

*Homegoing Celebration
For
Mother Mary Elizabeth Sanderfer*



Wednesday, July 6, 2016

11:00AM

Little Elk M. B. Church

4692 Snake Road

Athens, AL 35611

Pastor Eugene English, Officiating

Pastor Anthony Stewart, Eulogist



OBITUARY

Mary Elizabeth Sanderfer was born on March 29, 1929 to the late John Henry and Idell Shoulders of Athens, AL. She departed her life on the morning of June 30, 2016. She was happily wed for 57 years to Rev. Bennie H. Sanderfer. This Union was blessed with nine children: Mildred Robinson (Herbert), Evans, Georgia, Bernell Fontenot, Huntsville, AL, Bennie L. Sanderfer (Stella), Huntsville, AL., Madlyn Merritt (Harold), Melbourne, Florida, Ervin D. Sanderfer, Athens, AL, Ruth Watts, Chattanooga, TN, Regina Willingham (Carl), Decatur, AL, Teresa Lynn Brown, Athens, AL and Roger Darryl who preceded her in death. Also to this Union was the Angelic blessing of twenty grandchildren, twenty-two great grandchildren and one great great grandchild.

Mother Mary accepted Christ as her personal Savior at Little Elk Missionary Baptist Church under the Leadership of Pastor Freddie Sowell. She started early on a missionary journey that she would be totally sold out to God. She served as the church secretary for 19 years, and was actively involved in initiating and implementing the ministry of the additions.

After the death of her husband in life (Rev. Bennie H. Sanderfer) she was led by the Holy Spirit to join Greater Hope M.B. Church under the Leadership of Pastor Anthony Stewart. Mother Mary loved and served faithfully until Father finished preparing her mansion in the sky. She was the epitome of a true Proverbs 31 Woman. She retired from the school system at Clements High School after 16 years of service. After retiring from Clements School, Mother Mary became a caregiver to many, many others and enjoyed helping others and giving advice, a Titus 11 Woman. She did not just focus on her own family but she walked, lived, and breathed the life she knew as a true servant of God. She loved big and witnessed everywhere she went.

She was preceded in death by two brothers, Leo Shoulders & John Henry Shoulders.

She leaves to cherish her memories: Her children; grandchildren; great grandchildren; great great grandchild; three sisters, Nancy Sanderfer, Dorothy Owens and Myrtle Jean (Jerry) Lucky, Mansfield, Ohio.; one brother, Joseph (Ruby) Shoulders, Mansfield, OH; one special aunt, Rosie French, Athens, AL; two sisters-in-laws, Bennie Shoulders (John Henry, Jr., deceased), Mansfield, OH and Louise Shoulders (John, deceased), Chattanooga, TN; two special nephews, MacArthur (Claire) Sanderfer and Roosevelt Sanderfer (Mary, deceased), Athens, AL; a host of nieces, nephews, great nieces, great nephews, loved ones and friends.

Order of Service

Processional

Selection

Choir

Prayer

Pastor Antoyne Green
New Life Baptist Church
Athens, AL

Scripture

Old Testament
New Testament

Rev. Henry Collier
Elder Herbert L. Robinson, Sr.

Selection

Choir

Messages of Love

As I Knew her (cousin)

As a Church Member

As I knew Her

(2 minutes, please)

Sis. Linda Farrar

Dea. Leo Williams

Min. Ronald Robinson

Words of Comfort

Dr. Wendell Thompson, Pastor
Owens Chapel M. B. Church
Huntsville, AL

Selection

Choir

Acknowledgements

Sis. Bernice Sanderfer

Obituary

Read Silently

Duet

Dea. Harold Merritt, Sr.
Min. Harold Merritt, Jr.

Eulogy

Rev. Anthony Stewart, Pastor
Greater Hope M. B. Church
Athens, AL

Solo

Sis. Darshell Sanderfer

Closing Prayer

Dr. Eugene English, Pastor
Little Elk M. B. Church
Athens, AL

Recessional



Miss Me, But Let Me Go

*When I come to the end of the road,
And the sun has set for me
I want no rites in a gloom filled room,
Why cry for a soul set free.*

*Miss me a little, but not too long,
And not with your head bowed low,
Remember the love that once we shared,
Miss me but let me go.*

*For this is a journey we all must make,
And each must do it alone,
It's all part of the Master's plan,
A step on the road to home.*

*So when you are lonely and sad at heart,
Go to the friends we you know,
Bury your sorrows in doing good deeds,
Miss me, but let me go.*

Author: Anonymous

Mary Elizabeth Sanderfer



M-O-T-H-E-R

"M" is for the million things she gave me,
"O" means only that she's growing old,
"T" is for the tears she shed to save me,
"H" is for her heart of purest gold;
"E" is for her eyes, with love-light shining,
"R" means right, and right she'll always be,
Put them all together, they spell
"MOTHER,"

A word that means the world to me.



FAMILY

The Love Of Family Is Life's Greatest Blessing



F
A
M
I
L
Y





Pall Bearers
Grandsons

Flower Bearers
Granddaughters

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The family of the late Mary E. Sanderfer wish to express their gratitude and appreciation to their many friends and neighbors for their kind expressions of sympathy shown during our time of bereavement. We wish to thank Harbor Chase Senior Assisted Living Staff, Heritage Senior Living, Madison West Hospital, and everyone that sent cards, well wishes-flowers, food, calls or expressions of love or your act of kindness.

Harbor Chase



Interment

Little Elk Cemetery
Athens, AL

Repast

Little Elk Missionary Baptist Church Fellowship Hall

Final Arrangements Entrusted to

Royal Funeral Home
718 Brownsferry Street
Athens, AL 35611

