Celebrating 94 Years of Love & Legacy



Bettie Lee Thompson

Jan 14, 1932 - Sep 20, 2026

Christ Community Church of South Holland
1151 E. 170th Street • South Holland, IL 60473

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2026

WAKE: 10:00AM - 10:30 AM **SERVICE: 10:30AM - 12:00 PM**



Celebrating the Lasting Legacy

Bettie Lee Thompson

With joyful tears and deep love, we celebrate the beautiful life of Bettie Lee Thompson. She was born on January 14, 1932, in Greenwood, Mississippi, to Madison Hudson Sr. and Ellen Hudson. She was the eldest of five children. Her parents preceded her in death, along with two of her siblings, Alfred and Madison Hudson Jr.

Bettie attended Forestville Elementary School and DuSable High School in Chicago, Illinois. After high school, she spent time assisting her father in the family business. On July 18, 1953, Bettie married her childhood sweetheart, Donaldson Thompson (who preceded her in death on September 10, 1988). To this union, three children were born: Lance Sr., Lisa, and De'Brina. Bettie was a military bride for nine years. During this time, she and her husband traveled abroad and throughout the United States before returning home to Chicago to settle down and raise their family.

Bettie accepted Christ at a young age under the leadership of her father, Minister Madison Hudson Sr. She was rooted in her faith and raised her children in the church.
Bettie loved serving her community. She worked as a Precinct Captain at her neighborhood polling place on Election Day and volunteered at her church and her children's schools. Over the years, she also worked at First National Bank, Swift Meat Packing Company, and as a home healthcare worker.

After retiring from the workforce, Bettie ran a home daycare service that began with her oldest grandchild, Teesa, and continued for more than 30 years. She was there to support the working families of neighbors, friends, and relatives by providing safe, reliable, and loving childcare.
Bettie was a mother, second mother, and grandmother to many. One thing's for sure – her nephews and nieces did not play when it came to their aunt Bettie. She shared a special bond with each of them.

If you needed a place to stay, a good meal, or simply a cup of coffee and a heartfelt conversation at the kitchen table, you knew you could count on her. She was never biased, nor was she one to judge. She had a heart of gold, but she was also a no-nonsense woman.

Bettie told you like it was—whether you were family or not. One of her favorite sayings when her children tried to outsmart her was, "Let me tell you one thing. I'm your mama, you're not mine!" Every now and then, she had to remind her children exactly who was in charge.

Bettie loved gardening, painting murals, playing bingo, trying her luck at the casino, house gatherings, music, dancing, and family vacations. Anytime the car was rolling, Bettie was riding. And just know this—Bettie was the best backseat driver around! She stayed awake, made sure you were doing the speed limit, and always made sure you had plenty of gas.

Bettie's greatest joy in life was being surrounded by her family. In 2025, at the age of 93, she took a memorable road trip with her children and grandchildren from Chicago to Houston, Texas, for her family reunion, where she was recognized as the family matriarch. The highlight of the trip was reconnecting with family members and sightseeing from the top of a double-decker bus for the very first time. During the tour, the bus driver even acknowledged Bettie as her special guest. Bettie lived an active life until her health began to decline four months ago.

On Sunday, September 20, 2026, at 11:26 a.m., the Lord peacefully called her home while she was surrounded by her loved ones. The family extends a special and heartfelt thank-you to her home health nurse, Pamela, for more than 10 years of excellent care; her granddaughter Lonyé, for being a loving caregiver for her grandmother for more than 14 years; her niece and private nurse, Kimberly, who checked on her daily as her health began to decline; and Nana's special girl, her great-niece Kason, who never missed a beat and was always there for her.

Bettie's light will continue to shine brightly through the beautiful legacy she leaves behind. She leaves to cherish her precious memories: three children, Lance Sr. (Valita), Lisa, and De'Brina; seven grandchildren, La'Teesa (Damion), Lance Jr. (Dr. Cherise Joy), Dionté, La'Nitra (Darius Sr.), Ryan Sr., Lonyé, and Warren II; eleven great-grandchildren, Ja'Mari, Lance III, Ryan Jr., Aidan, Bryson, Isaiah, Journi, Ethan, Fabian, Darius Jr., and Aaliyah; one bonus granddaughter Desiree; four bonus great-grandchildren, Damion, Daonte, Kenny, Mõnee and Josiah; one sister, Freddie Mae; one brother, Kenneth; one sister-in-law, Constance; godson/cousin Elder Willie and a host of other relatives, loved ones, and friends. Bettie also shared special and enduring bonds with Carolyn and Herb, who remained cherished parts of her life and family throughout the years.

Though Bettie will be deeply missed, the love she gave, the lessons she taught, the laughter she shared, and the countless lives she touched will remain in the hearts of all who knew and loved her. Her life was a blessing. Her love was a gift. Her legacy will live on through generations.











Order of Service

PROCESSIONAL
Family

PRAYER
Elder Willie Miller

SCRIPTURE READING
Pastor Bryan Hurt

MUSICAL SELECTION
KB Evans

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS/RESOLUTIONS
Junichia Johnson

FAMILY TRIBUTES
(2 MINUTE LIMIT)
Family

REMARKS
(2 MINUTE LIMIT)
Friends

OBITUARY
Junichia Johnson

MUSICAL SELECTION
Pastor Fred Dubose

EULOGY
Pastor Bryan Hurt

MUSICAL SELECTION
KB Evans

FINAL VIEWING
All

BENEDICTION
Pastor Bryan Hurt

RECESSIONAL
Family

Memories













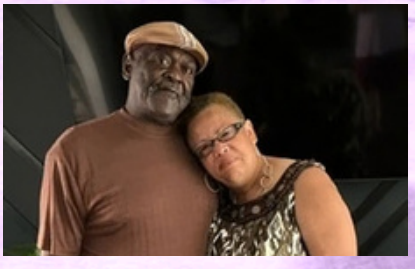
















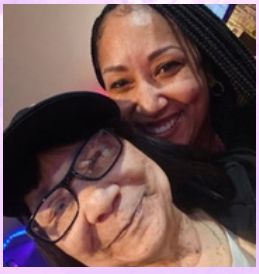






Forever In Our Hearts





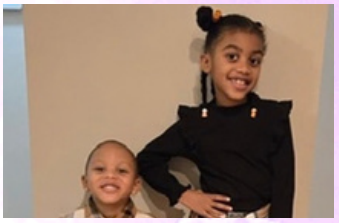
















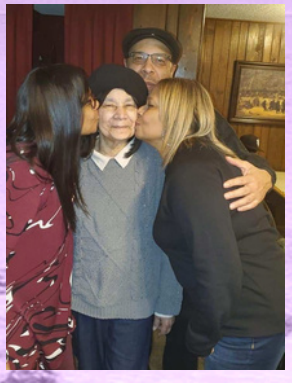

























Your Love is Our Legacy

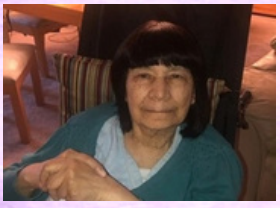











Tributes

Mom,

How do we say goodbye to the woman who gave us life, loved us through every season, and helped make us who we are? To the world, you were Bettie Lee Thompson, but to us, you were simply Mom—our home, our strength, and the heart of our family.

You loved us in a way only a mother could. You encouraged us, prayed for us, corrected us when we needed it, celebrated our accomplishments, and stood beside us through life's ups and downs. No matter how old we became, we were always your children, and there was comfort in knowing that Mom was there.

We will miss the little things most—hearing your voice, sharing conversations and laughter, seeing your smile, and simply being in your presence. Those are the moments that became precious memories without us even realizing it.

Mom, we are so thankful God chose you to be our mother. The love, faith, strength, and values you poured into us will continue to live through our lives and through the generations that follow.

Rest peacefully, Mom. We will take care of one another, hold tight to everything you taught us, and keep your memory alive. You will always be a part of us.

We love you forever...
Your Children,
Lance, Lisa, & De'Brina



Love Letter to My Earth Angel My Granny Girl



Granny Girl, I'm so grateful that God loved me enough to make you my precious grandmother. Your love has healed so many wounds in my life you were definitely my 2nd mother.

Looking into your beautiful eyes as you held my tiny hand, you always protected me from things, I didn't understand.

From the time I was a child through adulthood I knew it was something special about your gentle touch, but I didn't realize at that moment just how much.

Shopping for clothes for school dances was something that was always fun. Lord, I'm hurting but, I knew this day would eventually come.

Thank you for helping raise me into the woman I am today, a soft caring person like my Grandma Bettie. I remember when I was younger and would go through hard times, you gave me comfort and a safe place to stay and a room that I can call mine.

You had a way of caring for us that no words were actually needed. I remember times that my funds were low and that special way you snuck money in my hands making sure no one seen it. You have been in my life for 50 years and that is a major blessing. You have come to every family function and gave so many blessings and lessons.

Every event always smiling and looking at your legacy. I'm so grateful that "no stone was left unturned"; when it came to you and me. I will forever be proud to be your granddaughter and I know you have always been proud of me. You took good care of my son and helped me raise him with our amazing family.

Granny thank you for keeping him so that I could work and provide, I appreciate it all this has been a heck of a ride.

You danced at my wedding and that was a true gift indeed, I knew at that moment you were truly happy for me. I remember this so well as a bride I really needed you and I'm so grateful that the good lord always came through.

Whenever I want fried green tomatoes, grits, cheesy rice or catfish I'll always think of you. Red birds, beautiful flowers and gardens I will too. Take your rest, Granny Girl, on a job well done, I know the Lord is excited to say, “Well done, my faithful one.”

Well I love you granny girl and I know I'll see you again, I'll close my eyes real tight and imagine you holding my hand. Your famous "alright bye now" is the proper way to end this letter, as I sit here and cry my eyes out to you I hope you can feel my love letter.

Until we meet again,

With Love Your Eldest Granddaughter,

La'Teesa



Matriarch



If this is considered the completion of life then how can we be sad?
94 yrs of legacy you gave this life and us everything that you ever had-
My grandmother, our grandmother, their mother-
Our angel rest well continue watching above us-
We thank you Queen all Hail yes salute-
You're our foundation and our root-
Take a bow Miss Lady - you had the cheat code of life-
You planted many seeds, took care of us and was a beautiful wife-
Your legacy will continue to live on and we'll live by your message-
Coming together as one living with love all misunderstandings we'll address it-
Thinking about you saying that it's no need to be depressed-
You're with the father now you fulfilled your conquest-
imagining you dancing with the ancestors, they all telling you a job well done-
Rejoicing in those pearly gates Gods heavenly kingdom-

You left on your own terms the doctors didn't dictate your time-
Waiting til you gathered up the family had some cake and made up your mind-
On the 7th day like our savior you decided to rest-
Even tho your breathing stopped you still have a heart beating through our chest-
A true pioneer a lady with grace, style and essence-
Grateful for the memories we shared valuing your presence-
Responsible for having all under your watch and care-
Without second guessing you'd give more than enough even your last fare-
We will forever love you and be indebted to you for being our earth angel our matriarch-
Being our guide of light whenever days got dim and nights got dark-
This isn't a good bye but more or less a until we meet again-
Fly free of this world of tragedy, grief, stress and un-holy sin-
Even tho we miss you and we weren't ready-
Get your wings angel we love you Grandma Bettie-



Forever in our hearts,

Lance Jr. - on behalf of the grandchildren & great-grandchildren

To Our Sister

Bettie, you were more than my big sister—you were a special part of my life and our family. From the days of our childhood to the many years God blessed us to share, we created memories that I will always treasure.

It is hard to imagine life without you here, but I am thankful for the love, laughter, and precious moments we shared as sisters. Our bond will always have a special place in my heart. I will miss you dearly, but I find comfort in knowing that you are resting peacefully with the Lord. Until we meet again, I will carry your love and your memory with me always.

Love always,

Your Sister, Freddie Mae



Bettie,

I am grateful for the many years, memories, and moments we shared as brother and sister. You were a special part of my life, and your presence will truly be missed.

Although it is difficult to say goodbye, I find comfort in knowing that you are now at peace. The memories we shared will always remain close to my heart.

Rest peacefully, my dear sister. You will always be loved and never forgotten.

With Love,

Your Brother, Kenneth





A Ribbon in the Sky

Until We Meet Again

To My Loved Ones

Please don't let your hearts be filled only with sadness because I am gone. Instead, smile when you think of me and remember the love, laughter, and beautiful memories we shared.

God blessed me with a long and beautiful life, and one of my greatest blessings was each of you. I loved my family dearly, and that love does not end with my passing. Carry it with you, love one another, stay close to God, and continue to take care of each other.

I am at peace now, resting in the arms of the Lord. So when you think of me, remember me with joy and know that this is not goodbye forever. Until we meet again, keep me in your hearts, as I will always carry you in mine.

With all my love,
Bettie

2 Timothy 4:7

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

Pallbearers

Lance Thompson Jr.
Dionté Thompson
Ryan Thompson Sr.
Warren Jefferson II
Ja'Mari Thompson
Lance Thompson III
Ryan Thompson Jr.

Honorary Pallbearers

Lance Thompson Sr.
Mark Hudson
Wendell Wallace
Lamont Hudson
Damion Whittier
Darius McNeal Sr.

The family of Bettie Lee Thompson wishes to express our sincere gratitude to all of you for your prayers, presence, love, phone calls, and all other expressions of support and comfort that you have shown during our time of bereavement. Your kindness and thoughtfulness will never be forgotten.



Interment:
Washington Memory Gardens
701 Ridge Rd. | Homewood, IL 60430

Repast Immediately Following Interment:
Christ Community Church of South Holland
1151 E. 170th St | South Holland, IL 60473

Arrangements Entrusted to:
Schaffer Funeral Services
649 E. 162nd St | South Holland, IL 60473