

Celebration of Life

EMMA "BAY" HARGROVE

A Life Well Lived, A Legacy of Love

**"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His
saints." – Psalm 116:15**



SUNRISE

SUNSET

September 19, 1933 - June 27, 2025

THURSDAY 24TH JULY 10:00AM

MORNING STAR BAPTIST CHURCH

1257 BLUE HILL AVENUE

MATTAPAN, MA 02126

Bishop John M. Borders, III, Senior Pastor

Pastor Dorothy Isles Smith



ORDER OF SERVICE

Words of Welcome

Scripture Old Testament: Psalms 91 v 1,2

Scripture New Testament: John 14 v 1,2,3

Prayer

Musical Selections

Obituary Reading

Eulogy

Remarks

Acknowledgements

Final Viewing

Benediction

INTERMENT

Oaklawn Cemetery

427 Cummins Hwy, Boston, MA 02131

With Repass to Follow

Boston Police Post VFW

502 Morton St, Dorchester

2pm-6pm

"Earth has no sorrow that heaven cannot heal."

PRAYER



Heavenly Father,

We come before You today with hearts both heavy and full — heavy with grief, but full of gratitude. We thank You for the life and legacy of Your faithful servant, Emma Lou Hargrove.

Lord, we celebrate the many years You blessed her to walk among us — a woman of grace, wisdom, and unwavering faith. We honor the way she loved her family, the strength she showed in every season, and the joy she brought to those around her.

Thank You for the seeds of kindness she sowed, for her hands that served, and her heart that trusted in You. Thank You for her example as a mother, grandmother, friend, and servant in Your house — a “Golden Girl” who radiated Your light. Though we will miss her presence, we rest in the promise of Your Word:

**“To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord.”
Corinthians 5:8**

Lord, surround this family with comfort and peace. Let memories of Bay bring joy instead of sorrow, and inspire us to carry forward her love, her laughter, and her legacy of faith.

We release her into Your eternal care, knowing that she is now rejoicing in Your glory, free from pain, embraced by everlasting peace.
In the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior,
Amen.

OBITUARY



Emma Lou Hargrove, aged 91, passed away peacefully on June 27, 2025, in Boston, Massachusetts, where she moved as a young woman and lovingly raised her family.

She was born on September 19, 1933, in Henderson, North Carolina, to Dennis Davis and Mary Jane Cheek Davis. Emma affectionately known as “Bay” was the youngest daughter among her siblings and was preceded in death by Martha Esther Davis, Charlie Davis, and Richmond “Bud” Davis.

Bay attended Franklin County Training School in North Carolina, where she completed her high school education. This foundation set the stage for her lifelong determination to improve her circumstances and pursue further opportunities. On August 12, 1954, Emma married Albert Hargrove of Louisburg, North Carolina. Although their marriage eventually ended, and Albert preceded her in death, the experiences from that period contributed to Bay’s strength and resilience throughout her life.

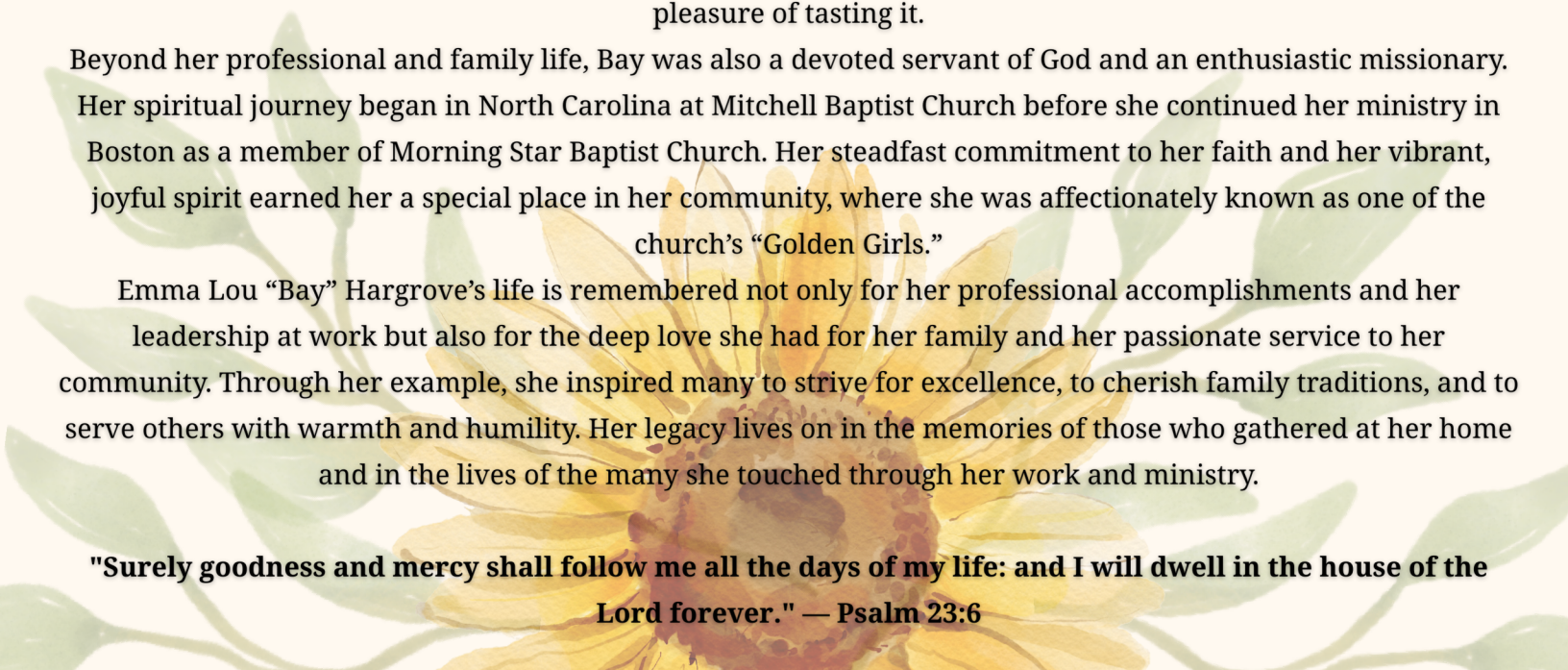
Bay was an inspiration throughout her career. She worked for the Sheraton Hotel, where her leadership and inspiring example encouraged many of her friends to join the organization. Her drive to further her education and skills led her to become a first-year graduate of the Boston Inner City Program. This accomplishment was an important milestone, paving the way for her long and dedicated career with the Polaroid Corporation, where she retired as an inspector. Her professional journey is a testament to her hard work and determination.

Bay placed immense importance on her family. In 1977, she purchased a home for her loved ones—a nurturing environment that became the heart of many cherished traditions. The family home on Capen Street was a hub of joyful gatherings, where summer breaks, birthdays, and holiday celebrations brought everyone together. It was in this home that Bay lovingly cooked family favorites such as glazed carrots, sweet potatoes, and, most memorably, her mother’s homemade coconut cake—a recipe that was deeply beloved by all who had the pleasure of tasting it.

Beyond her professional and family life, Bay was also a devoted servant of God and an enthusiastic missionary. Her spiritual journey began in North Carolina at Mitchell Baptist Church before she continued her ministry in Boston as a member of Morning Star Baptist Church. Her steadfast commitment to her faith and her vibrant, joyful spirit earned her a special place in her community, where she was affectionately known as one of the church’s “Golden Girls.”

Emma Lou “Bay” Hargrove’s life is remembered not only for her professional accomplishments and her leadership at work but also for the deep love she had for her family and her passionate service to her community. Through her example, she inspired many to strive for excellence, to cherish family traditions, and to serve others with warmth and humility. Her legacy lives on in the memories of those who gathered at her home and in the lives of the many she touched through her work and ministry.

"Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever." — Psalm 23:6



OBITUARY



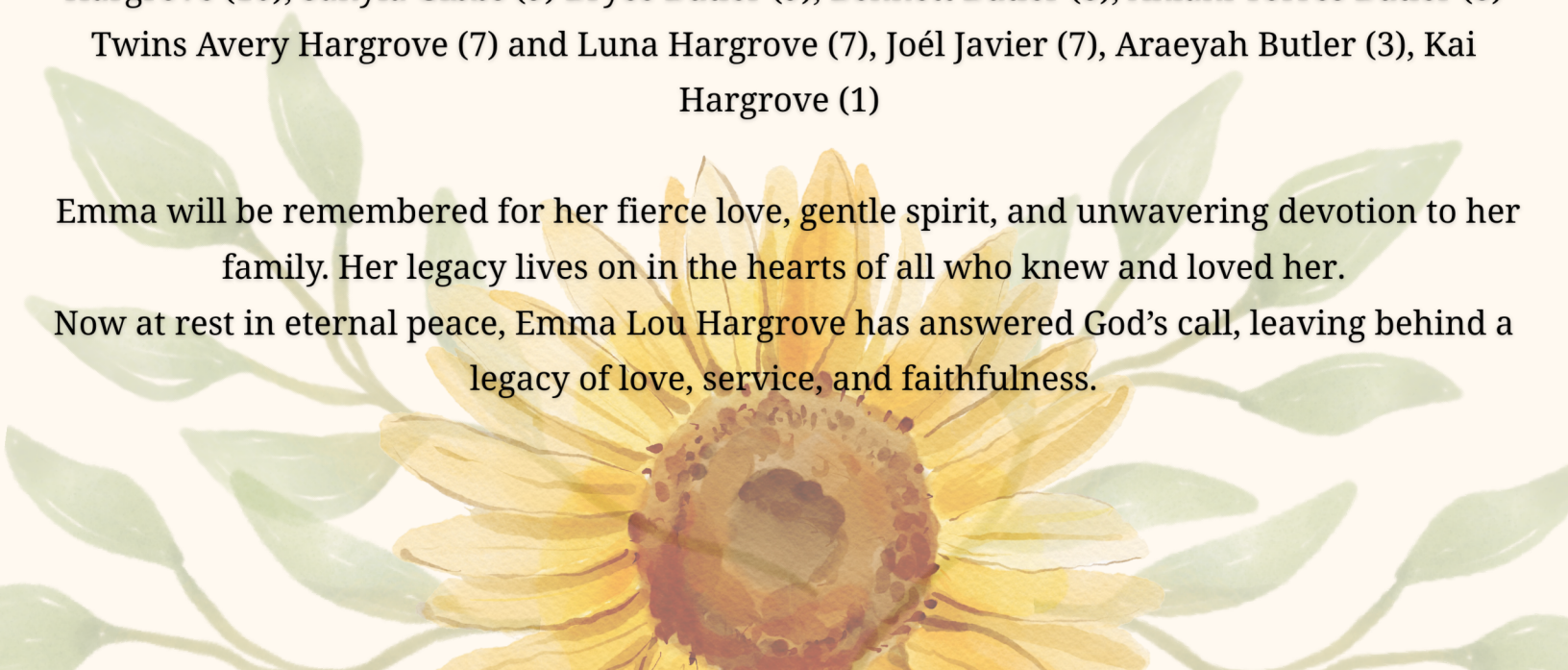
Emma was a devoted mother to seven children: Freida Gillenwater, Albert Hargrove Jr, Mary Butler, Cynthia Hargrove, and Mark Hargrove. She was preceded in death by her sons Ronald Hargrove and Ricky Hargrove.

In addition to her children, she loved and was well loved by Mr. Carter Gillenwater, Mr. Rodney Butler Sr., Mrs. Michelle Hargrove, Mr. and Mrs. Lorraine Thompkins-Potter, Mr. Milton Hunt, Mr. Ronald Felder, Ms. Tanya Gibbs, Ms. Daye Lovemore, Mr. Darren Miller, Mr. Edward King, The Comer Family, The Green Family, The Larry Family, The Felder Family”

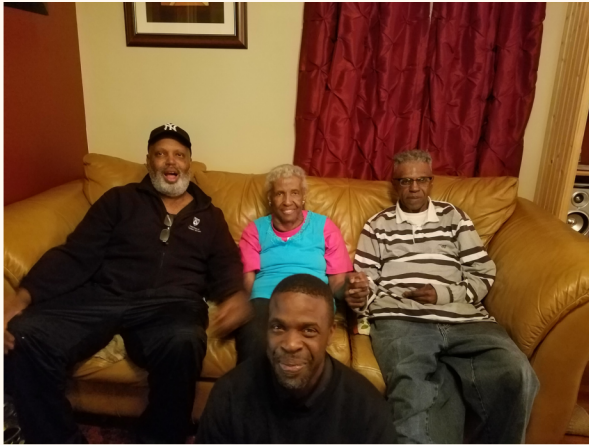
Her legacy lives on through her 14 grandchildren: Mrs. and Mr. Namyere Reynolds, Mrs. and Mr. Cy Butler, Mr. Wayne Butler, Mr. and Mrs. Carlie Javier, Ms. Shara Reynolds, Mrs. and Mr. Jamal Hargrove, Mrs. and Mr. Rodney Butler Jr., Mr. Jaron Hargrove, Mr. Ronald Hargrove Jr., Mrs and Mr. Marquis Gibbs Sr., Ms. Tanya Gibbs, Ms. Tamia Hargrove, Ms. Keosha Hargrove, Ms. Nicole Hargrove, and Mr. Javon Hargrove.

She was also blessed with over 20 great-grandchildren, including: Nakyla Washington (24), Alexzander Reynolds (21), Samantha Reynolds (18), Javion Gibbs (18), Marquis Gibbs Jr (17), Lamar Janvier (17), Hunter Thompkins (17), Mijoy Gibbs (15), Nathaniel Reynolds (15), Twins Mason Rodrigues Butler (16), Mia Rodrigues Butler (16) Jiovanni Hargrove (10), Sanyia Gibbs (9) Bryce Butler (9), Bennett Butler (8), Ahlani Torres Butler (8) Twins Avery Hargrove (7) and Luna Hargrove (7), Joél Javier (7), Araeyah Butler (3), Kai Hargrove (1)

Emma will be remembered for her fierce love, gentle spirit, and unwavering devotion to her family. Her legacy lives on in the hearts of all who knew and loved her. Now at rest in eternal peace, Emma Lou Hargrove has answered God’s call, leaving behind a legacy of love, service, and faithfulness.



MEMORIES



MEMORIES





PALLBEARERS

Albert Hargrove Jr
Mark Hargrove
Namyere Reynolds
Cy Butler
Wayne Butler
Jamal Hargrove
Jaron Hargrove
Ronald Hargrove Jr
Marquise Gibbs
Rodney Butler Jr

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The family of Emma Lou Hargrove would like to extend our deepest appreciation for the outpouring of love, prayers, and support during this time of sorrow.

Your presence, kind words, and comforting gestures have been a source of strength and peace. Whether you sent a card, prepared a meal, offered a prayer, or simply sat in silence with us, we are grateful.

We would like to extend a special thank you to the Unquity House in Milton where Bay lived during her senior years with amazing people like Mr. William White, Ms. Rose, and Mrs. Elenor for your extraordinary kindness, compassion, and support. Your love and care have touched our hearts in a profound way.

As we celebrate the life and legacy of our beloved mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, we are reminded that we do not grieve as those without hope. Emma's faith was firm, her heart was generous, and her spirit now rests in the eternal presence of our Lord.

May God bless you abundantly for your kindness.
With love and gratitude,
The Hargrove Family

Funeral Services provided by
Davis Funeral Home
654 Cummins Hwy, Boston, MA 02126