



*Celebrating the Life and Homegoing of
Sister Dorothy Mae Williams Bell*

"Big Mama, Rose, Aunt Sis"



*Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and unto his courts with praise; be thankful
unto him, and bless his name. Psalm 100:4*

And When the Gates Swing Open.....I'll Walk On In

*Welcome Home My Daughter!
Come Home and Take Your Rest!*



With Us
January 17, 1925

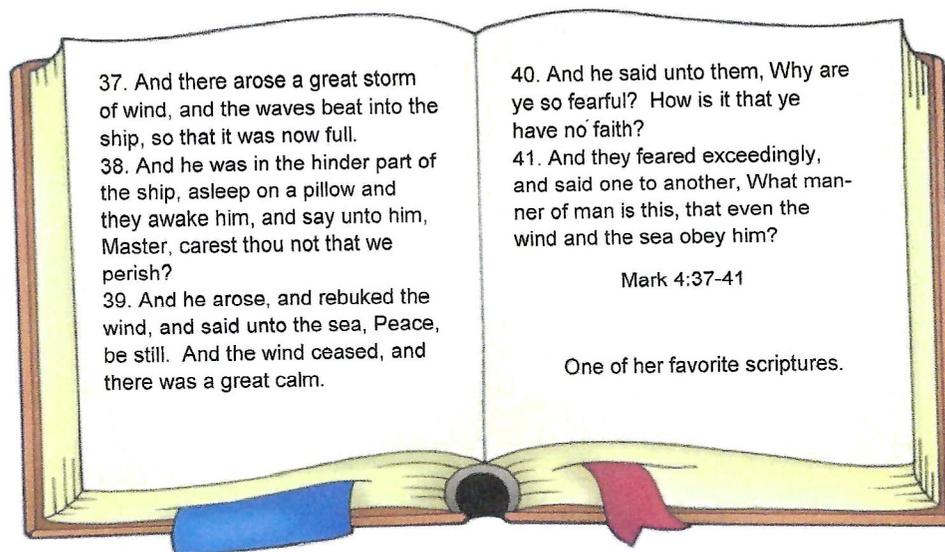
With GOD
October 12, 2025



Celebrating the Life and Homegoing
of
Sister Dorothy Mae Williams Bell

"Big Mama" "Rose" "Aunt Sis"

Mother, Grandmother, Great Grandmother, Great-Great Grandmother, Aunt

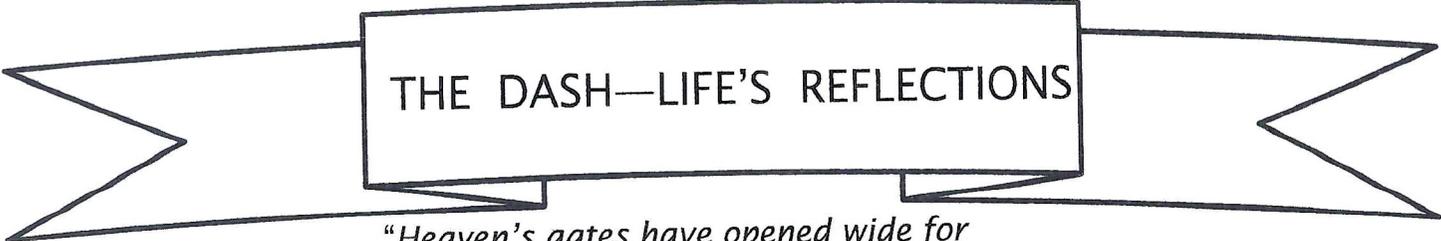


Saturday, October 25, 2025

One Quarter Past High Noon
(12:15 PM}

Growing Valley Baptist Church
209 Harlem Street ~ Longview, Texas 75644

Reverend Doctor Kelvin Lynch Host Pastor ~ Officiant
Reverend Charles Faulks ~ Eulogist



THE DASH—LIFE'S REFLECTIONS

*"Heaven's gates have opened wide for
another warrior to enter inside."*

January 17, 1925— Dash Begins

THE BEGINNING:

It was a cold Saturday, In Clarksville, Red County, Texas, that a bouncing baby girl was welcomed into the world by parents Perry Williams and Alluter Jones Williams. They were so excited and filled with joy over their precious bundle to select a name. After much debate, Dorothy Mae is what the name became. As her Family grew, Dorothy became the oldest of four Children: Perryline Williams Fite, Laura Mae Williams Fite and Anna Lee Williams Cobbins.

EDUCATION:

Dorothy Mae received her education in the Longview School System after moving from Clarksville. During this time, the 8th Grade was the top grade for some schools.

RELIGION:

Religion was an integral part of Dorothy Mae's life since an early age. During the time of organizing, she was one of the younger organizing member of Growing Valley Baptist Church. Dorothy Mae was trained by the older members to do the church work and worked very hard in various departments as a young member. As she became older, she worked in several positions, until her health prevented her from doing so. Some included positions were: Church Clerk, Financial Secretary, Deaconess, BTU Secretary, Choir member, usher, Circle #4 President and Mission President for many years. After retiring, she became President Emeritus of the Mission.

ROMANCE AND FAMILY:

Dorothy Mae met James Velton Bell, Sr. and their love blossomed. They were united in Holy Matrimony in January of 1946. The Family grew during this union with the birth of Velma Jean Bell Clay, James Velton Bell, Jr., Clifford Lavert Bell, Sr., Bobby Glenn Bell, Sr., and Kenneth Lee Bell, Sr. Later in life, Dorothy Mae gave birth to her baby son, Vincenzo A. "Vince" Williams.

EMPLOYMENT:

Working for the Gaye Cole Wheeler Family greater than 41 years, Dorothy Mae actually became like a member of the family. She cared for and raised the daughters, Sally Wheeler Magee and Nancy Wheeler Heller, whom she loved as her own.

THE DASH—LIFE'S REFLECTIONS

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COMMUNITY SERVICE and RECOGNITION:

Community involvement was very important to Dorothy Mae. She served as Northside Elementary PTA President, Maggie Hudson Junior High PTA Treasurer, Mary C. Womack Band Booster Club Secretary, Little League and Baseball Booster Club Secretary and Cub Scout Den Mother.

In addition to serving in various organizations, Dorothy received many honors and recognitions. These include recent presentation of a plaque for being sole surviving Organizing Member of Growing Valley during Black History Celebration. She was also recognized as a Titus 2 Prestige Honoree of East Texas.

LOVE ONES WAITING:

After several years, Dorothy Mae became the only survivor of her 6 member immediate family. She survived for greater than 100 years. Waiting to welcome Dorothy Mae when she enters Heaven's Gates will be her parents-Perry and Alluter Jones Williams; Sisters-Perryline Williams Fite, Laura Mae Williams Fite, and Anna Lee Williams Cobbins.

PRECIOUS MEMORIES WILL REMAIN WITH;

Daughter-Velma Bell Clay; Sons-James V. Bell, Jr., Clifford L. Bell, Sr., Bobby G. Bell, Sr., Kenneth L. Bell, Sr. (Angela), and Vincenzo A. "Vince" Williams; **Grandchildren**—Tyriska Turner, Ja'Harial Clay, DeQuence Clay, Jr., Valencetta Clay, Tameshia Portley, Torry Bell(Natasha), Clifford Bell, Jr.(Coren), Bobby Bell II, Nicole Bell, Lorin Bell Reeves, Stacy Linwood, Shaderia Stephenson(J.B), Kenneth Bell, Jr., **Great Grandchildren**—Doctor KeVarial Clay Lowe (Jordan), DeQuentus Clay, D'Quailon Portley (JaLisa), Koryn Glaspie, X'Zavia Parsons, Kayla Linwood, Mariah Campbell, Avery Bell, KeAnna Clay, Jordan Reeves, Caden Bell, Sarai Bell, King; **Great-Great Grandchildren**—Hendrix Portley, Kendrix Portley, Armani Smith, Camylle King, Cairo King. **Special Close Family Relations**—Rhonda Henry Bell, Sally Wheeler Magee(Bill), Nancy Wheeler Heller (Robert); **Nieces**—Doris Mitchell(Leo), Annette Summers, Gay Thomas, Sylvia Genovese, Presia Brookins, Verline Coby, Sonjia Fite, Gloria Caldwell; **Nephews**—Arthur Simmons (Jean), Roy Fite, Alvin Fite; **Extended Family and Friends**—Frankie Alexander, Odette Alexander, Carla Young, Sue Criss, Sherry Lively, Tepoleon/Evie Jackson Family, Faransa/Katherine Mayfield Family, Frankie Stanmore, Mary Bush, Debra Fitts, Earnestine Hawkins, Lois Cooper, Gwen Davis, Tommy Pace, Dorothy Slade, Pauline Jackson, Mr/Mrs Victor Rodriguez, Archundia Family, Rosilyn Lewis, Rosie Holland

Dash ends—October 12, 2025

CELEBRATORY SERVICE

Prelude	Soft Music
Cortege Enters	Clergy and Family
Selection of Praise	Growing Valley Baptist Church Choir
Scriptures:	
Old Testament	Brother Danny Craig , Pastor Woodland Hill Church of Christ
New Testament	Reverend Melvin Snoddy Pleasant Green Baptist Church
Prayer	Reverend Richard Holloway, Pastor Pleasant Green Baptist Church
Musical Presentation	Deacon Thomas Flowers
Resolutions	Sister Leakita Mayfield Growing Valley Baptist Church (Please Pass All Resolutions to Funeral Director)
Expressions:	
From A Friend	Reverend Kelton Wilson, Pastor Body of Believers Church
Aunt Sis Value to the Family	Reverend Kelvin Thomas(Nephew), Pastor Fresh Start Ministry
Acknowledgements	Joynella Thomas (Niece)
Special Presentation	Carla Young

Women wear many hats in their lives.
Daughter, Sister, Student, Breadwinner.
No matter where we are or what we are doing,
One hat that moms never take off,
Is the crown of Motherhood.
There is no crown more glorious.

MY LOVE FOR MY MAMA

In tears, I saw you sinking; And watched you fade away.
My heart was really broken as I wanted you to stay.
But I said you were sleeping; So peaceful free of pain.
How could I wish you back with me; To suffer once again?
It broke my heart to lose you, But Mom, you did not go alone.
For part of me went with you, The day God took you home.
As a little boy, I said I would take care of you when I get grown.
I tried to keep my word until you left for your Heavenly Home.
It was so important to keep my word from when I was a boy;
Little did I realize that it bring me so much joy.

Mom, I Love You

"Vince"

GOD'S MASTER PLAN

It really is okay "MAMA", we do understand.....
It is beyond your control, this is GOD's Master Plan.
A phenomenal work over 100 years sets you apart;
You were our first love and will forever be in our hearts.
The days to come will present challenges like no other;
As we prepare to say "Farewell to you, our Dear Mother".
You have loved us unconditionally, this much is true;
For this, it is unbearable to envision life without you.
God has spoken, your name has been called;
Just as you did on earth, go give Heaven your all.
So take your journey, we love you and understand;
It is beyond your control, this was God's Master Plan.

We Love You!

Velma Bell Clay
James V. Bell, Jr.
Clifford L. Bell, Sr.
Bobby G. Bell, Sr.
Kenneth L. Bell, Sr.

100 BEAUTIFUL YEARS

Although we knew time was drawing near;
100 years were hardly enough time with you here.
Our darling "BIG MAMA", our very own "ROSE".
God did his big one when you he chose.
Whether giving advice or a laugh for the day;
You were always just a phone call away.
From this day forward, things will never be the same;
You will not be here to call us the wrong name.
Your pebbles in life, colorful words and direct tone
Made us better understand, right from wrong.
You were the epitome of small statue—big heart;
We are eternally grateful for you—"Our Start".
On January 17, 1925, the world was forever Blessed;
Sadly on October 12, 2025, you took your final rest.
We take solace knowing your suffering has come to an end;
So long "BIG MAMA" , until we meet again.

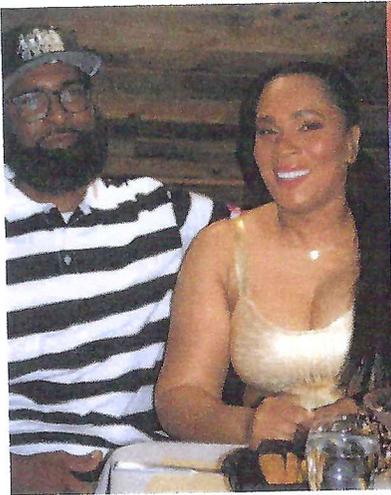
GRANDCHILDREN

GREAT GRANDCHILDREN

GREAT-GREAT GRANDCHILDREN









ACTIVE PALLBEARERS

GRANDSONS and GREAT-GRANDSONS

Ja' Harial Clay	DeQuence Clay, Jr.	Torry Bell
Bobby Bell II	Clifford Bell, Jr.	Kenneth Bell, Jr.
D'Quailon Portley	DeQuentus Clay	Koryn Glaspie
Jordan Reeves	Jordan Lowe	J. B. Stephenson
Caden Bell	Clyde Bell	L'Kendric Fite
	L'Vendric Fite	

HONORARY PALLBEARERS

NEPHEWS and FRIENDS

Arthur Simmons	Roy Fite	Alvin Fite
Harold Palmer	Calvin Williams	Gerald Hawkins
Lee J. Williams		Albert Jackson



FLOWER BEARERS

GRANDDAUGHTERS and GREAT-GRANDDAUGHTERS

Tyriska Turner	Valencetta Clay	Tameshia Portley
Lorin Bell Reeves	Stacy Linwood	Nicole Bell
Shaderia Stephenson	Doctor KeVarial Clay Lowe	Mariah Campbell
KeAnna Clay	Sarai Bell	Kayla Linwood
	X'zavia Parson	

WORDS OF GRATITUDE

It is so good to have friends like each of you.

Words cannot adequately express our gratitude for the things that you have done.

YOUR—

PRAYERS have increased our Faith.

PRESENCE has given us an arm to lean on.

FOOD has helped us to maintain our strength.

WORDS and TELEPHONE CALLS have encouraged our sad hearts.

The fragrance of the flowers, the thoughts on every card, the visits and all the other expressions of love have truly helped. We pray that each of you will be showered with GOD's Blessings.

The Bell Family

Special Thanks to-

Marshall Police Department ~ Christus Good Shepherd East Tower 300 Nurses ~ Christus Good Shepherd Home Health ~ Louis Morgan #4 ~ The Salvation Army Service Unit of Gilmer—Upshur County ~ Tyler Football Chapter ~ Reverend Harvel Davis and Bel's Diner ~ Darrin Rudolph

Funeral Homes: Wilson Royalty ~ Citizens ~ Craig ~ Stanmore ~ Downs ~ Blacks ~ London ~ Victory ~ Cunningham ~ McCauley & Sons ~ MD ~ Rosewood Memorial and the many friends.

THINE EARTHLY RESTING PLACE

Grace Hill Cemetery McCann Road Longview, Texas

Please Meet Us at

Longview Community Center ~ 500 E. Whaley Street ~ Longview
and share the final dinner of the Homegoing Celebration of our Mother.

Services Fulfilled by:



The Professionals of Bigham Mortuary

1007 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. | Longview, TX 75602

Phone: 903.758-5221 | Fax: 903.753-5296

Web: www.bighammortuary.com