

A SERVICE OF
CELEBRATION AND THANKSGIVING

for the life of

DR. ZELMA TURNER HOWARD

August 2, 1919 - January 10, 2011



CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER EPISCOPAL CHURCH

632 W. O'Hea St.

Greenville, MS

Reverend Elizabeth Foose



**In Memory of a Faithful Member,
a Loving Wife,
a Devoted Mother,
and a Special Aunt**

Dr. Zelma Howard

A Celebration of the Homecoming of Dr. Zelma Turner Howard

Four things that one must learn to do
If one would keep her record true
To think without confusion clearly
To love her fellowman sincerely
To act from honest motives purely
To trust in God and heaven securely

-adapted from Henry Van Dyke

During her lifetime Zelma accomplished Van Dyke's four requirements. She was the second daughter and the third child born to Walter Lee and Inez Cobb Turner in Indianola, Mississippi. She began her public education in Indianola, receiving the B.A. degree from Tougaloo College, M.A. degree in English from Atlanta University and a doctorate in English from the University of Northern Colorado, Greeley, Colorado. Her broad teaching experiences range from being a second grade teacher to being a high school English teacher to being a college English teacher in South Carolina and Mississippi. She served as a teacher and as head of the department of English at Voorhees College in Denmark, South Carolina. The majority of her teaching career, which spanned forty-one years, was spent in dedicated service to Mississippi Valley State University and the MVSU English Department where she served as a professor and as head of the department for eleven years. Dr. Howard's scholarly publications include one book, *The Rhetoric of Eudora Welty's Short Stories*. Because of her loyalty, her commitment to excellence and her scholarship, the Department of English and Foreign Languages proudly names its ongoing lecture series in her honor.

Zelma was a devoted wife and mother having been married to the late Dr. C.W. Howard, Jr. in 1949 and their being the parents of one son, Sidney Tyrone. As a member of her community she was well-loved and highly respected as a charitable, generous, benevolent neighbor and friend. As a member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, she served well in a variety of capacities. She is a former member of MAE, Pi Lambda Honors Society and Kappa Delta Pi Honor Society.

She joined the AME Church at the age of 12. She later joined the Episcopal Church of Denmark, South Carolina, she joined the Church of the Redeemer, Greenville in 1955 under the pastorage of the late Father S. W. Foster. She served faithfully, performing all duties assigned to her and assisting in all activities. She served a term as secretary of the Mission Committee. She was elected as a delegate to the 156th Annual Council of the Diocese of Mississippi and often attended numerous council meetings. For a time she served as Lesson Reader. She served faithfully until her husband's illness prevented their church attendance.

She leaves to cherish her memory a son, Sidney T. Howard (Susan) of Troy, Michigan; two grandsons, Maceo Perkins (Laquinda) of Arlington, Texas and Niles Howard of Chicago, Illinois; one granddaughter, Sarah Howard of Romulus, Michigan; many nieces and nephews including Joyce Cayce of Greenville, Mississippi, Jean Harden of Denver, Colorado, Sandra Thompson of Birmingham, AL, Dr. D.E. Magee (Gwendolyn) of Jackson, Mississippi and Micheal Matherson (Kathi) of Aurora, Colorado; many grandnieces and nephews, including Kamili Hemphill (Richelieu) of New Orleans, Louisiana and Dr. Aliya Magee of Lafayette, Indiana; two sisters-in-law, Ersa Matherson of Denver, Colorado and Margaret Goins of Birmingham, Alabama; three caregivers, Dorothy Jordan, Mary Katherine Jackson and Betty Smith; neighbors in College Heights, Itta Bena, students of MVSU and numerous friends.

“CROSSING THE BAR”

For tho' from out the bourne of time and place
The flood may bear me far,
I hope to see my Pilot face to face
When I have crossed the bar

-Alfred Lord Tennyson



The Family will receive friends immediately following the Internment in the Fellowship Hall at:

Church of the Redeemer Episcopal Church

ORDER OF SERVICE

Processional Hymn	Blessed Assurance LEVAS 184
Liturgy of the World - Old Testament Lamentations 3:22-26, 31-33 23rd Psalm	James Hayes
Epistle - New Testament 1st Corinthians 15:20-26, 35-38, 42-44, 53-58	Ms. Barbara Young
Gospel Hymn	How Great Thou Art LEVAS 60
Holy Gospel	Reverend Elizabeth Foose
Homily	Reverend Elizabeth Foose
Apostle's Creed 496	Congregation
Prayer of the People 497	Mr. Charles Strange
Aknowledgements	Collegues, Community, Church and Family
Hymn	Great is thy Faithfulness LEVAS 189
Commendation 499	Reverend Elizabeth Foose
Recessional Hymn	When We All Get to Heaven LEVAS 20



Internment

Delta Memorial Gardens

Directed by: Century Funeral Home of Greenwood, Mississippi

THE HOWARD FAMILY



The Happy Couple



Cubie, Sidney, Zelma

ZELMA AT WORK AND PLAY



The Fabulous Zetas



Young Professor



Book Signing



Christmas Celebration at Mississippi Vocational College (1965)

SIDNEY HOWARD'S FAMILY



Sarah, Susan, Sidney and Niles



Maceo and Laquinda

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Community celebrates its products of unity, love, and support by utilizing the family paradigm. We know family as those bound by common blood. However, larger and longer standing is the unit formed of a common resolve.

The support of all of you attending this celebration of the great life of a humble lady is appreciated by the family here. That is all of you who are here.

PALLBEARERS

Niles Howard
Maceo Perkins
Dr. Robert Young
Phield Parish
Douglas Lyles

HONORARY PALLBEARERS

Men of Redeemer
Men of College Heights

In lieu of flowers, the family of Dr. Zelma Howard would appreciate a donation made to the:

Episcopal Church Women
PO Box 494
Greenville, MS 38702

You can download a PDF version of this program at www.sidsez.com