



Mrs. Claudia Louise Tarver

April 9, 1922 - August 11, 2014

TARVER, Mrs. Claudia Louise - age 92, passed away Monday, August 11, 2014 at her residence. Family hour 10 a.m. Monday, August 18, 2014 at Quinn Chapel A.M.E. Church, 2101 Lippincott Blvd. with funeral service commencing at 11 a.m. Interment River Rest Cemetery, G-4413 Flushing Rd. Friends and pallbearers will assemble at the church 10 a.m. Monday. Mrs. Tarver may be viewed during the family hour only.

Claudia Louise Tarver was born on April 9, 1922 to William W. and Elizabeth B. Hayden in Flint, MI. She was the third of four children and was their younger daughter. Her brothers and sister were William II, Emerald, and Mary.

Claudia attended the Flint Public Schools before her family moved to Camilla, GA, where she graduated from Rockdale High School. After graduation, she worked at Rosenberg's Department store in Albany, GA. There she was, as she put it, a jack-of-all-trades and excelled in gift-wrapping.

Claudia enrolled at Georgia State College in Savannah, wanting to become a teacher but was forced to drop out due to financial hardships. Sometime after returning to Albany, she was introduced to Fred D. Tarver by her brother-in-law. Eventually, they were married on December 24, 1941. As he was being drafted into the U.S. Army, she enrolled in the Grady Memorial Hospital School of Nursing in Atlanta. After graduation and following World War II, they

returned to Albany, where she began working as an RN at Phoebe Putney Hospital.

Claudia applied and was welcomed to Hurley Hospital in 1951, soon after she, her husband and 2 children moved to Flint. She was the second registered nurse of her ethnicity at Hurley. She continued with night classes in nursing administration at a local college, was promoted several times and eventually earned a nursing administration position at Hurley. Although she was the first of her race to do so, she was more focused on being an effective and caring leader. She was always proud to be a nurse and proud to be associated with Hurley.

Many years later, she transferred into public health nursing within the city system and then the Genesee County Health Department. After retiring from the health department, Claudia continued working part-time for General Motors, then Mott Community College for several years, until her 75th birthday.

Claudia and her husband raised 3 children; Bernice, Fred Jr. and David, who were educated in the Flint Public Schools and then were sent to college. Each was encouraged to follow a career. Bernice followed her mother in the nursing profession.

Widowed at a young age, Claudia bought tools and equipment to mow grass, plow snow and plant flowers. Her landscaping and vegetable garden was the neighborhood's envy. She also polished her own car and did her own interior decorating.

Claudia enjoyed going to plays, concerts, and movies. She also loved to shop and had extra closet space added to her home, for her extensive and stylish wardrobe.

Claudia traveled extensively, both abroad and within the United States; from Mackinac Island to the Caribbean and Great Britain to Japan. Her favorite was Jamaica. She also looked forward to visiting friends and family in other states. She enjoyed trying new restaurants and always asked about the “fresh fish.”

Claudia was an active and faithful member of Quinn Chapel A.M.E. Church since she was a child and served with several organizations. These included the Nurses Guild, Lucretia Artis Club, Turner Missionary Society, Mayme E. Mitcham Scholarship Committee, the Greeters and the Bereavement Support Group.

Claudia’s favorite colors were blue and purple. She enjoyed music by many artists; however, her all-time favorite song was “Red Roses for a Blue Lady.”

Claudia loved to cook and share with family and friends. Many enjoyed her delicious salmon croquettes, fried chicken, cornbread dressing, chicken potpie, fried apple and peach pies, zucchini muffins and banana nut bread. Her apple pie and rich chocolate bourbon pie were favorites and there was an irresistible pecan-date cheesecake.

She always thought about others and enjoyed giving them gifts and cards, especially for birthdays, anniversaries and Christmas. She was known as “Mabes” by her children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and many others.

Claudia leaves to cherish sweet memories: sons, Fred Jr. (Pat) and David (Kishna); son-in-law, Evans Davis; Seven grandchildren, Karen (Bobby) Burton, Tracey (Fred) Roach, Norman (Latundra) Davis, Fred III, Stacy, Aaron and Nadiyah Tarver. She also leaves three great-grandchildren, Kariah, Malachi and Jaia Davis.

In addition to her Quinn Chapel AME Church family, she leaves many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends, including “adopted” daughter, Johnnie Welch.

The family gratefully acknowledges all caregivers that have helped her over the past few years and the staff of Great Lakes Caring, who were there in her final days.

Her husband, daughter, parents, sister and brothers predeceased her.

Cemetery Details

River Rest Cemetery

G-4413 Flushing Rd.
Flint, MI 48504

Previous Events

Family hour

AUG 18. 10:00 AM (ET)

Quinn Chapel AME Church
2101 Lippincott Blvd.
Flint, MI 48503

Service

AUG 18. 11:00 AM (ET)

Quinn Chapel AME Church
2101 Lippincott Blvd.
Flint, MI 48503

Tribute Wall



“ *Mrs. Claudia Louise Tarver*

October 09, 2023 at 07:02 AM



“ *Linda Chilton lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Claudia Louise Tarver*



Linda Chilton - August 19, 2014 at 01:59 PM



“ *Paula Truss lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Claudia Louise Tarver*



Paula Truss - August 18, 2014 at 05:06 PM



“ *Mrs. Tarver was my supervisor at Hurley in the early 1960,s. As a young nurse , supervisors tended to intimidate me, but not Mrs. Tarver. She showed respect towards me- didn't even scold me when she caught me with my head down on my desk one night. I had wanted to be an RN since the age of 10. Mrs. Tarver made me proud of the profession I chose. Sincerely, Sharon Olinger, retired RN.*

Sharon Olinger - August 17, 2014 at 02:00 PM

LC

“ Fred, I was touched by the article about your mother. Although I did not know her, she sounded like a wonderful person and true nursing leader! I know she raised a kind, helpful son, no better legacy than that.

My condolences to you and your family. Lorraine Clemens

Lorraine Clemens - August 17, 2014 at 10:34 AM

WB

“ Wanda J. Bady lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Claudia Louise Tarver



Wanda J. Bady - August 17, 2014 at 10:33 AM

WB

I only had the pleasure of meeting Mrs. Tarver once, but I knew instantly I was in the company of greatness. My thoughts and prayers go out to the family and friends of this pioneering woman.

Wanda J. Bady - August 17, 2014 at 10:36 AM

MB

“ So sorry to hear the loss of your mother Fred. May God keep the comfort of your family at this time.

Margina and Charlie Bowen

Margina Bowen - August 16, 2014 at 12:28 AM

TQ

“ With Deepest Sympathy to the family of Sis Claudia Louise Tarver. At times like these...it is only God who can speak the words that calm the sea, still the winds, and ease the pain. So lean on Him and you will never walk alone.

The Turner Missionary Society of Quinn - August 15, 2014 at 06:59 PM

LS

“ May God keep & comfort your family such as times like this. She will be greatly missed.



LaOnda Sanders - August 15, 2014 at 02:51 PM

DR

“ Praying for you and Fred at this time . May God provide you with the strength you both need. Praying for your needs. God bless.
Darlene Rogers



Darlene Rogers - August 15, 2014 at 01:00 PM

KJ

“ In loving memory of Mrs. Tarver she will be sorely missed by all who knew her.

Krishna L. Jackson - August 15, 2014 at 10:04 AM

BB

“ *Bernadell Barnett lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Claudia Louise Tarver*



Bernadell Barnett - August 14, 2014 at 11:28 PM

AM

“ *To the Tarver family we were sorry to hear of the passing of your mom, Fred and Pat look to the hills for which comes your help all of your help comes from the Lord .*

Warren & Annette Marks

Annette Marks - August 14, 2014 at 08:06 PM

JR

“ *Joe Robinson purchased the Sweet Tenderness for the family of Mrs. Claudia Louise Tarver.*



Joe Robinson - August 14, 2014 at 07:36 PM

JM

“ *To The Family of Mrs. Claudia Louise Tarver
Thinking of you during this time, and praying you'll find comfort
knowing that the one you love is home now, free... At peace in the
presence of God.*

Jerry and Rosalee Minor - August 14, 2014 at 06:57 PM

WP

“ *Dear Tarver Family,
My condolences to you during this great loss. Mrs. Tarver was a beautiful woman. She and my Dad shared a garden for many years, what an awesome neighbor. As the years went by and I would return home to visit my parents, I would see Mrs. Tarver at Meijer. She always had pleasant words and encouragement to give. She will be remembered.*

Wildeane Payne - August 14, 2014 at 06:55 PM

KD

“ *I remember mrs. Tarver preparing lunch and sometimes dinner for David, and I happen to be there. She would always invite me to have lunch with David. Mrs Tarver was a very Gracious and giving person. Throughout the past 5 to 10 years I would often think of her.*

My deepest sympathy to the Tarver family, she will be missed!

Kirk Davis and family

Kirk Davis - August 14, 2014 at 02:46 PM

KD

“ *Kirk Davis lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Claudia Louise Tarver*



Kirk Davis - August 14, 2014 at 02:34 PM

JA

“ *Javonka lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Claudia Louise Tarver*



Javonka - August 14, 2014 at 08:33 AM

SD

“ *Sorry to hear of Mrs. Tarver's passing my heart goes out to the family. She will be missed. She sure could make some good chicken salad. Thinking of you Karen and the family .*

Shaun Dulaney-Davis - August 13, 2014 at 07:03 PM

CH

“ *Calvin And Pamela Hightower lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Claudia Louise Tarver*



Calvin and Pamela Hightower - August 13, 2014 at 06:42 PM

CH

Our condolences to the entire Tarver Family. Praying that God will comfort you during this most difficult time.

Calvin and Pamela Hightower - August 13, 2014 at 06:42 PM

BK

“ *Brenda Wesley Kimble lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Claudia Louise Tarver*



Brenda Wesley Kimble - August 13, 2014 at 02:38 PM