



## Mrs. Catherine Rachel Lee Drakeford

August 24, 1934 - March 18, 2020

Catherine Rachel Lee Bradley Drakeford was born August 24, 1934 to the late Richard and Anna Bradley in Gladys, VA where she was raised, attended Campbell County High Schools and played a mean game of basketball. She accepted Christ at an early age and joined Hills Creek Baptist Church where she was a faithful member. She moved to Alexandria, VA and joined Beulah Baptist Church and continued to serve the Lord in many capacities such as Chairman of the Administrative Committee, The Sower Newsletter, The Constitution and Bylaws Committee, The Ever Ready Sick Club, The Pastors Aid Club, The Willing Workers Club, The Friendly Gospel Chorus, The Prayer Partner Group, Second Female on the Board of Trustees, Financial Secretary for 45 years, Church Council and Minister of Missions. She worked faithfully in her church and community until her health began to fail, even then she still served from her bedside.

She was the matriarch of the family. She was a giver to her family, friends and strangers. Not only did she give Love, she gave advice and wisdom directly from the Bible. She didn't waiver, she gave it to you straight.

She was employed in the Alexandria City Public School System for over 40 years as a Kindergarten Teacher and later as Adult Education Teacher. She has a Computer Learning Center named in her honor.

God called our Beloved to eternal rest on March 18, 2020 at her residence. She met and married Thomas H. Drakeford in 1960 who preceded her in

death. She leaves to cherish one daughter, Rhonda Lea Bradley, one Grandson, Baraco C. Cloud (Fatima), one Great Grandson, Bryson A. Cloud; 3 Sisters; Inez E. Bradley-Johnson, Anna M. Younger and Martha Fisher, all of Alexandria, VA., a honorary sister, Ann Thomas (6) Godchildren; Douglas Todd Paige, Layton R. Fisher, Earl Deontae Fisher, April Bradley-Jackson, Aaron Diggs, Clayton Smith and Constance Carr. A host of nieces, nephews and cousins. Special friends Leatha Jones and Bessie Fitzgerald. Two special daughters that she raised from little girls, Janice Porter and Toya Shambry.

# Cemetery Details

**Arlington National Cemetery**

Arlington, VA

# Tribute Wall



“ A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Mrs. Catherine Rachel Lee Drakeford.



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July 15, 2020 at 04:15 PM



“ To the family and friends of Mrs. Drakeford, I extend my condolences to you all at this difficult time. She was one of the sweetest ladies in the world and I'm grateful God shared her with me. Mrs. Mary Parkinson also sends her love and condolences to you all. ❤️🙏🌹

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**Marsha Cecil** - April 06, 2020 at 06:07 PM



“ *Losing someone you love is one of the hardest things about life. You no longer get to see their face, hear their voice, or cherish your time with them. I'm glad I have, memories to look back on, that last conversation and photographs. I'm going to miss our special moments, Sunday talks and just being around you. Whenever I had an important decision to make, I knew I could talk it over with you and things would be alright.*



*Aunt Rachel was one of the most influential people in my life since the passing of my mother. She would hold your hand and be your friend, life advisor and at the same time had no problem with setting you on the right path. I'm at peace knowing you will always be walking beside me, unseen, unheard but always near. My Aunt Rachel was a gift that cannot be measured except by the heart. Thank you for being a special Aunt to Jamal and me.*

*Rhonda,*

*No one can replace a mom, but God can comfort a grieving heart. He knows what you need during this time much better than anyone else. I am standing by your side in my prayers every night. Aunt Rachel touched so many people's lives, and I know they are all enriched by it. May our Lord bless and comfort you and Baraco during this time.*

*Love*

*Wanda and Jamal*

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**Wanda Berry** - March 29, 2020 at 04:12 PM

MN

“ *Condolences and Prayers to Rhonda and family during this time of bereavement. Ms Ms Catherine (Ma) was a beautiful/ God fearing person and very much loved. She will be greatly missed.*

*The Norwood Family*

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**Martha Norwood** - March 29, 2020 at 02:42 PM

AN

“ *Andrea lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Catherine Rachel Lee Drakeford*



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**andrea** - March 28, 2020 at 11:42 PM

WG

“ *To the Family: My deepest and heartfelt condolences for your loss. To Rachel: My life-long friend. I will always remember you for your quiet, strong, and loving personality. Rest in Peace my friend.*

*Winnie*

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**Winifred grimes** - March 26, 2020 at 10:27 PM