949 and completing her M.S. in Education in 1951. She pledged Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority, Tau chapter during her time at IU, Bloomington.

Erma then moved to Birmingham, AL where she often spoke of the culture shock of Jim Crow laws and moved back to Gary to teach math at Roosevelt H.S. In August of that year she married Chuck at Greater St. James AME Church in Gary, shortly afterward, moving to St. Louis, MO to begin teaching for the St Louis Public Schools System.

Erma quickly rose through the ranks soon becoming a math department head and soon assistant principal. She became the first woman in the public school system to be assigned as principal of a high school and later retired after a notable 40 years of service. Throughout her lifetime she donated to many various organizations and was a founding member of Tots and Teens, a local group providing social activities for youth. She was also a group member of the Red Hatters and her bridge club The Tallies.

Erma contributed to the Fashionetta event hosted by her sorority Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority. An avid bridge player and active member of All Saints Episcopal Church

Erma is survived by her son, Tony, her grandchildren Genesia, Chris, Paul, Charles, Chelsea, Kayla, her great grandchildren Layla, Aria, Cameron, Dominic Leo and siblings Franklin Gentry, Carol Ann Seaton, cousins, extended family members and many friends.

Order of Service

Ivy Beyond The Wall Ceremony	AKA Sorority
Prelude	BCP pg. 491
Processional Anthem	BCP pg. 493
Collect for Erma	
Scripture Readings	Proverbs 31:10-20
Responsorial Psalm 82:1-8	BCP pg. 705
How Great Thou Art	Leslie Johnson
Sermon	Reverend Michael Dunnington
Remarks	Designated Persons
The Apostles Creed	BCP pg. 496
The Prayers	BCP pg. 497
The Peace	
To God Be The Glory	Leslie Johnson

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving	Eucharistic Prayer A	BCP pg. 361-363
The Lords Prayer		BCP pg. 364
The Breaking of the Bread		BCP pg. 364
The Invitation		BCP pg. 364

All Baptize Christians are invited to do Communion

If You Could See Me Now	Leslie Johnson
Postcommunion Prayer	BCP pg. 498

The Commendation

Anthem, Prayer, and Blessing	BCP pg. 499
Dismissal	BCP pg. 500
Sentences are cremains are taken out of the church	BCP pg. 500
May the Grace of God Be With You	Leslie Johnson

I'm Free

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free
I'm following the path God has laid you see.
I took His hand when I heard him call
I turned my back and left it all.

I could not stay another day.
To laugh, to love, to work, to play.
Tasks left undone must stay that way
I found that peace at the close of day.

If my parting has left a void
Then fill it with remembered joy.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss
Oh yes, these things I too will miss.

Be not burdened with times of sorrow
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.
My life's been full, I savored much
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.

Perhaps my time seemed all too brief
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your hearts and peace to thee
God wanted me now; He set me free.



Crossing The Bar

*Sunset and evening star, And one clear call for me! And may
there be no moaning of the bar, When I put out to sea.*

*But such a tide as moving seems asleep,
Too full for sound and foam, When that which drew from
out the boundless deep. Turns again home.*

*Twilight and evening bell. And after that the dark!
And may there be no sadness of farewell. When I embark;
For tho' from out our Bourne of Time and Place
The flood may bear me far, I hope to see my Pilot face to face.
When I have crossed the bar.*

Acknowledgements

The family of the late Erma Gentry Brasfield wishes to express a warm appreciation to each of you for the many acts of kindness, words of support and expressions of sympathy shown us during the period of Erma's illness. We especially thank Ascension Home Health Care for their unwavering devotion to insuring Erma was comfortable and had everything necessary for her smooth transition into heaven, as well as close friends for their experienced input and the members of All Saints Episcopal Church for their assistance. Our sincere "THANK YOU" is extended to each of you for joining us today in this celebration of the life of our very special Wife, Sister, Mother, Grandmother, Great Grandmother and Best Friend.



Arrangements From Labor to Reward Were Handled By:

William C. Harris Funeral Directors

1645 Redman Road

St. Louis, Missouri 63138

314-868-9500

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