



## *The Family Tribute*

*Many women do noble things, but you surpass them all.* Proverbs 31

Mrs. Goldsbeth Sharpe Bailey Cowan, was born on October 21, 1926, in Iredell County. She was the daughter of the late

Herman and Mamie Williams Sharpe. On Sunday morning, May 1, 2011, she got up early, dressed for church and peacefully slipped away.

At an early age, she became a member of Friendship Missionary Baptist Church in Union Grove, N. C. Following her marriage to Burgess A. Bailey, Sr., she joined Mt. Vernon A.M.E. Zion Church. She was a member of the Missionary Department and always baked peach cobbler for church functions. She was a member of the Bristol Road Senior



Citizens Club and the Willing Workers of First Baptist Church of Harmony, N. C. Ma Bessie loved music including "note singing" of *"What A Friend We Have In Jesus"*, *"I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"* and *"Just a Closer Walk with Thee"* just to name a few.

Preceding her in death was her first husband, B. A. Bailey, Sr. and her second husband, Thomas F. Cowan. A daughter, Teresa Bailey Turner, her grandparents, Preston and Dora Sharpe, Cora and Rufus Williams and a sister, Virginia Sharpe Chambers, also preceded her in death.

She leaves to cherish the memory of her life seven children; Phyllis A. Bailey, Mary (Perry) Turner, Cynthia D. Bailey, Burgess A. Bailey, Jr. all of Statesville, Emily E. Bailey (Phillip Greene), Preston L. (Julia) Bailey, both of Columbus, Ohio, Linda B. (Eugene) Jacobs of Winston Salem; a son-in-law, Jerry Turner of Harmony; her step-children, Leroy (Lib) Cowan and Dorothy (Thurman) Williams of Statesville, Darlene Basemore of Hamptonville, and Melvin (Versie) Cowan of Centreville, VA; her sister, Edna S. (Ralph) Hall of Statesville; a host of grandchildren including, Sean B. (Chasity) Turner of Harmony, Derrick L. (Angel) Dalton of Statesville, Bailey T. (Jimmy) Rayford of Westfield, IN, RayMond T. (Shenitra) Turner of Statesville, David L. (Shala) Dalton of Kansas City, MO, Najjah C. (Mahogany) Bailey of Winston-Salem, NC, Goldwyn G. Parker, II of Parkersburg, WV, Jessica P. (Bismarck) Macauley of Stuttgart-Echterdingen, Germany, Porchia M. Bailey of Raleigh, NC, Anna E. Bailey and Franklin C. Jacobs, both of Winston-Salem, NC, Paul M. Bailey of Wake Forest, NC, Lovie-Afi Greene, Thomas Bailey, and Cybil C. Bailey, all of Columbus, OH, a host of great grandchildren; her special friends, Idella Bennett, Elizabeth Allison, McKinley and Jackie Speaks, her devoted and loving caregiver, Beverly Brodie, church family, neighbors, and friends.

*We are confident that we have been blessed with a mothe, who was a virtuous woman and we celebrate our blessing from God. We believe "as a mother comforts her child, so God will comfort us." Isaiah 66:13*

*Lovingly submitted,  
The Family*



## **A Celebration of Life for Mrs. Goldsbeth Sharpe Bailey Cowan**

**Thursday, May 5, 2011**

**The Mount Vernon A.M.E. Zion Church  
Statesville, N. C.**

**The Reverend D. L. Potts, Officiating**

### **The Family Visitation**

**1:00 p.m. until 2:00 p.m.**

The Processional

The Moments of Sharing (*Friends may visit with the family*)

### **The Order of Service**

**2:00 p.m.**

The Call to Worship

The Invocation

The Hymn: *"What a Friend We Have In Jesus"*

The Scripture Readings

Old Testament

New Testament

The Prayer of Consolation

The Solo ..... Deacon James Roseboro

The Church Resolution ..... Ms. Marva Bailey

The Remarks (*limit two minutes please*)

The Special Poem ..... Ms. Emily E. Bailey

The Reflections ..... Mr. Sean B. Turner

The Silent Reading of the Obituary (*soft music*)

The Acknowledgments

The Commemorative Presentation...Funeral Director

The Special Tribute ..... Mr. Burgess A. Bailey, Jr.

The Hymn: *"Just a Closer Walk With Thee"*

The Eulogy ..... Reverend D. L. Potts

The Selection: *"On My Way Home"*

The Recessional

### **At The Church Cemetery**

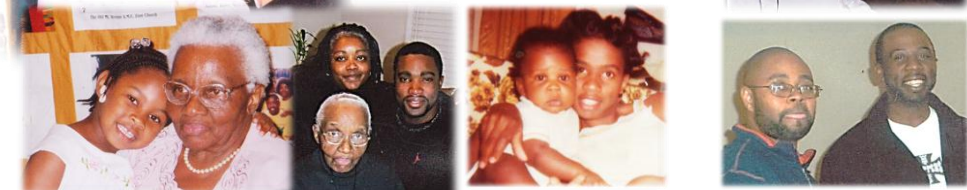
*The Gathering of the Christian Community*

*The Ritual of Consignment*

*The Prayer of Benediction*

*The Final Departure*





## *Active Casket Bearers*

Sean B. Turner  
Raymond T. Turner  
David L. Dalton

Derrick L. Dalton  
Najjah C. Bailey  
Goldwyn G. Parker, II

## *Honorary Casket Bearers*

Christopher Jacobs  
Thomas Bailey  
Bismarck Macauley  
Ken Bennett

Paul M. Bailey  
Corbett Vance  
Jimmy Rayford, Jr.  
Frederick A. Dalton

Daniel Rucker

## *Flower Bearers*

Bailey Turner-Rayford  
Porchia M. Bailey  
Anna Bailey  
Shenitra Turner  
Jessica Parker McCauley  
Mahogany Bailey

Lovie-Afi Greene  
Cybil Bailey  
Shala Dalton  
Chasity Turner  
Angel Dalton  
Debbie Bennett

## *With Our Sincere Thanks*

*In our sorrow, we have witnessed the love and friendship of our many friends and neighbors. In gratitude and appreciation, we wish to thank each of you for every expression of sympathy extended to us. May God continue to bless each of you. In addition to flowers, memorials may be made to Mt. Vernon A.M.E. Zion Church, Post Office Box 6255, Statesville, North Carolina 28687.*

*The Family*



# *A Celebration of Life*



*Ma Bessie*

*She speaks with wisdom and faithful instruction is on her tongue. She watches over the affairs of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness. Her children arise and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her. Many women do noble things, **but you surpass them all.***

**Proverbs 31**