



Mrs. Bernice Cordelia Mann

January 30, 1939 - September 27, 2020

On January 30, 1939, Custer and Gertrude Willis received the blessing of their 6th child, Bernice Cordelia Willis in Louisa, VA. At a young age she was baptized and attended Bethel Baptist Church. She was a very active and inquisitive child.

Bernice attended A. G. Richardson HS where she was a popular student who excelled in academics and played on the Girls' Basketball team. Upon graduation around 1957, she moved to Alexandria, VA and stayed with her sisters where she met James Mann Jr., who was living next door.

On May 24th, 1958, in a beautiful ceremony, they became husband and wife. This union lasted her lifetime and produced 4 children- Stephanie Cloud (née Mann), Dwayne Mann, Tony Mann, and August Mann. She also raised two grandchildren Tiffany Willis and Dirrell Smith.

After moving to Alexandria, Bernice made her church home at Alfred Street Baptist Church. She joined when Reverend Peterson, who had preached at Louisa Baptist Church, was pastor. Bernice was active in the church, attending weekly services and becoming an usher. As she got older, she was active with the Seniors Ministry, enjoying their Wednesday luncheons and traveling in various outings and trips.

In September 1974, she became a school bus driver for the Alexandria City Public School system. Bernice drove the school bus for over 30 years and retired in December 2005. Not being satisfied to sit at home, she returned and drove part-time for another 5 years.

All these events do not truly capture the spirit of Bernice Mann. She had a no-nonsense approach to life. She had the ability to sum up her thoughts in one sentence and missed nothing. This no-nonsense was tempered by a sharp wit and a memorable sense of humor. If you were in her presence you were guaranteed a smile. Her heart was big, and her spirit was generous. She loved to travel, especially to West Virginia.

Bernice Mann departed this life for the next on September 27, 2020. Bernice made a lot of friends through church, work, her children and just living life itself. She will be missed by many.

Bernice Mann is survived by her husband, James Mann, Jr.; four children who are named above; two sisters- Virginia Bentley and Clara Carr; 9 grandchildren-Tiffany, Marquette, Marquis, Teresina, Marlon, Dirrell, Breoni, Kirstie, and April; 20 great grandchildren who affectionately called her GG; and number of nieces, nephews and extended family and friends.

She is preceded in death by her parents Custer and Gertrude Willis, and r siblings; Custer Willis, Jr., Bettie Graham (née Willis), Florene Brown (née Willis), Lorene Prince (née Willis), and Bruce Willis.

Previous Events

Live Broadcast link from Alfred Street Baptist Church :
<https://youtu.be/ZLymoCjT7-o>

OCT **9**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Alfred Street Baptist Church
301 S. Alfred Street
Alexandria, VA 20607

Interment

OCT **9**.

Private VA

Private Family Service

OCT **9** (ET)

Alfred Street Baptist Church
301 S. Alfred Street
Alexandria, VA 20607

Tribute Wall

DB

“ *She had the most beautiful smile always. She is with his now she is 🙏 now she got her wings we will surely miss you Mrs Mann*

Devone Bolds - October 09, 2020 at 11:50 AM

GW

“ *Gloria Winn lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Bernice Cordelia Mann*



gloria winn - October 09, 2020 at 10:34 AM

SW

“ *My deepest condolences to the Mann family. Cherish the precious memories to heal the broken heart. ❤️🙏*

Sheavon Williams

Sheavon Williams - October 09, 2020 at 10:05 AM

DJ

“ *My Condolences to the Family, so sorry for your Loss, She were a Beautiful QUEEN, RIP🙏*

Denise Jackson - October 09, 2020 at 07:01 AM

MB

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you and Your family. Mrs. Bernice you will be missed fly high❤️❤️❤️*

Michelle Bannister - October 08, 2020 at 09:22 PM

JB

Sending Thoughts, Prayers, Deepest Condolences to the Entire Mann Family, Ms. Bernice was a beautiful spirit that will be greatly missed, may you S.I.H.P. 🙏🙏🙏

Joyce Blaine - October 08, 2020 at 11:27 PM



“ *My sincere condolence to The Mann family . Mrs. Bernice rest in heavenly peace..*

Dwaine Terrell - October 08, 2020 at 09:06 PM

VC

“ *Valerie Delores Carter sent a virtual gift in memory of Mrs. Bernice Cordelia Mann*



valerie Delores carter - October 08, 2020 at 06:57 PM

BB

Mrs Bernice you will forever be in my heart and I will miss you beautiful
❤️❤️❤️ *RIP*

Bridgette Brown - October 09, 2020 at 05:24 AM

TG

“ *My deepest condolences and prayers to you and your family during your time of need.*

Tiffany Gibson - October 08, 2020 at 05:38 PM

HR

“ *My condolences to the Mann Family, Rest in Heavenly Peace Mrs. Mann.*

Harold Robinson - October 08, 2020 at 01:12 PM

SF

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family.

Shawn, Jazz & Family - October 08, 2020 at 04:50 PM

RC

My condolences to the Mann Family, Rest in Heavenly Peace Mrs. Bernice. Robbin Collins & Family

Robbin Collins - October 08, 2020 at 10:13 PM

CR

“ *Cousins Louise, Joyce & Romaine purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mrs. Bernice Cordelia Mann.*



Cousins Louise, Joyce & Romaine - October 08, 2020 at 12:47 PM

GH

“ *From the family of the late Howard and Alice Willis, we are sending our deepest condolences to your family at this time and asking God to provide comfort as well. I will truly miss my Words partner. May God bless and keep you and the family.*

Gwendolyn Willis Harrison - October 08, 2020 at 12:15 PM

LH

*God bless family
Praying that happy memories of Bernice will comfort you in days to come
Lillian Harris*

Lillian Harris - October 09, 2020 at 07:32 PM

DQ

Sincere Condolences to the Mann Family, from the Entire Quander Family! Rest in Heavenly Peace Ms. Bernice!! ♡

Diann Quander-Walton - October 22, 2020 at 12:53 AM