

## Prayer from Krisha

Heavenly Father, I come to you with a heavy heart, seeking Your comfort and peace as I mourn the passing of my beloved grandmother. I thank you for the gift of her life and for the love and wisdom she shared with me. Lord, I am reminded of Your promise in Psalm 34:18, which says, "The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit." I pray that You draw near to me during this time of grief. Wrap Your loving arms around me and help me to feel Your presence amidst my sorrow. As I remember the memories we shared, may I find solace in the joyous moments and the love that will always remain in the heart. I ask for strength to carry on and grace to navigate this profound loss. Help me to honor her memory in the way I live my life. Thank You, Lord, for the hope we have in You and the promise of eternal life. I find comfort in knowing that she is resting in Your embrace. May I keep her spirit alive by sharing the love and kindness she showed to others.

In Jesus' name, I pray. Amen.

## PALLBEARERS

Charles Peppers III - Adarryl Sheppard, Jr. - Kevin Sheppard  
Jason Sheppard - Harry Sheppard, Jr. - Michael Edwards  
James Austin, Jr. - Charles Jackson

## HONORARY PALLBEARERS

Adarryl Sheppard, Sr. - Tae'Jyon Austin - Bralyn Sheppard  
Kevontae Sheppard - Charles Peppers IV - Chance Flood

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Family of Hazel M. Sheppard wishes to acknowledge with deep appreciation the many expressions of love, kindness, and support shown to us during this hour of bereavement. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your support and comfort.

It is immensely appreciated!

# IN CELEBRATION OF THE HOMEGOING OF



# HAZEL M. SHEPPARD

SUNRISE                      SUNSET  
JANUARY 26, 1931      FEBRUARY 12, 2026

THURSDAY- MARCH 19, 2026

VISITATION: 10:00 AM  
SERVICE: 11:00 AM

TRINITY BAPTIST CHURCH  
461 ST CLAIR AVENUE  
COLUMBUS, OH 43203



**MARLAN GARY**  
**FUNERAL HOME**

1 FUNERAL HOME | 5 LOCATIONS

### MINISTRY OF COMFORT ENTRUSTED TO:

**NORTH CHAPEL**  
2500 CLEVELAND AVE.,  
COLUMBUS, OH 43211  
614-267-8310

**EAST CHAPEL**  
5456 LIVINGSTON AVE.,  
COLUMBUS, OH 43232  
614-604-8774

**MANSFIELD CHAPEL**  
753 MCPHERSON ST.,  
MANSFIELD, OH 44903  
419-524-6999

**SPRINGFIELD CHAPEL**  
823 SOUTH YELLOW SPRINGS ST.,  
SPRINGFIELD, OHIO 45506  
937-325-1447

**CINCINNATI CHAPEL**  
647 FOREST AVE,  
CINCINNATI OH 45229  
513-221-4812

WWW.THECHAPELOFPEACE.COM

# OBITUARY

*Death is a glorious event to one who is going home to be with the Lord.  
Being a woman of God points the way we must go.*

Hazel Marie Sheppard passed at home in the early morning of February 12, 2026. She is now sleeping in the hands of the Lord.

Born in Rutland, Ohio, Hazel moved to Columbus as a young woman. A former student of Franklin University, she began a distinguishing career with the Federal Government (DCSC). There she later retired following a 25-year career. As a faithful member of Maynard Avenue Baptist Church for many years, Hazel served as a choir member and a member of the deaconess board.

A devoted mother, grandmother, and matriarch to two more generations beyond; her heart was always on the road. Her most memorable trips took her to the Grand Canyon, the historic streets of Jerusalem, and tropical Hawaii.

Predeceased by parents: Harry Burney and Viola May Brown; son: George E. Sheppard and grandson: Dalyn Sheppard.

She leaves a Loving Family: Deborah Sheppard, Harry (Charlotte) Sheppard, LaTonya Robinson, Ruth Sheppard and a host of Grandchildren, Great-Grandchildren, Family and Friends.

## Poem from Kathrine Peppers Grandma,

Born in 1931, when the world was still learning how to see us whole, you came into it small and mighty, a Black girl with Sunday shoes and a future bigger than times allowed. You grew up in the long shadow of Jim Crow laws where “separate” tried to mean “less than,” but you made it mean “we survive”. You were a young woman when Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat, and when Martin Luther King Jr. Told the world about a dream you had already been dreaming in your prayers. You hummed Lift Every Voice and Sing like it was stitched into your spirit, every note a reminder that we were never meant to bow. Now you’re in heaven, Grandma, where no signs divide, no doors closed, no voices silenced. I imagine you walking streets of gold with the same steady grace that carried you through decades of change and challenge, from 1931 to a world you helped reshape us by living it.

Black History Month feels different now. It feels personal. It feels like you, Because history isn’t just in books, it’s in your hands that braided hair, in your voice that said, “Keep going”. In your faith, that outlived fear.

Grandma, your life was a testimony.

Your years were resistant. Your love was legacy.

# ORDER OF SERVICE

~

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

### MINISTRY OF MUSIC

*“Peace Be Still”*

### SCRIPTURE

Old Testament: Psalm 23

Rev. Thomas Toney

New Testament: Revelation 21:4

Minister Eddie Ruth Sims

### PRAYER OF COMFORT

Rev. Kirk Napper

### MINISTRY OF MUSIC

*“Oh Lord How Excellent”*

### REFLECTIONS

Landa Brown-Bates

Ruth Sheppard

### MINISTRY OF MUSIC

*“I Shall Wear A Crown”*

## EULOGY

Rev. Janet Sheppard

Trinity Baptist Church

### RECESSIONAL

*“God Be with You”*

