



## Mrs. Alma Bradley Matthews Parker

June 2, 1910 - June 25, 2017

PARKER, Mrs. Alma Bradley Matthews - Age 107, passed away Sunday, June 25, 2017 at her residence. Family hour 10:00 AM Monday, July 3, 2017 from the Chapel of Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home, 906 W. Flint Park Blvd., with funeral service commencing at 11:00 AM, Rev. Warren L. Buchanan, officiating. Interment River Rest Cemetery, G-4413 Flushing Rd. Friends and pallbearers will assemble at the funeral home 10:00 AM Monday. Mrs. Parker will lie in state in the Chapel of Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home and may be viewed from 10:00 AM-6:00 PM Sunday, with family present to receive friends from 2:00 PM-5:00 PM.

Alma Bradley Matthews Parker was born on June 2, 1910 in St. Joseph, Louisiana to Louise Wynn and Alfred Bradley. She lived a long and active life and was responsible for taking care of her family while migrating to Flint from the South and actively making it possible for her siblings to follow her to the North for gainful employment. This is significant because she was the first of 12 children to come to Flint.

She was a hard worker and always accepted overtime to generate more money to not only take care of her lifestyle, but to ensure that there was enough money to give to family members to improve their lives. Mrs. Parker loved her family and demonstrated that love by cooking scrumptious meals and providing financial resources, gifts and wisdom to her beloved family. 'She

believed in financial independence and was known for being a "workaholic." Mrs. Parker's good deeds for many, truly highlights the legacy she now leaves the Bradley Family.

As a young girl, Mrs. Parker stayed close to her father working along side him in the fields and was often compared to working "just as hard as any boy in the field." During this time period, she did not do any housekeeping or cooking, and her siblings called her "bossy." In total there were 12 children in the Bradley family. "Also in her younger years, she attended school in Greenville, MS and stayed with her father's sister during this time. However when home and while growing up, she was the only one at that time allowed to drive the car to do errands for the family.

She was a lady with flair and always had a set of clothing for any occasion, and was also known for her famous dinner parties. After inviting her guests over for a meal, she would be quick to tell them, "Well, baby you don't have to stay, you can go now." This was often met with surprise because people were never ready to leave due to the great food and hospitality. She eagerly welcomed people into her home, but was equally glad to usher them out.

Mrs. Parker dutifully and regularly visited her relatives to check in on them but was never one to stay long. Often she would leave a family party, go home to take a nap and then change clothes and go back to the party. Her visits were always short in duration. She never, ever stayed in one place too long.

Being a pacesetter was always the way she lived. She is known for integrating Ottawa Hills in Grand Blanc. Back in the late 60's, she was forced to sell her home on Brookside Drive due to the development of the I-69 expressway project. At that time, it was not possible for a person of color to purchase a home in Ottawa Hills, so she worked the system and gave her friend Audrey cash for the home. Audrey purchased the home and quit claim deeded it back

and the rest is history. Mrs. Parker met a great deal of resistance as she moved into Ottawa Hills, but she endured and weathered the storm, therefore paving the way for other persons of color to move into that subdivision.

As a former member of Canaan Baptist Church, she believed in service to others yet always took good care of herself by regularly exercising, as she would take walks in her neighborhood subdivision.

Mrs. Parker is survived by a huge host of family members including the niece for whom she raised as a daughter, Mary Edith Christina Johnson, Flint, MI; 1 brother, Lenn (Edith) Bradley, Flint, MI; 2 sisters Jean Roberson and Jessie Ruth McNeeley, both of Flint, MI., 2 sisters-in-laws Tina Bradley and Lucy Lockett; and a host of nieces, nephews and other relatives and friends, including special friends Ann and Tommie Gist.

Preceding her in death were parents; 2 husbands, Jack Matthews and Leroy Parker; 4 sisters, Rose Buchanan, Willa Mae Fryer, Mary Kate Quinn, Johnnie Harris and 4 brothers Alfred., Clinton, Thomas and Louis Bradley.

A special sentiment of gratitude is extended to both McFarlan Home and Heartland Home Care, as well as a great big round of applause to her sister Jean Roberson for leaving her home in Texas to provide care giving for nearly nine years.

In lieu of flowers, donations would be welcomed to The Foundation for Mott Community College in her memory.

# Cemetery Details

## River Rest Cemetery

G-4413 Flushing Rd.  
Flint, MI 48504

# Previous Events

## Public Viewing

JUL 2. 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home Chapel, Flint  
906 W. Flint Park Blvd.  
Flint, MI 48505  
(810) 789-MOON (6666)  
lemoonfhflint@gmail.com  
<http://www.lawrenceemoonfuneralhome.com>

## Family Present

JUL 2. 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home Chapel, Flint  
906 W. Flint Park Blvd.  
Flint, MI 48505  
(810) 789-MOON (6666)  
lemoonfhflint@gmail.com  
<http://www.lawrenceemoonfuneralhome.com>

## Family hour

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JUL 3. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home Chapel, Flint  
906 W. Flint Park Blvd.  
Flint, MI 48505  
(810) 789-MOON (6666)  
lemoonfhflint@gmail.com  
<http://www.lawrenceemoonfuneralhome.com>

## Service

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JUL 3. 11:00 AM (ET)

Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home Chapel, Flint  
906 W. Flint Park Blvd.  
Flint, MI 48505  
(810) 789-MOON (6666)  
lemoonfhflint@gmail.com  
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# Tribute Wall



“ *Mrs. Alma Bradley Matthews Parker*

October 09, 2023 at 07:02 AM



“ *Colleen Jenkins lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Alma Bradley Matthews Parker*



**Colleen Jenkins** - July 04, 2017 at 05:07 PM



“ *To Mary and the Bradley family,\_ You have my deepest sympathy. We go back a many a years. She lived a full life. May God continue to bless each of you.*

**Katie Pickett** - July 02, 2017 at 04:10 PM

SG

“ Alma was my mother’s best friend, my godmother and an inspiration to our family. Her name means nourishing/nurturing and that is what she was to us. She was a strong independent woman long before it was chic to be so. In fact, she was the epitome of a Twenty-first Century woman in the Twentieth Century era.

She taught me to love being tall, to always walk with my head up and look people in the eye when you are doing business. She encouraged me to be fashionable yet frugal as well. Alma was always well dressed and beautifully coifed. She was forthright with her comments, but quick to compliment.

She was a blessing to know. And we shall live with her memory while she rests in the arms of our Lord

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Sharon Guyton - July 02, 2017 at 02:10 PM

SG

“ 2 files added to the album Life Tributes



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Sharon Guyton - July 02, 2017 at 02:06 PM



“ Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Mrs. Alma Bradley Matthews Parker.



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July 02, 2017 at 08:16 AM



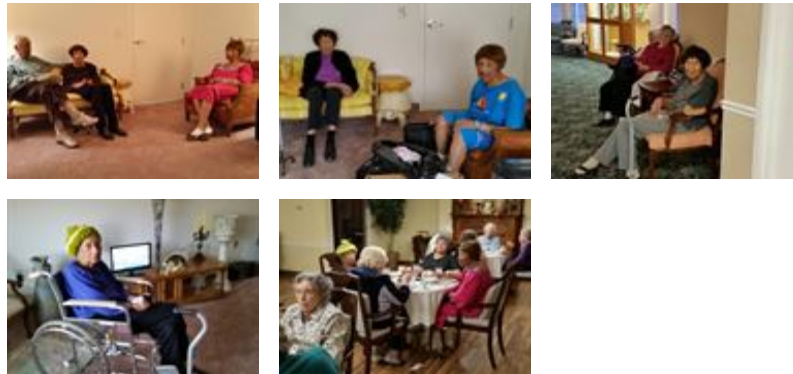
“ 2 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home - July 01, 2017 at 10:06 AM



“ 54 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home - July 01, 2017 at 07:23 AM



“ *My sincere condolences to the entire family on the passing of your beloved "Aunt Alma". May God comfort you during this time and in the days to come. Cherish, share and visit often the fond memories you have of "Aunt Alma".*



Cerese Simpson Pennington - June 30, 2017 at 11:14 AM



“ Carolyn Mayo lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Alma Bradley Matthews Parker



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**Carolyn Mayo** - June 29, 2017 at 10:45 PM



“ Julia Gamble sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Alma Bradley Matthews Parker



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**Julia Gamble** - June 29, 2017 at 07:31 AM



“ D.Nancine Jackson lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Alma Bradley Matthews Parker



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**D.Nancine Jackson** - June 28, 2017 at 05:18 PM



“ Victoria Matthews lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Alma Bradley Matthews Parker



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**Victoria Matthews** - June 28, 2017 at 04:40 PM

SC

“ *Sis Maudie Coley lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Alma Bradley Matthews Parker*



Sis Maudie Coley - June 27, 2017 at 09:43 PM

JJ

“ *In passing, we know that Alma has been freed from every bond, every burden, and every limitation. And in this we rejoice. Knowing that grief never ends, but it changes. It's a passage, not a place to stay. May we offer, our heartfelt sympathy knowing that grief is not a sign of weakness, nor a lack of faith, it is the price of love. John and Ella Johnson*

JOHN JOHNSON - June 27, 2017 at 08:42 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Mrs. Alma Bradley Matthews Parker.*



June 27, 2017 at 07:47 PM

RK

“ *Russell & Diane Kirksey lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Alma Bradley Matthews Parker*



Russell & Diane Kirksey - June 27, 2017 at 05:13 PM