



Ernestine Ayers Sandifer

July 10, 2019

Ernestine Ayers Sandifer, passed away peacefully at the age of 98 July 10, 2019 surrounded by love ones. She was born Nov 17, 1920 in Crystal Springs, Miss to the late Theodore and Margarite Smith Ayers. She was a homemaker, in her earlier years she spent most of her time cooking, baking rearing her children and grandchildren. She was the 4th oldest of 12 siblings. Eleven siblings preceded her in death.

Mother accepted Christ at an early age. She attended Egypt Hill School where she completed the 8th grade. Although, Mother did not have a formal education she could read and write better than most. She read the newspaper without glasses, up to one month prior to her death.

Mother, married Eddie Lee Sandifer, in August of 1940. They were married for 46 years at the time of his death. Once married the young couple moved to New Orleans. To this union eight children were born. The Sandifers had an open house for most of the Ayers, Sandifer siblings, and cousins that migrated from Mississippi to New Orleans. Anyone that stopped by the house was good for a delicious meal. Ernestine and Eddie always had relatives living with them. Ernestine was renowned for her cooking and baking skills, she made a mean gumbo and delicious pound cakes. Prior to Katrina, mother would cook and feed her neighbors.

Ernestine loved to dress up, she did not want to go outside if her hair was not a certain way, and she wanted matching shoes or a special outfit. In 98 years, mother did not know how to comb her hair, although she had five girls plus

two more when her sister's girls moved in after their mother's death. Mother would call out, Barbara, Geri, Eloise, Tammy, Tyra, Tonetta, Morgan, Kaitie, or any friend that would to come comb her hair.

Ernestine's grand and great grandchildren were her heart and joy. There's no denying that her grand's and great grand's were the ones she loved the most. Time spent at grandma house was special for the grandkids, especially since Mrs. Barbara's sweet shop was right across the street. Mother traveled to many states with her children and grandchildren. The trip she talked about the most was the family trip to Negril, Jamaica. Mother did not have one complaint during the entire trip!

Ernestine became a member of the Law Street Missionary Baptist Church when her children were very young. She was active with the usher board while serving various roles in excess of thirty years until Katrina. After Katrina, she moved to Rome, GA. To live with her daughter, Gerri and her family until 2005. She moved to New Orleans to live with her daughter Barbara and her family until August 2017. She returned to Rome and stayed until November 2018.

Mrs. Sandifer leave to cherish her memories Three daughters; Eloise Sandifer, Kennesaw GA, Barbara Robertson (Freddie-deceased) New Orleans, La. Geraldine Morrow (Larry) Rome Ga. One son, Eddie Sandifer, Jr., New Orleans, special grandson (son) Sean Despenza New Orleans, La., special niece Gwendolyn Maxmillion New Orleans, La, one aunt Euladean A. Johnson Jackson, Miss, three sister-in-law Josephine Ayers Maryland, Ruth Virginia Ayers, New Orleans, Orleans Ayers Crystal, Miss --- Preceded in death, daughters – Yvonne S. Allen (Roger) – Antoinette Sandifer, son: Stanley Sandifer (Barbara) and niece, Helen Marie Goods (Wiley). Also, left to cherish her memories are twenty six grandchildren, thirty two great grandchildren, thirteen great, great grandchildren, numerous devoted nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Relatives and friends are invited to the celebration of life service honoring Ernestine Sandifer at Law Street Missionary Baptist 3132 Law Street New

Orleans, La 70117 on

Saturday July 20, 2019 at 11:00am. Visitation will begin at 10:00 am until 11:00am. Pastor Johnny Arvie Officiating.

Interment: Mount Olivet Cemetery Arrangements by D. W. Rhodes Funeral Home 3933 Washington Ave.

Cemetery Details

Mt. Olivet Cemetery

4000 Norman Mayer Ave.
New Orleans, LA 70122

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 20. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Law Street Baptist Church
3132 Law Street
New Orleans, LA

Service

JUL 20 (CT)

Law Street Baptist Church
3132 Law Street
New Orleans, LA

Tribute Wall

PL

“ *My condolences and prayers for you Eloise and Gerri and your entire family.* ”



Pamela Lawrence-Holmes - July 18, 2019 at 12:07 PM