

*sunrise:* MARCH 1, 1943 | *sunset:* SEPTEMBER 8, 2022



# *Dorothy Ruth Williams Pearson*

A CELEBRATION OF LIFE

SEPT. 21, 2022

Alfred Street Baptist Church  
301 S Alfred Street, Alexandria, VA 22314  
Rev. Dr. Howard-John Wesley, Senior Pastor

# *Dorothy Ruth Williams Pearson*

Our beloved Dorothy was carried home early Thursday morning, September 8, 2022, and has arrived safely into the outstretched arms of her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, where she is now enjoying her eternal rest and reward.

Dorothy was born on March 1, 1943, as the only child of Oreatha and Shepherd Williams in Boston, Georgia. During her formative childhood, Dorothy and her maternal relatives relocated to Chester, Pennsylvania. She was subsequently raised by her Grandmother, Sallie Thomas Brooks, who resided in the home of her daughter, Ocie Brooks Grant.

While attending Chester High School, Dorothy pursued a clerical career and performed as a flag twirler in the Chester High School Band. After high school, Dorothy completed studies at the Keystone Business School, and worked for the Laborers Health and Welfare Office in Philadelphia, PA, until her marriage to S. Levi Pearson on May 16, 1964.

While raising her family, Dorothy attended gourmet cooking clubs; became a teaching assistant in the public schools; was active in PTA; and worked as an election officer in various communities including Philadelphia, PA, Redmond, WA, Monroe, CT, Naperville, IL, and Reston, VA. While living in Monroe, CT, Dorothy was honored to be named Woman of the Year. During her years in Reston, VA, Dorothy volunteered at Hunter's Woods Elementary School and held the position of Time and Attendance Secretary. She was recruited to Langston Hughes Middle School and was recognized as an outstanding administrator of Registration and Attendance. Upon retirement from the Fairfax County School District, Dorothy decided to devote her life to volunteer work. One position for which she volunteered, and enjoyed immensely, was to serve on the Board of Directors as Supplies Coordinator for the Kids R First 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

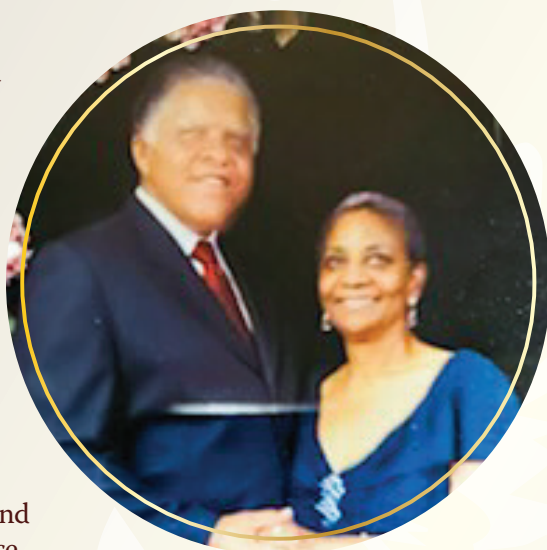
Dorothy loved her family and her God. She served as a Sunday School teacher at her home church, Bethany Baptist, which is located in Chester, PA. Pastor Dency Richardson, founder of the Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church in Twin Oaks, PA, appointed her as the first director of the Richardson Chorus. She subsequently continued her service to the Lord as a VBS volunteer, VBS Director, Departmental Sunday School Leader, and Sunday School Division Superintendent. During her ministries at the Metropolitan Baptist Church in Washington, DC, she was consecrated as a Deaconess. Upon arriving at Alfred Street Baptist Church in Alexandria, VA, she served as an usher, Pastor's Aide Volunteer, Disciple Group President, and Director of the Married Couples Ministry. In recognition of her outstanding work as an usher, she received the Juanita Stanton Usher's Award.

During leisure, Dorothy enjoyed reading, cooking, and MSNBC.

Dorothy is survived by her husband of 58 years, Levi Pearson; son, David (Margaret, whom she lovingly referred to as her "daughter-in-love") Pearson; daughter, Stephanie Pearson; cousin/sister, Gloria Diane Mackey; and a half-brother, Shepherd (Carolyn) Williams, Jr.

Additionally, surviving are special cousins Gwendolyn (Louis) Ham, Harvey, Phillip, and Alfred (Denise) Brooks; Ada Parker; godchildren Aubrey B. Jones III, Adrienne Jones, Benjamin Paul, Augustin Paul, and Joshua Green; adopted cousin, Carol Coffman; and a host of other cousins from the Brooks, Garrison, Parker, Newman, and Wilson families. Also left to grieve are a brother-in-law, Morgan Pearson; sister-in-law Gloria Clifton; nieces, Rhonda Smith, Lisa Laws, and Jennifer Clifton; and several great nieces and nephews.

We will miss her sparkling eyes, joyful laugh, generous heart, and helping hands. Well done, Dorothy. You have been a good and faithful servant.





# Order of Service

Prelude.....	Instrumentalist
Invocation.....	Rev. Dr. Howard-John Wesley
Hymn of Rejoicing: “We’re Marching to Zion”	
<b>Scripture Reading</b>	
Old Testament: Psalm 23 .....	Rev. Dr. Judy Fentress-Williams
New Testament: John 14:1–6.....	Rev. Marla Hawkins
Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 4:13–18.....	Rev. Marcia Norfleet
Prayer of Comfort .....	Deacon Lolita Youmans
Acknowledgements.....	Rev. Dr. Howard-John Wesley
Musical Selection: “Etudes” by Burgmüller.....	Stephanie Pearson, Pianist
Tributes/Reflections .....	Warren Brooks
Musical Selection: “Lead Me, Guide Me,” .....	Lynda Prioleau, Soloist
Eulogy .....	Rev. Dr. Howard-John Wesley
Closing Prayer and Benediction .....	Rev. Dr. Howard-John Wesley
Recessional: “When We All Get to Heaven”	

## Mother

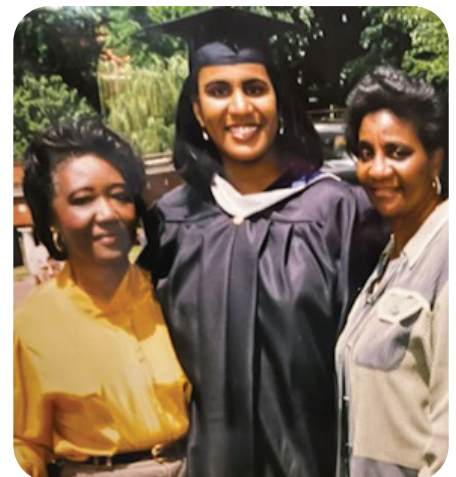
Before the count of time began  
God designed a plan for man  
Before my soul took earthly light  
You, O Lord, had planned my flight.  
You, O God, know first from last  
You know the future from the past  
You formed a life unlike another  
You chose the vessel of my Mother.  
  
So Mother today I honor you  
You gave me life to praise God too  
God chose you as my Mother to be  
I love you Mother and honor thee.  
I have loved you all along  
When times were rough God gave a song.  
I visited, called, and prayed for you  
And God has daily carried us through.  
  
My heart today is heavy with sorrow  
Today has ended—we face tomorrow.

I put you in God's loving hands  
And pray you're wrapped in angel bands.

My prayer for you is rest to find  
I pray for love and peace of mind  
And may your body racked with pain  
Find silence in the sod where lain.

I pray to God in your last hour  
God's Holy Spirit filled you with power  
And in my heart I want to see  
You at Christ's throne on bended knee.  
And now, dear Mother, I say goodbye  
As all must live, so all must die.  
God stamped your image deep in my heart  
So though you're gone, we'll never part.

Mother dear, now close your eyes  
No earthly sorrow, earthly sighs  
I love you now, and always shall  
With all my love, I say farewell.



## *Pallbearers*

Shepherd Williams  
Kyle Garrison  
Eugene Garrison Jr  
Warren Brooks  
Eric Brooks

## *Interment*

2044 Reavis Gin Road  
Lawrenceville, VA

## *Services Entrusted to...*

Greene Funeral Home  
814 Franklin Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

