



Mother Bessie Helen Straham

July 19, 1939 - November 14, 2021

STRAHAM, Mother Bessie Helen - Age 82, passed away Sunday, November 14, 2021 at Ascension Genesys Hospital in Grand Blanc, Michigan. Family hour 10:30 AM Monday, November 22, 2021 from the Chapel of Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home, 906 W. Flint Park Blvd., with funeral service commencing at 11:00 AM, Pastor Douglas Banks, officiating. Interment Sunset Hills Cemetery, G-4413 Flushing Rd. Friends and pallbearers will assemble at the Funeral Home, 10:30 AM Monday. Mother Straham will lie in state in the Chapel of Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home and may be viewed from 10:00 AM- 4:00 PM Sunday. The Flint Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated will hold a virtual Omega Omega ceremony in celebration of the life of Bessie Straham. The ceremony will be held Saturday, November 27, 2021 at 10am. If you are interested in attending please contact the chapter at FAC13198@gmail.com. Mother Bessie Helen Lambert Straham, 82, went to meet her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, November 14, 2021. She was born July 19, 1939 in Warren, Arkansas to the Late George and Elvira Lambert. She was the 8th child born to this union. Bessie accepted and professed Christ at an early age and united with Bethel AME Church in Warren, Arkansas. Bessie's early education was in Warren, AR. She graduated from the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff (AM&N) with a B.A. in History. She later received her Master's Degree from the University of Michigan. Bessie married the love of her life, the late Clarence C. Straham Sr. in 1968 in Pine Bluff, Arkansas. They relocated to Flint, Michigan and united

with the Vernon Chapel A.M.E. Church, under the leadership of Rev. Rueben Russell, where she served faithfully for 53 years. Her positions included, but were not limited to Christian Education Director, Church School Superintendent, Member and Worship Leader of the Cook Missionary Society, Member of the Lay Department, and Senior Choir. Her greatest achievement was being consecrated Deaconess, the ONLY life time appointment in the A.M.E. Church. Mother Straham was a Christian, wife, mother, sister, mentor, citizen and friend who worked diligently to make this world a better place. Throughout her life, she was a human rights advocate and the personification of benevolence. Bessie, a gifted communicator who could walk and talk with kings and queens and yet not lose her common touch, was the consummate understander, "NOW WHAT I AM HEARING YOU SAY IS ...", she always wanted the "MESSAGE INTENDED TO BE THE MESSAGE RECEIVED".

She was forever training, 'the next generation', because in order to continue and sustain we must "train the next generation to take our place in various positions or offices". Her favorite phrase to end the morning announcements to her students was "It takes only one second to get into trouble, BUT it could take your life or a lifetime to get out of it." Because of her curiosity, her vivid imagination, her nature, and her cosmopolitan interests, Bessie broke through many barriers and glass ceilings set for women, including becoming the first woman in the history of the Flint community School District to serve as a High School Principal, thereby paving the way for other women to attain this level of achievement. Her dedication and direction for service was further exemplified through her Life Memberships in: Delta Sigma Theta, Inc., University of Arkansas Pine Bluff Alumni Association, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and Michigan Association For Secondary School Principals. Among all of her noteworthy accolades, Bessie Helen Lambert Straham was named "Arkansas Traveler" which is an Ambassador for the State. An honor that is bestowed by the Governor. One of Bessie's last achievements was becoming a published author. Her book "The People's Perception Of Bessie Helen Lambert Straham: A Miracle on Barrington Drive"

was recently published. Bessie Helen Lambert Straham departed this life on Sunday, November 14, 2021. Left to cherish her memories are son, Clarence C. (Carlotta) Straham Jr., daughter, Cynthia G. Straham (Harold) Evans; five grandchildren, Diamond D. (Nathan) Clayborn, H. Leland Evans II, Clarence C. Straham III, L. Elizabeth Straham and Joshua R. Evans, all of Little Rock, AR; three great-grandchildren, Nathan L. Clayborn III of Little Rock, AR, Mila Giatras of Edwards, CO and Kellan E. Evans, of Little Rock, AR; brother, Arthur (Vivian) Lambert, of Little Rock, AR; four sisters-in-law, Bobby (Amir) Houshiar of Saginaw, MI, Mamie Straham, Lenora Straham, and Nisha Straham, all of Flint, MI; brother-in-law, Sherman Straham of Flint, MI; aunt, Lennie B. Straham of Flint, MI; spiritual daughter, Tara L. Miller; spiritual granddaughter, Cameo Paschal-Fair; three godchildren, Deron Walker, E. Isaiah Leavy and Leah R. Dunlap, all of Flint, MI; and a host of nephews, nieces, other relatives, students and dear friends. Mother Straham was preceded in death by her husband, Clarence C. Straham Sr.; parents, George and Elvira Lambert; four brothers, Jackie Lambert, Robert Lambert, Charles Lambert and Otis Lambert; three sisters, Margaret Nunley, Ollie Robinson and Beretha Jamison.

Cemetery Details

Sunset Hills Cemetery

G-4413 Flushing Rd.
Flint, MI 48504

Previous Events

Public Viewing

NOV **21**. 10:00 AM - 4:00 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

NOV **22**. 10:30 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

NOV **22**. 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



“ *Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home - November 22, 2021 at 08:23 AM

CS

Thank you, Will be watching because I am unable to travel at this time.

Cynthia Straham - November 22, 2021 at 09:24 AM

GR

Praying for strength for the Jamison family.

Gwendolyn Rafter - November 22, 2021 at 09:56 AM

D-

MY Condolences to the family she was a wonderful person gone but never forget who you are !! Rest now my love !!

Darlene Davis -Calvert - November 22, 2021 at 06:02 PM



“ *Mother Bessie Helen Straham*

October 09, 2023 at 07:02 AM

KR

“ *K Rice sent a virtual gift in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



K Rice - March 11, 2022 at 03:23 PM

MH

“ *Mary Huddleston lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



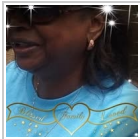
Mary Huddleston - January 06, 2022 at 01:37 AM

PR

“ *Patricia Rouser lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



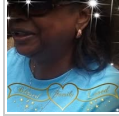
Patricia Rouser - January 05, 2022 at 04:10 AM



“ *Marcella-Brown James sent a virtual gift in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Marcella-Brown James - December 15, 2021 at 06:18 AM



To Straham Family; Sorry this is belated; but I truly want to let you know what an instrumental Lady Mother was in my life. She assisted me through so many routes in uncharted territory. Those of us who counted on her will miss her, and need to pick up the baton and move on! Praying !

Marcella-Brown James - December 15, 2021 at 06:30 AM

EU

“ *Elnora Urquhart sent a virtual gift in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Elnora Urquhart - December 08, 2021 at 11:27 PM



“ *T Marie Marshall lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



T Marie Marshall - November 29, 2021 at 08:59 PM

YH

“ *Soror Straham was a wealth of knowledge to me, once we sat in a waiting room at Henry Ford hospital supporting a Soror who was having a procedure. We sat and talked about so many things. She was so kind and we just bonded so sisterly. It was a day I would never forget. Rest in Heaven Soror Straham, you will forever be missed.*

Yvette Hall - November 28, 2021 at 04:32 AM

BB

“ *Belinda Brown lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Belinda Brown - November 26, 2021 at 05:15 AM

EW

“ *Elder Charles Woods lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Elder Charles Woods - November 25, 2021 at 06:06 PM

DR

“ *Dr. Relda Robertson-Beckley lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Dr. Relda Robertson-Beckley - November 24, 2021 at 03:03 PM

AB

“ *Althea Barbee lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Althea Barbee - November 23, 2021 at 11:55 PM

MB

“ Well Aunt Bessie I am just finding out that you are with the Lord. So happy that a few weeks ago we spoke on the phone and sent cards to one another. She always would call and check on my husband a 13-year stroke overcomer. She enjoyed where she was living and felt loved and respected there at the assisted living facility. I guess she knew no one would notify me of her transition from your earthly vessel back to God so she kept in touch by phone herself to reassure me she loved and I that was her "special one". Just want those who read the tribute wall that you, Aunt Bessie was the author of my first college scholarship upon my high school graduation in 1968. Aunt Bessie was responsible for my being a junior business and professional member society and we traveled for the first time for me to a hotel in Chicago Ill. Aunt Bessie discuss with us young girls at the time etiquette in tipping and wearing of gloves and hats and well grooming. We enjoyed the gatherings at the barbeque and birthday celebration. We visited in Ft. Smith Arkansas with our grandparents Annaise and Alice Toles and I am sure we never experience a disagreement. We are missing Aunt Bessie she instructed us to call her instead of cousin because she was our senior family members; she and Uncle Clifford, Uncle Billy, and Uncle Milton, Aunt Mary Ann and Aunt Bobbie; only Sherman preferred cousin. Because of the educators Aunt Bessie and Uncle Clifford were cause me to be a retired educator and soon to establish a school of excellence. So we always respected our elders! Aunt Bessie H. Lambert Straham has left this earth, but will always be alive in our hearts. Humbly submitted, Missionary Mary Toles Brice, Muskogee, OK.

Missy. Mary Toles Brice - November 23, 2021 at 07:00 PM

SC

“ *Shauna Chambers lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Shauna Chambers - November 23, 2021 at 01:04 PM

KW

“ *To the family of Mrs. Bessie Straham Thanks for sharing such a jewel she set the standard humble yet heard stylish classy smart humble godly full of wisdom always calm professional her hats said it all “come right cause I don't have time to waste” WELL DONE good and faithful servant you will forever live through the loves you touched I pray for strength comfort and peace* ❤️🙏



Kathy Maynor Welch-Moore - November 23, 2021 at 02:40 AM

D-

“ *Darlene Davis -Calvert lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Darlene Davis -Calvert - November 22, 2021 at 05:54 PM

DN

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



David Nunley - November 22, 2021 at 11:39 AM

DC

“ RIP Aunt Bessie you will be missed!

Dayna Clemons - November 22, 2021 at 11:04 AM

CS

“ Missing my Aunt Bessie & our long talks. A GOOD MISS! She was an inspiration of excellence spirit soul & body! An example of love covers a multitude...she & my Uncle were shining examples of a power couple in their public and private life. So thankful they had a profound effect on my children, to this day. #StrahamFamilyGathering #TheBlessing #Posterity #Heritage #FamilyTree #BlessingOfLiberty2OurselvesNourPosterity #HomeGoingCelebration #WellDone



Cynthia Straham - November 22, 2021 at 09:03 AM

TL

“ Tonya LaGrone lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham



Tonya LaGrone - November 22, 2021 at 08:32 AM

IK

“ *Inella Biggs Keyes lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Inella Biggs Keyes - November 22, 2021 at 01:48 AM

JD

“ *Jean Durrettt lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



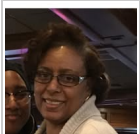
Jean Durrettt - November 22, 2021 at 01:27 AM

BS

“ *Benny & Mae Vern Spence lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Benny & Mae Vern Spence - November 22, 2021 at 01:21 AM



“ *Mrs Starham was always a light in other life will miss you the Walker family*

Brenda Walker - November 21, 2021 at 11:22 PM



“ *Brenda Walker lit a candle in memory of
Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Brenda Walker - November 21, 2021 at 11:17 PM

DS

“ *I extend my sincere condolences and prayers
of comfort to the family of Mrs. Bessie
Straham.*

*She was an outstanding educational leader
who dedicated her career to the Flint
Community Schools' staffs, students and parents. She was a
positive role model for myself and many others. Most importantly,
she loved the Lord!*
Dr. Dana S. Simmons



Dana S. Simmons - November 21, 2021 at 06:43 PM

CA

“ *With heartfelt sympathy
May faith sustain you,
May hope strengthen you,
May God comfort you in your loss.*

From: Cornelia Anderson

Cornelia Anderson - November 21, 2021 at 06:25 PM

MS

“ Bessie Straham was the assistant principle when I attended Flint Northern High School. I had the pleasure of running into her in the community last year and reminded her that she would get on the intercom and tell the students "Remember it can take a second to get in trouble but it could take your life or a lifetime to get out of it". I told her how that saying has always stuck with me all these years. Her face lit up when I told her that and she smiled her bright smile and thanked me for sharing that with her. I am glad I was able to tell her the impact that statement had on me over the years. May she rest in heavenly peace!!!

Mary Smith - November 21, 2021 at 03:18 PM

FI

“ Fields lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham



Fields - November 21, 2021 at 01:53 PM

MW

“ Marlene Williams sent a virtual gift in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham



Marlene williams - November 21, 2021 at 12:47 PM

MW

“ To the family and friends of Mother Straham she was always My favorite teacher in school (class of 1971) and taught 2 of my daughters in later years, always gracious and encouraging to everyone . Mrs Straham will be missed dearly by everyone who knew her in her church, community, schools, God give y'all strength and peace of heart ❤️

Marlene williams - November 21, 2021 at 12:43 PM



“ My sincerest condolences to the family of Mother Bessie Straham. Growing up watching her both professionally and at Vernon Chapel A. M. E. Church was a thing to behold. She instilled a love of learning. She often dropped pearls of wisdom. Students knew her love and support of them. I feel incredibly blessed to have shared space and time with her and her wisdom. May the family be comforted by the memories that you share. God bless you all.



Valerie Marshall - November 21, 2021 at 12:01 PM

DB

“ Denise Bridges lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham



Denise Bridges - November 21, 2021 at 10:45 AM

TT

“ *Tia Tolliver lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Tia Tolliver - November 21, 2021 at 10:18 AM



“ *Lena Marshall lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Lena Marshall - November 21, 2021 at 09:27 AM

TT

“ *Tika Logan Tyson sent a virtual gift in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Tika Logan Tyson - November 20, 2021 at 11:31 PM

PW

“ *PATRICIA WARNER MRS. STRAHAM U WAS SUCH A BEAUTIFUL PERSON MY AUNT MISS MC CALL WAS VERY GOOD FREINDS MAY U RIH*



PATRICIA WATT WARNER - November 20, 2021 at 11:24 PM

DH

“ Donna Hancox-Gallery lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham



Donna Hancox-Gallery - November 20, 2021 at 09:44 PM

MB

“ Mary Alice Logan Branch lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham



Mary Alice Logan Branch - November 20, 2021 at 12:49 PM

MB

“ Mary Alice Logan Branch lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham



Mary Alice Logan Branch - November 20, 2021 at 12:48 PM

MB

“ Mary Alice Logan Branch lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham



Mary Alice Logan Branch - November 20, 2021 at 12:45 PM

ES

*Our condolences to the Straham family.
The Shaw family.*

Erma Shaw - November 20, 2021 at 02:29 PM

EW

Thank You for sharing the homecoming service of Cousin Bessie Helen Lambert Straham. Will see her again.....

Everett Wallace - November 22, 2021 at 12:43 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Mother Bessie Helen Straham.*



November 20, 2021 at 11:48 AM

EO

“ *Elaine “Lannie” Owens lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Elaine “Lannie” Owens - November 20, 2021 at 11:26 AM

PT

“ *Pat Tarver lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Pat Tarver - November 20, 2021 at 07:54 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Mother Bessie Helen Straham.*



November 20, 2021 at 07:53 AM



“ *Carolyn Blair lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Carolyn Blair - November 20, 2021 at 07:35 AM



“ *Amekia Newman lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Amekia Newman - November 20, 2021 at 06:10 AM



“ *Yvonne Tucker lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Yvonne Tucker - November 20, 2021 at 01:27 AM

FN

“ Flo Durrett Nichols lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham



flo durrett nichols - November 19, 2021 at 08:59 PM

CJ

“ I worked with Mrs. Straham at Northern, I really enjoyed talking with her, and basking in her wisdom. She was a positive light in my life, RIP.

Charles Crouther Jr - November 19, 2021 at 08:43 PM

ER

“ Elvia Roberson sent a virtual gift in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham



Elvia Roberson - November 19, 2021 at 04:18 PM

JB

“ Jacquetta Bryant lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham



Jacquetta Bryant - November 19, 2021 at 02:00 PM

LA

“ *Our condolences to your family.*



Lynn Anderson - November 19, 2021 at 01:33 PM

VB

“ *Vanessa Brackkns lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Vanessa Brackkns - November 19, 2021 at 01:23 PM

TA

“ *Terry Arnold lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Terry Arnold - November 19, 2021 at 11:23 AM



“ *Rose Romanesque Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mother Bessie Helen Straham.*



November 19, 2021 at 10:40 AM

SH

“ *Sondra Huddleston lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Sondra Huddleston - November 19, 2021 at 10:15 AM

JM

“ *Jason Marks lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Jason Marks - November 19, 2021 at 08:41 AM

RM

“ *Rosie McFadden-Burris lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Rosie McFadden-Burris - November 19, 2021 at 01:10 AM

SL

“ *Soror Terry Love lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Soror Terry Love - November 18, 2021 at 09:47 PM

SL

“ Soror Terry Lynn Love lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham



Soror Terry Lynn Love - November 18, 2021 at 09:45 PM

KC

“ Kim E. Carpenter lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham



Kim E. Carpenter - November 18, 2021 at 09:37 PM

JB

“ Mrs. Straham was my high school principal, she a very kind and caring person. She cared about all of us students. She would always remind us on Friday, It could only take a minute to get in trouble, but it could take a life or life time to get out of it.

Jeanette Brown - November 18, 2021 at 09:04 PM

JB

“ Jeanette Brown sent a virtual gift in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham



Jeanette Brown - November 18, 2021 at 08:59 PM

JB

“ *Jeanette Brown lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Jeanette Brown - November 18, 2021 at 08:57 PM

EP

“ *With our deepest and heartfelt sympathy. Earnest and Nancy Pouncy*



Earnest and Nancy Pouncy - November 18, 2021 at 05:58 PM

LW

“ *I send my prayers and condolences. I remember Mrs Straham as my high principal. She was very kind, caring and just full of joy until we meet again.*



Latrecia Woodley - November 18, 2021 at 05:46 PM

TF

“ *The Ursery Family lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



The Ursery Family - November 18, 2021 at 04:18 PM

CM

“ *My condolences n prayers to the Straham family*



Charlotte mccooy - November 18, 2021 at 03:40 PM

BB

“ *BARBARA BRACEY lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



BARBARA BRACEY - November 18, 2021 at 02:58 PM

KM

“ *Kelvin M. Mackey lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Kelvin M. Mackey - November 18, 2021 at 02:50 PM

JF

“ *Thank you, Ms. Straham, for the wisdom and grace you imparted on so many of us. At various times throughout my life, during crucial moments of uncertainty when there was a decision to be made, I have heard your words speak to me, and so often, it was all that was needed to make the proper choice. You touched so many young lives and answered your true calling. May God bless you and your family.*

John Free - November 18, 2021 at 02:23 PM

LB

“ Lynn Barbee lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham



Lynn Barbee - November 18, 2021 at 02:16 PM

FM

“ Farrow R Malone lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham



Farrow R Malone - November 18, 2021 at 01:52 PM

MW

“ Melva Wheeler sent a virtual gift in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham



Melva Wheeler - November 18, 2021 at 01:20 PM

JH

“ Jimmie Howard sent a virtual gift in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham



Jimmie Howard - November 18, 2021 at 07:22 AM

JH

*St Andrew AME Church
3003 Bishop St. LR, Arkansas 72206 C/O Church Family's*

Jimmie Howard - November 19, 2021 at 06:15 AM

LG

“ *Linda Gulley lit a candle in memory of Mother
Bessie Helen Straham*



Linda Gulley - November 18, 2021 at 07:19 AM

AR

“ *Anita Riley lit a candle in memory of Mother
Bessie Helen Straham*



Anita Riley - November 18, 2021 at 03:37 AM

DB

“ *Ms Straham was the teacher that got through to me while in high school in the early 1970's at Flint Northern. I felt that through her expectations, she saw my potential and inspired me to work in a way I had not previously as a student. I am so fortunate to have experienced the nurturing and loving presence of Ms Straham and will never forget her. As a college professor well into my 4th decade of teaching, I remain grateful for the example set by Mother Straham.*


Dan Bowden - November 17, 2021 at 11:43 PM

SM

“ *What a wonderful women. She was a teacher at Northern and I learned so much from her. Go and take your rest. Shari Miller*

Shari Miller - November 17, 2021 at 11:30 PM

MB

“ *My condolences to the Straham family* ☐  ♀



Michele Brock - November 17, 2021 at 10:38 PM

PW

“ *Pamela Williams lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Pamela Williams - November 17, 2021 at 10:32 PM

CF

“ *Carlotta Ferguson lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Carlotta Ferguson - November 17, 2021 at 05:24 PM

MB

“ The late Bishop Marvin C. Pryor always said Mother Straham made him look good in the Educational Leadership Community. She would visit VBM Saginaw on many momentous occasions! Now they're worshipping around The Throne. A great example of a Loving, Classy, Educated. Humble Woman of God! So glad I had the opportunity to have met Mrs. Straham. Momma didn't play that!! 🙏
😭💔

Mozella E. Bogan - November 17, 2021 at 04:50 PM

MB

“ Mozella E. Bogan lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham



Mozella E. Bogan - November 17, 2021 at 04:44 PM

PF

“ Condolences to the family, thank You for the heart felt wisdom you shared so freely. Will Love you always !

Paul V. Jones and family - November 17, 2021 at 04:40 PM

J(

“ James & Sharon Owensby (Arizona) lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham



James & Sharon Owensby (Arizona) - November 17, 2021 at 03:56 PM

TA

“ Love & prayers..too the entire family of, Mother Straham❤️🙏🙏🙏



Teresa Anthony - November 17, 2021 at 03:09 PM

KT

“ Kevin Turner lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham



Kevin Turner - November 17, 2021 at 01:44 PM

VL

“ Vivian Lowe lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham



Vivian Lowe - November 17, 2021 at 01:39 PM

VW

“ Velma Williams sent a virtual gift in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham



Velma Williams - November 17, 2021 at 12:16 PM

JC

“ Mrs. Straham will be greatly missed. She was an icon and role model for me during my tenure as School Officer under her leadership at Northern High School. RIH Mrs. Straham. God Bless and Keep the Straham Family in Love and Peace! Minister J. Carrigan

Jowanne Carrigan - November 17, 2021 at 12:09 PM

LR

“ Linda Arnold Redick lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham



Linda Arnold Redick - November 17, 2021 at 11:30 AM

CH

“ Cynthia Higgins lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham



Cynthia Higgins - November 17, 2021 at 09:58 AM

RW

“ Rudy And Geneva Ward lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham



Rudy and Geneva Ward - November 17, 2021 at 09:24 AM

SA

“ Soror Melinda M. Anderson lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham



Soror Melinda M. Anderson - November 17, 2021 at 08:14 AM

MW

“ I remember as a child, Aunt Bessie & Uncle Clarence welcoming us into their home on Christmas and them always wearing matching outfits. A true women of grace and dignity and thank you for introducing me to black luxury. You will be truly missed. RIH always



Monica White - November 17, 2021 at 08:13 AM

MW

“ Maggie Williams lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham



Maggie Williams - November 17, 2021 at 08:00 AM

BK

“ Brenda Kimble lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham



Brenda Kimble - November 17, 2021 at 07:41 AM

CW

“ Craig Williams lit a candle in memory of
Mother Bessie Helen Straham



Craig Williams - November 17, 2021 at 06:30 AM

SE

“ Sandra Epps`` sent a virtual gift in memory of
Mother Bessie Helen Straham



Sandra Epps`` - November 17, 2021 at 05:09 AM

AM

“ Aletha Mincey lit a candle in memory of
Mother Bessie Helen Straham



Aletha Mincey - November 17, 2021 at 04:45 AM

WS

“ Condolences and prayers go out to and for the family! I am a member of Vernon Chapel Church and the Cook Women's Missionary Society there. However, I first met Bessie Helen Lambert my Sophomore yr. ('63-'64) in the girls' dorm at A.M.&N. College, Pine Bluff, AR. (UAPB). She was Asst. Counselor over the dorm. Later, she and Dr. Straham came to Flint and joined the same church!!! From the first 'til the last time I spoke with her on Oct. 18th, she stood-out in a positive way. She leaves a void in the lives of all who knew her, no doubt. "The Lord bless you and keep you...and give you peace." _Numbers 6:24-26 Willene Smith Sumpter & Family



Willene Sumpter - November 17, 2021 at 04:34 AM

VS

“ Valerie Soror lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham



Valerie Soror - November 17, 2021 at 02:34 AM

SM

“ My condolences & prayers to the family & friends of Mrs Bessie Straham. I remember her from classes at Flint Northern High School. Learned a lot from her & was an awesome mentor.



Sarnia McNeal - November 17, 2021 at 01:54 AM

MK

“Wow I was one of Dr. Strahan God sons when class of 90 had our 10 year class reunion i called her and asked would she do piece from staff and she agreed so Mr. Massey and I went there and wow she did a great job and at the end of it she quoted her saying. Thanks again for the love and care you will truly be missed

Min. Doremus M Kennedy - November 17, 2021 at 12:47 AM

LS

“Lewis E. Driskell, Sr. lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham



Lewis E. Driskell, Sr. - November 17, 2021 at 12:06 AM

DF

“Driskell & Searcy Family lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham



Driskell & Searcy Family - November 17, 2021 at 12:00 AM

LH

“Great educator and woman of God. Rest In Heaven.



Larry and Shirley Henderson - November 16, 2021 at 11:36 PM

MA

“ *MarshallGreen lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



MarshallGreen - November 16, 2021 at 11:32 PM

PC

“ *Praying for the family. Class of 71 student at Northern High School. She was a very sweet and lovely person. She will be missed.*

Pamela (Dilworth) Chambers - November 16, 2021 at 11:32 PM

YT

“ *Yvonne Tidwell sent a virtual gift in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Yvonne Tidwell - November 16, 2021 at 10:49 PM

JM

“ *Lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham.*



Joan McKinnie-Sanders - November 16, 2021 at 10:27 PM

CP

“ COREY PIERCE lit a candle in memory of
Mother Bessie Helen Straham



COREY PIERCE - November 16, 2021 at 09:50 PM

PB

“ Patricia Barker lit a candle in memory of
Mother Bessie Helen Straham



Patricia Barker - November 16, 2021 at 09:42 PM

LN

“ Lara Nkume lit a candle in memory of Mother
Bessie Helen Straham



lara Nkume - November 16, 2021 at 08:08 PM

VC

“ Vicki Carter lit a candle in memory of Mother
Bessie Helen Straham



Vicki Carter - November 16, 2021 at 07:17 PM

JH

“ *Jamero Hatter lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Jamero Hatter - November 16, 2021 at 07:14 PM

KS

“ *To my forever Sunday School Teacher at Vernon Chapel AME Church. I am so grateful I had the opportunity to call and chat with you recently. I learned so much from you at an early age as a teacher and then as a school leader. Thank God for your life and legacy. Rest well good and faithful soldier.*

Kevin Simpson - November 16, 2021 at 07:13 PM

CT

“ *Cleo Thompson sent a virtual gift in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Cleo Thompson - November 16, 2021 at 07:12 PM

TR

“ *Tujunana Reaves lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Tujunana Reaves - November 16, 2021 at 07:00 PM

RS

“ *Rosalind Smith sent a virtual gift in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Rosalind Smith - November 16, 2021 at 06:55 PM

RG

“ *Romona Greenlee lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Romona Greenlee - November 16, 2021 at 06:48 PM

TP

“ *Tanya L Pratt lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Tanya L Pratt - November 16, 2021 at 06:28 PM

RS

“ *Loretta and I wish you peace of the Lord to bring you comfort, courage as you face the days ahead, and loving memories to forever hold in your heart. Ralph and Loretta Smith*

Ralph Smith - November 16, 2021 at 04:47 PM

LH

“ *Very well respected, carrying and classy lady. She will be missed and anyone who entered Northern High School will never forgot the words she left with us everyday during the announcements. It definitely left and every lasting impact. Gone but never forgotten.* ”

Lena Hunter - November 16, 2021 at 03:53 PM



“ *Shelia McElwee lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham* ”



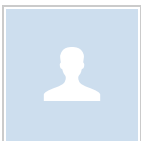
Shelia McElwee - November 16, 2021 at 01:48 PM

OB

“ *Otissteen Blair-brown lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham* ”



Otissteen Blair-brown - November 16, 2021 at 12:59 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Mother Bessie Helen Straham.* ”



November 16, 2021 at 12:54 PM

K9

“ To the Bessie Straham family you have my deepest condolences, I pray that God continues to comfort and keep you. Ms. Straham a woman of grace, poise, strength, and wisdom. Her smile was infectious. It was indeed a honor to receive the wisdom she imparted to us every Friday over the PA system at Flint Northern High School. THE WORDS: “It takes one second to get into trouble, but It could take your life or a life time to get out of it”. Those words have never left me and I am forever grateful.

Kesi C/O 90 - November 16, 2021 at 12:13 PM



“ Pandoretta Jackson sent a virtual gift in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham



Pandoretta Jackson - November 16, 2021 at 12:03 PM

VN

“ Veronica Nickens lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham



Veronica Nickens - November 16, 2021 at 11:48 AM

BT

“ *Betty Tipper lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Betty Tipper - November 16, 2021 at 11:43 AM

DS

“ *Deadrea Smith lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Deadrea Smith - November 16, 2021 at 10:38 AM

EW

“ *Elder Charles Woods lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Elder Charles Woods - November 16, 2021 at 09:36 AM

MT

“ *To the family of Bessie Straham, you are in my thoughts and prayers during this time of bereavement.*

May God continue to bless and keep you.

Marcia Teer



Marcia Teer - November 16, 2021 at 09:12 AM

VW

“ Valerie Williams lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham



Valerie Williams - November 16, 2021 at 08:51 AM

KR

“ This woman truly ...made a impact of my life...with her wise words...for her "Love for God". Rest In Heaven...Ma'am.. God Bless your Entire family. 🙏



Karen Russell-Woods - November 16, 2021 at 08:39 AM

E8

“ What a blessing it was to see a strong intelligent Woman of God walking them halls in the 80's at Flint Northern High School. I remember every Friday she would get on the PA and say " It takes only one second to get into trouble but it could take a year or a life time to get out of it " She planted that seed in our minds and after 33 years, I still repeat this saying. I had opportunity to share this with her two years ago. She just smiled.

Elwanda C/O 89 - November 16, 2021 at 08:38 AM

GR

God bless her soul and she was stern but yet a true soldier for the children.

Glynis Rice - November 16, 2021 at 11:53 AM



“ *Marvin Nunn lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Marvin Nunn - November 16, 2021 at 08:10 AM

DB

“ *Denise Bridges lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Denise Bridges - November 16, 2021 at 07:30 AM

FN

“ *In the words of Mrs. Straham, it only takes 1 second to get into trouble, but it could take your life, or a life time to get out of it. With that we will conclude our announcements for today. (Love, Flint Northern) class of 89'*

Flint Northern - November 16, 2021 at 06:07 AM

JD

“ *Jean Durrett lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Jean Durrett - November 16, 2021 at 01:06 AM

EC

“ *Earl And Diane Crowder lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Earl and Diane Crowder - November 16, 2021 at 12:58 AM

C(

“ *Charlene Causey (Williams) sent a virtual gift in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Charlene Causey (Williams) - November 15, 2021 at 10:39 PM

AM

“ *Soror Bessie Stram will truly be missed by her family and this community. Soror Straham I will truly wear your brown hat with honor. You will be missed. Peace!!!!*

Ann Metcalfe - November 15, 2021 at 10:21 PM

LD

“ *La Jean Duncan, lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



La Jean Duncan, - November 15, 2021 at 10:18 PM

JG

“ You saw the good in everyone and continued to spread kindness to those who may not always deserved it. Such a phenomenal woman!

Jada Gallery - November 15, 2021 at 09:32 PM

TJ

“ Tanya Jefferson sent a virtual gift in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham



Tanya Jefferson - November 15, 2021 at 09:14 PM

HC

“ Helen Coote lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham



Helen Coote - November 15, 2021 at 09:02 PM

EJ

“ With that cheery smile and a waive of a hand, you step into a brand new land. I know you're not gone, you're just away, waiting to hear the trumpet sound on that great getting up day. Thank you for all your direction and guidance down through the years. You will be truly missed.

Elder Anna Johnson

Elder Anna Johnson - November 15, 2021 at 08:52 PM

AD

“ *My sincerest thoughts and condolences are with the entire family during their time of bereavement! Not only was she an educator but a lover of people and served her family, church and community with honor and dignity! Rest Well, Servant!*

AC Dumas - November 15, 2021 at 08:51 PM

SB

“ *We, the Class of 1982 Flint Northern Vikings send our condolences to the Straham Family recognizing a great worrier for all educators. God has chosen a great vessel and pick a rose for his garden. Mrs. Straham made sure all students achieved academically and always wanted students to be ladies and gentlemen. Surely, will be missed. We appreciate the great educator you have always been to us all, for whichever school of which you made your presence known with you wisdom, knowledge and for sure her style and dressing. We will miss you!*

Sonia Breed - November 15, 2021 at 08:47 PM

RG

“ *Mrs. Straham you were the epitome of grace. You will be missed.*



Rachelle Moffett Green - November 15, 2021 at 08:45 PM

RC

“ *Rahsheem J Covington lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Rahsheem J Covington - November 15, 2021 at 07:28 PM

MT

“ *Mitchell & Ella Teamer lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Mitchell & Ella Teamer - November 15, 2021 at 07:24 PM

DP

“ *Dewayne Payton lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Dewayne Payton - November 15, 2021 at 07:16 PM

GG

“ To the Family of Bessie Straham,

Bessie was my spiritual and professional role model. Always a beacon of hope and inspiration for the students, teachers, colleagues and families of the Flint Community Schools, especially Flint Northwestern High School.

I will miss her words of wisdom, smile and encouragement.

Prayers Forever and Always,

Dr. Gail Ganakas



Gail Ganakas - November 15, 2021 at 07:08 PM

SP

“ Sandra Payne sent a virtual gift in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham



Sandra Payne - November 15, 2021 at 06:07 PM

JM

“ James Montgomery sent a virtual gift in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham



James Montgomery - November 15, 2021 at 05:58 PM

TS

“ *Trina Stewart lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Trina Stewart - November 15, 2021 at 05:13 PM



“ *Sonya Ivory lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Sonya Ivory - November 15, 2021 at 04:53 PM

WB

“ *I have always been in awe of Mrs. Straham. She was a trailblazer in our district, becoming the first female African-American principal at a secondary school (Northwestern). When I was working on my MA degree, I had to interview two women I admired for one of my classes. One had to be from the business sector and the other, an educator. It took me a few moments to figure out who I wanted to interview on the business end. However, I knew immediately who I wanted to interview in the field of education. Mrs. Straham was my first and only choice! Rest in Power Soror Straham, your compassion, wisdom, and love for others will be missed.*

Wanda J. Bady - November 15, 2021 at 03:58 PM

SL

“ Sheri Logan lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham



Sheri Logan - November 15, 2021 at 03:16 PM

LS

“ Condolences to the family. Mrs. Straham was my mentor for years and the best prayer partner ever. Praying for your strength at this time and always.

Lougirtha Houston Savage - November 15, 2021 at 02:51 PM

SL

“ Shawnta Lilly lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham



Shawnta Lilly - November 15, 2021 at 01:21 PM

PA

“ In memory of a beautiful woman of God, teacher, mentor, scholar and friend to so many. Rest in peace Mrs Straham. May our Lord comfort the family at this time.



PA - November 15, 2021 at 12:50 PM

C(

“ My condolences and prayers to her family. She was indeed a great leader whom left much wisdom with those she interacted and taught throughout the years. May God give you all strength during this time of transition. She has finished her course, fought the good fight ,and finished the race that she ran well.

Charlene Causey (Williams) - November 15, 2021 at 12:29 PM

GJ

“ 1 file added to the album Bessie Straham



Gaynell Jamison - November 15, 2021 at 12:24 PM

EB

“ Eddie & Linda Booth lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham



Eddie & Linda Booth - November 15, 2021 at 12:12 PM

CS

Hello Mrs. Booth, You reminded me so much of my Aunt when I first met you while working for the district. Excellence and dignity!

Cynthia Straham - November 22, 2021 at 09:18 AM

GJ

“ A link in our Family Chain has been broken and our hearts are heavy. Our Lambert Family Matriach has gained her wings....Bessie Helen Lambert Straham. Thank you for all the memories that you created for us. We always had the best of times with our Aunt Bessie. She taught us all life lessons to live by. Aunt Bessie loved all of her nieces and nephews from the youngest to the oldest. She was one Classy Lady and she made a profound impact on our family. She loved God and she loved her family.



We are heartbroken and displaced because you are no longer here so that we can touch you, hug you, hear your voice on the phone and sing and laugh and talk with you. But we know that to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord.

We will forever remember you and cherish the memories that you created for each of us. We always knew that we were going to have a good time when we met in Flint for the Lambert Family Gatherings that you and Uncle Clarence hosted. Every detail was planned from the babies to the adults.

We know that you are resting in the arms of Jesus. You lived a beautiful life and carried your lot well. You made an impact on a lot of people, definitely a trailblazer for your family, your church family, your soriety and the field of education and many others.

We love you Aunt Bessie. Rest Well.

Tears of Sadness and Joy,

Your Niece,

Gaynell Jamison

Gaynell Jamison - November 15, 2021 at 10:44 AM

TG

“ *Tresia Givens lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



Tresia Givens - November 15, 2021 at 10:41 AM

LC

“ 🙏🙏🙏 *Lord we ask for healing, comfort & peace for the family of Soror Bessie Straham. You are a God the heals and mends a broken heart especially in times like these. Earth has not sorrow that heaven cannot heal. Rest In Heaven Soror Straham . May the Angels in Heaven surround you with a song that's sung in heaven all night and day “ Holy, Holy Lord God Almighty. ❤️❤️❤️*



Loria Corder - November 15, 2021 at 10:40 AM

TJ

“ *The Jamisons lit a candle in memory of Mother Bessie Helen Straham*



The Jamisons - November 15, 2021 at 10:23 AM