



Rupertia Channer

November 14, 1931 - April 1, 2020

Mrs. Rupertia Falconer Channer was born in Somerton, St. James in Jamaica. She was one of two children of Isobel Green and Ezekiel Falconer. She was married to William Oswald Channer for 57 years. She had one daughter, Joy Elaine Thwaites Lannaman.

Rupertia often stated that her career choices during the time that she was growing up were limited to being a housewife, a teacher or a post-mistress, none of which appealed to her. She eventually earned her Registered Licensure in Nursing from Kingston Public Hospital.

In Jamaica she worked as a mid-wife, venturing into general nursing and then into Public Health Nursing. As a public health nurse, relocation was a part of the job. Approximately every three years, the Channer family moved to various areas in the parish of St. Andrew, Jamaica, W. I. (Dallas Castle, Gordon Town and Parks Road). In each of these towns, she made her indelible mark. She performed general nursing and mid-wife duties.

In 1971 her family of three migrated to the United States to Bronx, New York. During this period, she obtained her Bachelor's degree in Nursing at St. Francis College and her Master's Degree in Mental Health Nursing from Long Island University. Her daughter, Joy, 'joyfully' typed her many term papers on the Smith Corona Typewriter her mother purchased for her.

Throughout her life, Rupertia was an involved and hands-on individual. She was a Christian woman who was firmly rooted in her beliefs. She was always actively involved in her various Church affiliations. She taught Sunday school, presided over the Christian Youth Fellowship programs as well as various program presentations of plays and songs.

She firmly believed in affecting lives in a positive, affirmative and supportive way. Over many years she has counseled and helped people in all walks of life to accomplish their goals and expectations (even if they initially did not have a goal).

In 1980, the couple relocated to Tampa, Florida where she continued her involvement and industrious nature in new career ventures. Over time, she made several friends and became actively involved in the community. She primarily worked in the Mental Health Field in various capacities. Some of her community involvements included, but was not limited to, membership in the Caribbean Community Association, The Black Nurses Association, assisting in health fairs, in-services, speaking engagements, volunteering, and participating in 5K races.

She was also a great entertainer and loved baking and cooking. She also enjoyed gardening both flowers and fruits and vegetables, shopping, and playing games like dominoes and Chinese Checkers. Rupertia was a master in Chinese Checkers, and none of her grandchildren were ever able to beat her at that game. She won Mrs. Jamaican Housewife in 1965 and the grand prize was a trip to the World's Fair. She

also entered several embroidery contests where she won prizes in needlepoint and crocheting in Jamaica.

Rupertia is survived by her husband William Oswald, her daughter Joy Elaine, her grandson Andrew William, grand- daughters Vanessa Joy, and Erika Justine as well as her nephews, Steve and Kent. Her mother and her brother are pre-deceased.

She will be missed by family, friends and associates. Rupertia was a force to be reckoned with. May the Lord keep you in his tender care. Rest well Rupertia, WE LOVE YOU AND MISS YOU.

For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life. John 3:16. She will be greatly missed by family and friends.

Comments



“ I met Mrs. Channer through a friend of mine and Mr. Channer began to tutor my grandson. We grew very fond of them and shared a lot of fun times with the Channers. Rupertia always invited us to church on New Years Eve and other church events, they invited us to dinner and we spent many evenings at their home eating cake that Rupertia cooked and my grandson loved their sugar cane. I was so shocked to hear of her passing, yes she will be greatly missed. I will always hold fond memories of her in my heart.
My deepest condolences to Mr. C and to her daughter Joy and the rest of her loving family.
May the God of all comfort give you peace and strength during this time of celebration for the awesome life that Mrs. Rupertia lived.
God Bless Always
Rene` Anderson and Jaheim Hall

Rene` Anderson - April 07 at 12:48 PM



“ To a beautiful soul and brightest light! Thank you for giving our Mom (Rosa Cambridge) your unwavering love and friendship. You will truly be missed by so many. Love, Rosa Mae's Girls

Zola Bud - April 06 at 10:18 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Rupertia Channer.



April 05 at 11:55 PM



“ Rupertia was always serving and assisting others when she could. She always had encouraging & uplifting words to say. She was loved and will truly be missed. My prayers and sympathy is with Bill and the family.



Essie - April 05 at 11:43 PM



“ Mrs Channer was a dear friend. I enjoyed our breakfast outings and the wisdom that she shared with me. The memories of our times together will keep me smiling. I am glad that she was a friend of mine.
I know that she is with the Lord whom she served.
Regards, Marva Simmons and Percil

Marva Simmons - April 05 at 08:31 PM



“ Rosa Cambridge lit a candle in memory of Rupertia Channer



Rosa Cambridge - April 05 at 05:04 PM



“ Our condolences to Bill & the Family in this difficult time. Very well done faithful servant, RIP with our Love

Joan & Rey Warner

Joan Warner - April 05 at 01:03 PM



“ Pearl and Douglas Hunter and family send our condolences to. The Channer family at this time of their berievement..

Pearl Hunter - April 05 at 12:07 PM



“ Mrs. Rupertia is what I call her. I have been very Blessed to have had her as a dear Friend/Sister in Christ. She was the kind of person that let you know you matter. She led lots of things at Church, like singing practice at Christmastime at Church with the Members. She later moved it to the Senior Care Facility where her and her Dear Husband, Bill held Bible classes each week. We would go and sing carols, take them gifts. She headed up a Clinic at Church, where you could see a Doctor for free, all while having your vitals checked by her & her wonderful Nurse Friends. Friendships made, dance exercises with music, going over some Health topics, which I believe saved lives. She loved music & would sing specials at Church with Mr. Bill. She led the Women's Class and just know she sent you home with a gift at each one. If there was a need, She was doing something. I can't think of a time, when we would spend time visiting each other, that we would part, before she would say, "Keep looking up, because He is looking down." She is/was a part of our Family. She will always have a special place in my heart. I will miss her so much. <3



Donna Robertson - April 04 at 02:14 AM



“ GOD will wrap you in his arms and give you peace, strength and comfort throughout this time. Continue to hold on to him.
St. Petersburg Chapter NBNA
Janie Johnson, President

Janie Johnson - April 01 at 07:49 PM



“ MY CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILY...MS RUPERTIA WAS SO DEDICATED TO THE EFFORTS OF THE TAMPA BLACK NURSE ASSOC....MAY HER SOUL REST IN PARADISE.....MAY THE FAMILY FIND COMFORT IN CHRIST AND HER MEMORIES LEFT BEHIND

CARMEN MCINTOSH - April 01 at 04:38 PM