



## ETHEL GENE MINNIS

February 1, 1944 - July 2, 2014

Minnis, Ethel Gene (Eaves), 70, passed away peacefully at her home on Wednesday, July 2, 2014 with her family present. Ethel lived her life to the fullest as a wife, mother, grandmother and education professional. Ethel was born on February 1, 1944, in Louisville, KY the second of four children. She was a fourth generation educator. Ethel retired as a resource teacher for Jefferson County Public Schools Student Assignment Parent Assistance Center.

Ethel spent her early years as a classroom teacher in Louisville and Charleston, SC. She also served as a resource teacher at JCPS Gheens Professional Development Academy.

Ethel's civic and community memberships included the NAACP, the Louisville Chapter of the Moles, Inc., The Originals, Inc., Jack and Jill, The Links; JCTA and NEA. A graduate of Central High School, Ethel received her bachelor's degree from Kentucky State University, her master's degree in teaching from Western Kentucky and her Rank I from the University of Louisville.

Ethel is survived by her husband of 50 years, Dr. Bernard Minnis, Sr., her three children Danielle, Bernard, Jr. (Sarah) and Bryant (Angie) Her grandchildren Bernard I. Minnis III, Micah Christopher and Adleigh Elizabeth and her two sisters, Althea and Minnie Blanche.

Visitation will be held 5:00pm – 8:00pm Thursday, July 10, 2014 at A. D. Porter & Sons, 1300 W. Chestnut St. Funeral services 11:00am Friday, July 11, 2014 at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to Ethel's favorite charities: Scholar House, Home of the Innocents or ASPCA.

# Tribute Wall

JM

“ *Danielle, I will miss you after this month. RIP Ethel Minnis.*

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**julia mallon** - June 26, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KL

“ *Dr. Minnis,*

*So sorry to hear about the loss of Ethel. She was a wonderful person and a joy to be around. Please know that my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this time.*

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**Kirk Lattimore** - August 02, 2014 at 12:00 AM

EU

“ *Bernard and Family, we are deeply saddened and shocked to hear that Ethel has passed away. We regret that we were not there at the time to comfort you. ( we were at a family reunion). Please accept our deepest and heartfelt sympathy..we will keep you all in our prayers and knowing the Holy Spirit will bring you thePeace and comfort that you need. We love each of you dearly,Eukie and Rhynia Weaver*

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**Eukie** - July 31, 2014 at 12:00 AM

WW

“ *Bernard, My prayers are with you and your family.*

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**Wilma Wilson Washington** - July 28, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ Dr. Minnis and family, So sorry for your loss. Ethel's work and dedication to our children has left a huge impact in our community. You are in my thoughts and prayers. God Bless

Diane Cruze - July 14, 2014 at 12:00 AM

AF

“ Bernard, I am truly saddened to learn of the loss of Ethel. I will keep you and your dear family in my prayers. Coretta Waddell Bather

A friendJul - July 14, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JJ

“ Dr. Minnis and family my prayers are with you . I worked with Mrs. Minnis and she was always so sweet to me . I will miss her and never forget her love and passion for children and families .

JoAnn James - July 14, 2014 at 12:00 AM

AF

“ Ethel was a beautiful person in appearance and in spirit. As a co-worker at the Gheens Academy, she helped me in many ways and was a pleasure to work with. I am praying God's comfort for the family. Debora Edwards Lanier

A friendJul - July 14, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JJ

“ Dr. Bernard Minnis So sorry to hear of the passing of Ethel. I hope that you and your family find the strength and courage to remain strong during the time of a great loss. I know that these are the times when our faith can be really tested. Know that your extended family and friends are there to support you. James R Bell Jr.

James R Bell Jr - July 13, 2014 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ Dr. Minnis and family, I am so sad to hear the news of Ethel's passing. She always had such a warm and loving spirit. She will be deeply missed. May God comfort you during this difficult time. Brenda Schmidt

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**Brenda Schmidt** - July 12, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DW

“ Dear Bernard and Family: I am saddened to hear of Ethel's passing. I know this must be so difficult for you, your children and grandchildren. So hard to lose someone you love and respect, and who was such a singular person.

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**Deborah Walker** - July 11, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ Growing up in a church family is important in ones life, and growing into leadership. Ethel leaves a positive impression on many individuals to work towards advancement like myself and many others. Her smile was everything about her.

*Janet & Robert L. Houston Jr  
Louisville, Kentucky*

*The Houston Family  
Louisville, Kentucky*

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**Janet HoustonClinton** - July 11, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SG

“ My deepest sympathy is extended in your loss. Ethel was a charming, lovely, graceful lady that I enjoyed knowing and working with. She will be greatly missed.

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**Sheila Goodpaster** - July 11, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TJ

“ So very sorry to hear of your loss but we TRUST GOD AND HIS WILL. Sending my love to all of the family. I have great memories of time spent with you on 17th and Chestnut at the family home. God Bless you all.

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**TOBA J** - July 11, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RC

“ Saddened by the loss of Ethel and I extend my sympathies to the family with prayers that God's grace assure you of His constant loving care.

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**Robin Curry** - July 11, 2014 at 12:00 AM

AN

“ Bernard, may God give you peace and comfort in the days to come.

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**Anna** - July 11, 2014 at 12:00 AM

GF

“ to Dr Minnis and family.please know that our prayers and thoughts are with you at this sad time of loss.may thjr. bam bame holy spirit provide comfort. sincerely gail.tina mae.lawana.simone.and charles jr bam bam.....the family of the late bro and sister clarence and susie ford

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**gail ford** - July 10, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RG

“ Bernard and family, You have been blessed for fifty years with one of the sweetest women that ever lived. May her memory be a sail on the sea of life. May God's grace and mercy keep you during your time of loss.Love and blessings to you.

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**Reginald Glass** - July 10, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RM

“ To Dr. Minnis and the entire family, I send my sincere condolences in the passing of my "favorite 3rd grade teacher", Mrs. Minnis. She was a great inspiration to me and touched my life as a child. Her caring ways, kind heart, and gentle spirit, were always appreciated by me and the other students in our class. I know that my success in life is due to Mrs. Minnis' guidance and nurturing. She will be forever in my heart and deeply missed! Please keep the faith and strength in this time of sorrow. You have so many memories to smile about and so do I. Take Care!

Regina Ellis Mincey - July 10, 2014 at 12:00 AM

FB

“ Dear Dr. Minnis and Family, May God bless you and comfort you during this difficult time. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all. Hugs and prayers, Frankie Buckman and Family Jcps

frankie buckman - July 10, 2014 at 12:00 AM

GS

“ Bernard and Family, Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. May your beautiful memories of Ethel sustain you.

George and Loretta Stewart - July 10, 2014 at 12:00 AM

AF

“ May your hearts soon be filled with wonderful memories of joyful times together as you celebrate a life well lived.

A friendJul - July 10, 2014 at 12:00 AM

AF

“ Bernard and family, Mervin and I extend our deepest sympathies to you in the passing of Ethel. Deb and Mervin Aubespin

A friendJul - July 10, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ *Ethel was a kind hearted professional with the best interest of the kids in mind. She would go the extra mile to provide a resource to those who needed it most. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Minnis Family and to Bernard know you are surrounded with our thoughts and prayers. Mike Miller and Carolynn Foster*

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**Mike Miller** - July 10, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ *Danielle. I am so sorry about your mother. You and your family are in my prayers.*

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**Dianne Clare** - July 10, 2014 at 12:00 AM

HF

“ *Bernard and Family, May you find peace and comfort in your memories of Ethel. My thoughts and prayers are with you.*

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**Helen Fanning** - July 09, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RR

“ *Dear Dr. Minnis and Family, You and Ethel showed much love to me and my family over the years consistently. No matter where we would see you guys, there were always a friendly smile and handshake. Your possitive and optimistic view of life rubbed off on your children and countless others as well. May our Lord give you peace and comfort in your time of bereavement. Your friends the Rowans, (Lyndon, Helene, Ramona and Amelia)*

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**Ramona Rowan** - July 09, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RH

“ Bernard and family. So sorry to hear about Ethel. I just got the news today. Sorry I didn't get to pay my respects in person. God bless your family.

Ralph Hewitt - July 09, 2014 at 12:00 AM

BT

“ Bernard and family, sorry to hear of your loss. May God continue blessing you.

Bob Trumbo - July 09, 2014 at 12:00 AM

AF

“ Sorry to hear of your loss. May God continue blessing you

A friendJul - July 09, 2014 at 12:00 AM

GW

“ Minnis family,  
Bernie has been in my thoughts frequently lately and I was truly saddened to hear of the passing of Mrs. Minnis. You all have been and will be in our thoughts and prayers.

Your friend,  
Griffin Willingham

Alice and I were very sorry to hear about your Mom. You will be in our prayers. Please let me know if there is anything I can do.

John and lice

Griffin Willingham - July 09, 2014 at 12:00 AM

AV

“ Her warmth, intellect, ability to understand your condition and willingness to engage made going out of your way to say hello worth any effort. The beauty of her smile would ease your day. I was blessed having known Mrs. Ethel Gene Eaves Minnis and for that I will always be grateful. The loss of any member of a family or group cannot be measured. However, just knowing the JOY she gave others does remain and I hope brings some comfort. Our prayers and thoughts are with the family,

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**Angelo Vaccaro** - July 09, 2014 at 12:00 AM

LJ

“ Dear Danielle, this is Lee Look, and i don't have any current contact info for you...i'm thinking about you, and hoping you have support around...much love...Lee

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**Lee Look Jul** - July 09, 2014 at 12:00 AM

OD

“ Dr. Minnis, I'm sorry to learn of Ethel's transition. I will forever be grateful for her kindness and support of me and the Kennedy Montessori family. We could always depend on her to show up on the first day of school to help with registration. During Cluster meetings she always kept what was best for children as the focus of all decisions and she facilitated our group in her peaceful manner. She will truly be missed. You and your family remain in our prayers.

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**Opal Davis Dawson** - July 08, 2014 at 12:00 AM

AF

“ Bernard, We will always remember the happy times we shared with you and Ethel. Know that you are in our prayers for you and your family. We will always remember her Beautiful smile and pleasant demeanor. Charles (Chuck) and Doris McNear Maryville, Tennessee

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**A friendJul** - July 08, 2014 at 12:00 AM

PH

“ *Dr. Minnis, My memories of Ethel are her singing with us at Zion Baptist Church in The Messiah with that beautiful soprano voice while your daughter played her violin and you sang the Tenor solo. She was always a gentle, kind, spirit and we will miss her. May God keep you and your family in His perfect peace during this time of bereavement.*

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**Patricia Huggins** - July 08, 2014 at 12:00 AM

CB

“ *To the Minnis family,*

*The Louisville Chapter Of The Moles, Inc. offers our deepest condolences on the passing of our Mole sister. She will long be remembered for her thoughtfulness toward others, her warming smile, and her spirit.*

*May God be with you at this time.*

*Louisville Chapter Of The Moles, Inc.  
Freda Merriweather, President*

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**Carolyn Bell** - July 08, 2014 at 12:00 AM

AN

“ *Bernard, we are so sorry for your loss. Please know that Ethel will be remembered always in the hearts of so many of her friends and students. Our prayers are with you and your family.*

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**Ann** - July 08, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ Bernard, we are so sorry for your loss. Please know that Ethel will be remembered always in the hearts of so many of her friends and students. Our prayers are with you and your family. Ann & Ron Norman

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July 08, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ Dr. Minnis and family "trust in the Lord with all our heart; and lean not on your own understanding." God will take care of you. Keeping you in my prayers

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**Derrick Houston** - July 08, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ To Dr. Minnis and the Minnis family, Mrs. Minnis has been, and will always be a special part of my life. Since having her as teacher of my 3rd grade class at Martin Luther King, Jr. elementary in 1972, she has been in my heart. I will always remember her as being a special woman. God Bless you all!

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**Todd Hood** - July 08, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ My deepest sympathy to you and the family, Mr. Minnis. Ethel was indeed a lovely woman. Her memory will bring many tears and smiles. May her memory be eternal.

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**Janice Deeb Gritton** - July 07, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ Dr. Minnis & Family (Bernard)May the Blessings of Heaven rest upon you and your Family. My prayers are with you old classmate.Johnny Sykes Frankfort, KY/KSC

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**A friendJul** - July 07, 2014 at 12:00 AM

AB

“ *Minnie and Althea, I was so sorry to here of the passing of your sister. I have walked in your shoes. Know that you are in my prayers.*

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**Altafay Douglas Bailey** - July 07, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TS

“ *Dr. Minnis, I only had the pleasure of being in the company of Ethel a few times but she made me feel like we had known each other forever. I count it as a blessing to have met her.*

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**Toni Smith** - July 07, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ *Bernard and family, you have my deepest of sympathy on your loss. I remember Ethel well from Central and KY. State. Hopefully, loving memories of her will soothe you during this difficult time. I always remembered her as a beautiful, gentle person.*

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**Dorisel Ezzard Boggs** - July 07, 2014 at 12:00 AM

HT

“ *Dear Minnis Family, I am so sorry to hear about Miss Ethel's passing. She was a kind soul and was always willing to offer her bright smile. She spoke of her family often and was so proud of her kids. I worked with her at JCPS and am grateful to have known Ethel Minnis. My thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time.*

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**Heidi Thiel** - July 07, 2014 at 12:00 AM

NB

“ Dear Bernard, and family members, Wishing you all strength, courage, and peace. Ethel was a light in the community with beauty that shone from within. I will always treasure having been in the presence of such a joyful spirit.

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**Nefertiti Burton** - July 07, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ Bernie, I am so sorry to hear of Ethel's passing. I truly saw the love in your eyes every time you mentioned her to me. I am sorry I never got to meet this wonderful woman. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.

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**Debbiw Femi** - July 07, 2014 at 12:00 AM

ES

“ Ethel was a kind and friendly welcoming colleague from my earliest days in JCPS. She was a kind and generous person and will surely be missed.

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**Ed Swain** - July 07, 2014 at 12:00 AM

AU

“ *May Memories of Ethel Minnis Comfort Us Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to the family and all relatives of our dear friend Ethel Minnis. Ethel was a committed wife, mother and educator in her community. She was a person that valued and embraced education as one can see in her children and the countless number of children she touched as a teacher. For those that truly knew Ethel, know that she was endowed with gentle character and patience. The Yoruba people in Nigeria, West Africa, refer to this attribute as “Iwá Pele.” Ethel's character did not focus on the mundane levels of material attainment that causes major issues and problems within. Ethel's gentle character is perhaps the most important example and attribute that she has left for us to learn from and commit to our memory. Ethel also liked to dance. We would occasionally join Ethel and Bernard at Jerry Green's where Ethel enjoyed being on the dance floor. We were planning to hit the dance floor once again before the summer ended. This we will always remember. One who has lived never truly dies, but crosses a bridge into an eternal life as an ancestor. May it ease our sadness a bit to know that the memories of Ethel Minnis will be yet another bridge between our world and the world of our ancestors. Although we are unable to be here in person, we are here in spirit. We truly believe that Ethel is now home free to dance on the majestic floors of heaven. My family, and I pray for a peaceful and enlightening transition of Ethel's spirit during her Homegoing. May the great spirit receive her with open arms. Peace and blessing,*

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**Aukram** - July 07, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DJ

“ *Bernard, You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. Ethel was a beautiful person and will truly be missed.*

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**Don and Marilyn Johnson** - July 07, 2014 at 12:00 AM

CL

“ Bernard and Family, Chuck and I were so saddened to learn of Ethel's passing. She was a beautiful spirit and will be missed by everyone who knew her. We will keep each of you in our prayers.

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**Chuck and Clest Lanier** - July 07, 2014 at 12:00 AM

KC

“ Dr. Minnis, I'm praying comfort for you and your family. Much love and respect.

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**kenneth coatley** - July 07, 2014 at 12:00 AM

AF

“ Dr. Minnis, We are so sorry to hear of your loss. Rest assured that we will keep you and your family in our prayers. Carey and Karen Anderson

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**A friendJul** - July 07, 2014 at 12:00 AM

AF

“ Praying comfort over your family. Much love and respect. Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth D. Coatley. Sr.

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**A friendJul** - July 07, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ Bernard and Family....Our prayers and thoughts are with you as Ethel transitions to Heaven. Our Lord will keep you....Be Blessed!

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**Joyce Pipkin Thomas and Deborah Haskins** - July 06, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ To Bernie and Family Ethel was a bright star in Central High's Class of '62. She was loving, kind and a great friend. I share in your sadness. She will be greatly missed. My prayers are with you in your time of bereavement.

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**Joe Blincoe** - July 06, 2014 at 12:00 AM

AF

“ Bernard, my prayers go out to you and the family. Gwen Kinslow

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**A friendJul** - July 06, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JK

“ Bernard , my heart will hold you and the children gently and ask God's blessing for each of you as he receives your beloved Ethel to his arms. She was one of the most gentle, kind persons I ever met. I felt special, just knowing her.

*June Key*

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**June key** - July 06, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RR

“ Bernard, I am so sorry to hear about your loss. You and your family are in my prayers.

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**Ronnie Robinson** - July 06, 2014 at 12:00 AM

GH

“ Dr. Minnis and Family, I am so sorry that you have lost your life partner. May you be comforted by wonderful memories, her legacy, and the grace and peace of God.

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**Gail Henson** - July 06, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SW

“ Always a sweet word and also an encouragor. Never was with Ethel that she did not give me a big hug and a smile. She made me feel I always had a friend. God picks special people to be there when they are needed. I was fortunate to have her there when I needed encouragement.Ethel was so helpful to my wife as a resource teacher.Bernard , Bonnie and I will both miss her.Stan and Bonnie Whitaker

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**stan whitaker** - July 06, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JK

“ Dear Bernard, may God whole you and you family gently in his heart as he holds dear Ethel in his arms. To know Ethel was to know one of the sweetest, most graceful and lovely ladies you would ever know.

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**June key** - July 06, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RW

“ Mr. Minnis and family,It was my pleasure knowing Mrs. Minnis when I worked at the Greenery Florist. She was such a lady, so kind and soft spoken. I know you will miss her, my sympathy to you, the children and entire family.

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**Rose Mary Wargel** - July 06, 2014 at 12:00 AM

PH

“ Bernard and Family,May God bless you and give you peace during your time of sorrow. We are deeply saddened by the news. Let us know if there is anything that we can do for you...Love, Phil and Deb

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**Phil** - July 06, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ Bernard, you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

Jane Stallard - July 06, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DI

“ Dr. Minnis, I am in shock and my heart is heavy! She always called me "my Diane" when we spoke. Please know that my thoughts and prayers are with you during this time. "Earth has no sorrow that heaven cannot heal".

Diane - July 06, 2014 at 12:00 AM

PA

“ Lord, we come to you to ask that you provide this loving Family with all the strength and comfort they need in this time of deep need.

Pat - July 06, 2014 at 12:00 AM

NJ

“ We have lost a truly great lady. My heart aches for you Danielle, Bernard, and all the family. I will never forget her kindness to me and the way she conducted herself with such grace in all situations. May we all hope to be remembered as fondly as I remember your dear mother and wife. My thoughts are with you. Nancy

Nancy Ledford Jul - July 06, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DG

“ So sad to hear this news. I'll keep you and your family in my thoughts and prayers.

Debi Griffin - July 05, 2014 at 12:00 AM

AF

“ Dr. Minnis, So sorry for your loss. I had the pleasure of being in the company of your wife on several occasions and like you, she was always kind and caring God bless you and your family. You are all in my prayers. May God keep and comfort you and your family. Joyce Jefferson-Muir

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**A friend** Jul - July 05, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SG

“ When someone you love becomes a memory, the memory becomes a treasure. ~Author Unknown

*Danielle, I am deeply saddened by the loss of your mother. She will be truly missed. I will keep you and your family in my daily prayers. Love you.*

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**Shelley Glapion** - July 05, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ Dear Bernard,  
So very sorry to hear about the passing of your wife Ethel. My sincere thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

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**Jewell Logan** - July 05, 2014 at 12:00 AM

WP

“ I'm so sorry for your loss I love you dearly cousins I'm praying God's love and care for you Bernard and your family if you need me in any way please contact me at 5026081600

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**Woodson woody Parker** - July 04, 2014 at 12:00 AM