

ADDIE MAE
Henderson

April 5, 1945 – May 4, 2024

REMEMBERING

The Life Reflection of

Addie Mae

THOMAS HENDERSON

1945 - 2024



Addie Mae Henderson was born April 5, 1945, in Montgomery, Alabama to the late George Washington Thomas and Annette Thomas in Montgomery, Alabama. Addie was affectionately known as “Red Girl” or as her family and closest friends pronounce it “Red Gal”.

Addie graduated from Booker T. Washington School in 1963 and married the late George Henderson Jr. in 1964. Addie worked in homes as a nanny taking care of many families and their children, cooking and cleaning homes. She worked in a restaurant and was known for her cooking delicious-tasting foods, scrambling the best-tasting eggs in Montgomery, Alabama, and is well known for baking the best sour cream pound cake ever. In 1968, George and Addie gave birth to a baby girl (Angelique-Gee Gee) at St. Jude Hospital in Montgomery, Alabama. In 1969, George and Addie migrated to Detroit, Michigan where the Big 3 motor manufacturing companies were hiring. In 1970, they gave birth to a baby boy (Garrett), and in 1973, they gave birth to another baby boy (Derrick-Rick).

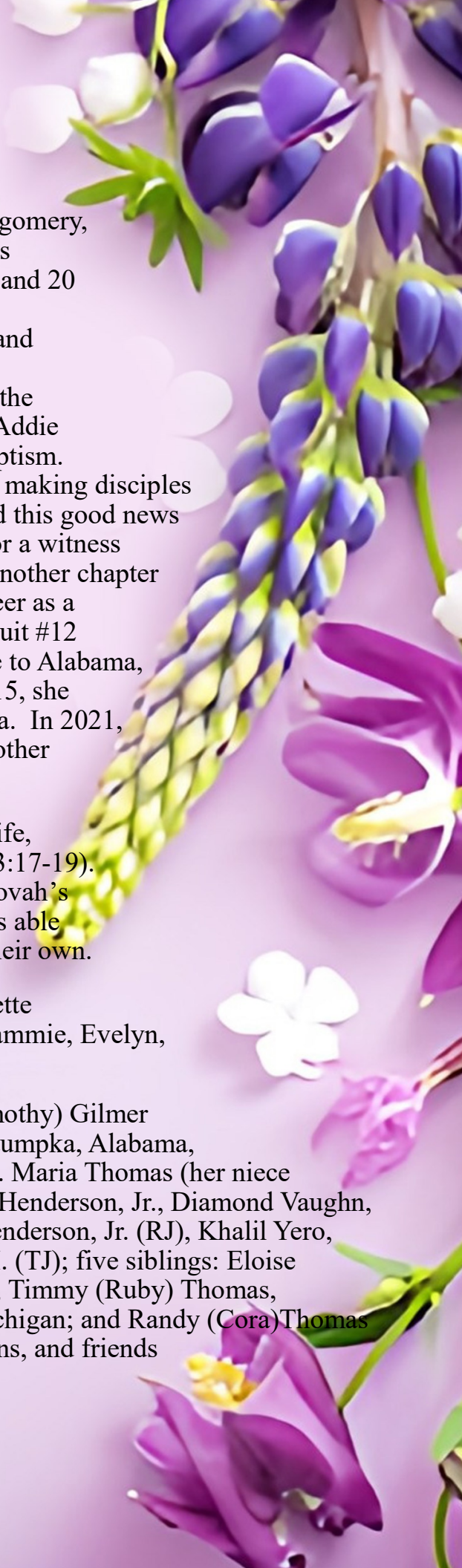
Many may say that Addie had a mean streak about her, however, once they got to know her, they realized that she was a loving and kind person with having nothing but their best interest at heart. Addie was very strict when it

came to bringing her children to the kingdom hall; if they fell asleep, she would pinch them and make them stand up.

Addie had many hobbies, she was gifted in baking, sewing, knitting/crocheting, doing hair, and as a professional CDL driver. She made lots of clothing of her own to wear to work, to the kingdom hall, and even for her children to wear to school and the kingdom hall, which they wore proudly. In the 1980’s when the cabbage patch dolls were well known, so that we wouldn’t be left out she bought the dolls’ heads and crocheted and stuffed the bodies herself, and gave each one of us our own. She would crochet each of her children a stuffed animal to have on our beds. She even made each one of us an individual Afghan blanket.

Addie went on to work for the Detroit Board of Education as a cook in the kitchen, then transitioned to a school bus driver, by completing her driving test and obtaining her CDL License-Class-B Passenger where she retired after 27 years of service with them. Later, Addie pursued her passion for doing hair. She went to cosmetology school and received her cosmetology license in 1990.

The History of Addie comes from a long background of family that studied and learned



about Jehovah. The Thomas and Hendrix Family were among the first black families to help establish the Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses in the Montgomery, Alabama area. The Thomas and Hendrix followed Jehovah's command when Jesus urged his disciples at Matthew 28:19 and 20 admonition to "Go, therefore and make disciples of people of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and son and of the holy spirit, teaching them to observe all the things I have commanded you. And look! I am with you all the days until the conclusion of the system of things. In 1972, Addie dedicated her life to Jehovah and symbolized it by water baptism. She was an advocate for preaching the kingdom message in making disciples and following Jehovah's commands at Matthew 24:14 "And this good news of the kingdom will be preached in all the inhabited earth for a witness to all the nations and then the end will come. Addie began another chapter in her life in service to her God, Jehovah and began her career as a regular pioneer. In 2009, Addie attended the Michigan Circuit #12 Pioneer Service School Class of 2009. After returning home to Alabama, Addie continued in the preaching campaign, and in July 2015, she attended the Pioneer Service School for Sylacauga, Alabama. In 2021, Addie did not let up on preaching and was invited yet to another Pioneer Service School.

Addie knew how important this work was, "It means their life, but not just theirs; It means our own life as well". (Ezekiel 3:17-19). Addie was instrumental in her service to Jehovah. With Jehovah's direction through studying his word in the Bible, Addie was able to aid many into the truth, and they in turn made the truth their own.

Addie is preceded in death by her parents: George and Annette Thomas. sisters and brothers: Alice, George Jr. (Bubba), Mammie, Evelyn, Lillie, Milton, (Billie).

She leaves to cherish her memory, children: Angelique (Timothy) Gilmer of Detroit, Michigan, Garrett L. (Raquel) Henderson of Wetumpka, Alabama, and Derrick (Raquel) Henderson of Lawrenceville, Georgia. Maria Thomas (her niece whom she raised); grandchildren: Ashely Lewis, Garrett L. Henderson, Jr., Diamond Vaughn, Diahanna Vaughn, Tiana Gilmer, Ja'Nice Davis, Derrick Henderson, Jr. (RJ), Khalil Yero, and great-grandchild: Olivia Lewis and Terrance Wright, III. (TJ); five siblings: Eloise (Robert) Moore of Montgomery, Alabama; Loretta Howard, Timmy (Ruby) Thomas, Amos (Cynthia-proceeded in death) Thomas of Detroit, Michigan; and Randy (Cora) Thomas of Montgomery; as well as a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends worldwide who will all miss her dearly.

LETTERS OF LOVE

from the grand and great-grandchildren

Thank you for always accepting me as one of your own throughout the years and welcoming my daughter, Olivia, as well. ~ *Love, Ashley*

I love you, Grandma, you will always be forever in my heart. ~ *Love, Garrett Jr.*

To the greatest grandmother that I've ever known. The memories, laughs, smiles and hugs that we've shared will forever remain in my heart. You've done so much for me and your great-grandson, how could I ever repay you? I am forever grateful that Jehovah made me your oldest granddaughter. Thank you for your sacrifices, kindness, love, and prayers. I'm missing you much, my heart is raw and it hurts. Grandma, you were the rock that held the family together, the one who radiated warmth, wisdom, and unconditional love. Your nurturing hugs and gentle advice brought me comfort in times both good and bad. I miss you more than anybody knows. I love you, grandma. Until we meet again. ~ *Your granddaughter, Diamond*

A: Admiration D: Determined D: Devoted I: Impartial E: Eloquent

Addie is your name, but to me you are Grandma. Grandma... I can't even say the word without picturing your face. My entire world lights up when I think of you and mama. My soul cries to feel and fill the emptiness of your presence. I never imagined a world without you because before now one never existed. Clothed in strength, dipped in grace, and covered with beauty, you are my Shero. Because of you, I am. You are my best friend. The love you and I share can never be touched, tamed, or broken. You have made my 25 years of my life the most valuable because you have given me a lifetime of love and wisdom. Words cannot express how grateful I am for you. I will carry our memories with me wherever I go, and I pray that one day I will see you again ~ *Sweet-Pea, Diahanna*

Hey Grandma, words cannot express how I feel ... I don't know what to say at this time and moment but know that you will be missed, that I love you and you will always forever be in my memory. Thank you for everything, Grandma. ~ *Love, Tiana*

Hey Grandma, I'm not very good at expressing my emotions like this but I will try my best. I know we always used to bump heads when we used to talk about certain things but I never used that against our relationship. We always had different opinions and feelings but the one feeling that never changed was me loving you and you loving me. Every summer I spent with you was the best summer I ever had; The smell of your house, the comfort of your cooking, the warmth of your hugs, and the wise words of the truth of Jehovah. All those things made me feel happy in life. I will never forget the memories we shared. I never told anyone that I've been studying the Human Services field since I've been in school, and that I've made it my concentration. I did that so when the time was coming I would be there to give you special care and support like you did to me growing up. I will cherish the memories and continue my journey with you forever in my heart. See you soon Grandma, I love you. ~ *Love, Ja'Nice*

Grandma Addie was a strong and zealous woman, who led with love and example. I will never forget every time I would call Grandma she would always be getting done with the ministry never losing her joy for it. Her years of love for the family and faithfulness will always be in my memory as well as Jehovah's. I can't wait to see her soon on paradise earth and this time get to spend all eternity with her. ~ *Love (RJ)*

Hey Grandma, I wish that I could've been able to spend more time with you and to do things with you and the family altogether, but even still, I'm glad I got to spend time with you. It sucks things had to come to how it did. But through it all, I hope that you still were able to have great days; we were all still there for you. And we all love you. ~ *Love, Khalil*

Grandma, I am going to miss you, I love you (Olivia). ~ *Love, Olivia*

Love you Grandma ~ *Love (TJ)*



Order OF SERVICE

*Kingdom Hall of Jehovah Witnesses
447 Perry Hill Road
Montgomery, Alabama 36109*

Saturday, May 11, 2024
1:00 pm

Opening Song #151

"He Will Call "

Opening Prayer

Jerome Thomas

Reading Obituary

C. J. Jones

Memorial Discourse

Reginald Bailey

Closing Song #140

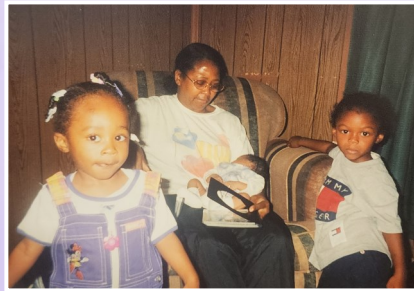
"Life Without End-At Last"

Closing Prayer

Reginald Bailey

MEMORABLE TIMES of our love one







Flower Bearers
Family & Friends

Acknowledgements of Appreciation

With sincere appreciation, we wish to thank our many friends and family for their expressions of kindness such as phone calls, texts, visits, flowers, thoughts, and many prayers have helped greatly during the bereavement of our beloved mother. May Jehovah bless each of you, is our prayer.

~THE FAMILY

To our Holcomb, Waltham, and Madison Family Congregation.
We love you very much.

Repast

Goodwyn Community Center
Goodwyn Middle School
205 Perry Hill Road | Montgomery, Alabama 36109

Final Arrangements Entrusted To:

Peace Mortuary and Funeral Services
3048 Dorchester Drive | Montgomery, Alabama 36116

Designed By: **KJ's Keepsakes & Obituaries**
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SCAN ME

KJK
KEEPSAKES & OBITUARIES