In 1992, Curtis relocated with her husband to Alexandria, Virginia and eventually to White Plains, Maryland, where she worked as a Progam Manager at the National Science Foundation. After her retirement in 1997, she dedicated her time to volunteering and serving on numberous community boards and as an active member of Alfred Street Baptist Church (ASBC) in Alexandria, Virginia. Curtis was appointed the task of establishing the John O. Peterson Library for the congregation's consumption. She tackled this project with skill, pride and enthusiam, teaching herself how to establish a thriving library.

Despite the multiple degrees and professional accolades, Curtis' prized job title was Grandmother. She relished every interaction, milestone and moment of time with her five grandchildren. She considered each one an individual treasure and symbol of God's love. After years in the Washington, D.C. area, Curtis and Walter relocated to Smyrna, Georgia where they attended Ebenezer Baptist Church. She actively participated in her sorority until the time of her passing. Curtis' faith and fortitude remain a testimony to all who knew her. Curtis leaves behind her husband of almost 60 years, Walter James Howard; son, Glenn (Nina); daughter-in-law, Tamara; grandchildren, Joy, Grant, Marlee, William, and Grace; siblings, Philip (Ida), Coy, Earl (Nancy), Gloria and Michael; and many dear friends and relatives. Her passing is preceded by her son Gerald and her brothers, Charlie and Otis.



PALLBEARERS Earl Dunston • Coy Dunston • Glenn Howard Daniel Edwards • Grant Howard • William Howard INTERMENT **ARLINGTON CEMETERY** 1 Memorial Avenue * Washington, DC REPAST **REED HOUSE** 3080 Atlanta Road * Smyrna, GA 30080 (Immediately following service)

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HOMEGOING CELEBRATION OF



Dr. Curtis Uvonne (Dunston) Howard was born July 19, 1938, in the small town of Bunn, North Carolina to sharecroppers, Woodrow and Hazel Dunston. She was the oldest of eight children and took her role as a leader and example quite seriously. Curtis was often referred to fondly by her middle name, Uvonne and "Sister" by her siblings. She embraced hard work from a young age through responsibilities associated with life on the farm, including the maintenance and harvesting of tobacco. She and her siblings would regularly forego school to assist their parents with the harvest.

Curtis Uvonne was an exemplary student and a standout athlete, playing basketball on the high school team. Her success as a strong student-athlete opened doors for her and led to a full scholarship to attend Livingstone College in Salisbury, North Carolina. Curtis excelled at Livingstone, earning her Bachelor of Science in Biology, as well as making lasting friendships through her beloved Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Curtis relocated to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1960, taking a laboratory job at the University of Pennsylvania. Curtis' love of science and desire to share its wonders with others, naturally evolved into a career in education. She began teaching in the Philadelphia School Board (PSB) in 1961. Curtis remained with the PSB for almost three decades, first as a classroom science teacher, then as Director of Science, and finally as Superintendent of Science for Philadelphia. There, she was responsible for developing curriculum for the Philadelphia Public School System in the 1980's and 90's. During this time, Curtis continued to advance her education, earning a Master's degree in Education from Beaver College, and a Ph.D in Education from the University of Pennsylvania. Her contributions in education were recognized and as a result, she was selected by the National Science Foundation to develop curriculum nationwide.

Philadelphia is where Curtis met her husband - Walter, whom she wed on December 26, 1961. To this union, they were blessed with two sons: Glenn (1964) and Gerald (1973). Both Walter and Curtis were committed to parenting and fostering the growth of strong spiritual men and witnessed God nourish these seeds through the development of her grandchildren. Curtis was an avid reader and the type of mother who believed in challenging young minds to stretch beyond any and all limitations. Her patented saying of encouragement "You deserve a pat on the back", was never given out lightly, yet it was always accompanied by her warm smile and genuine sense of pride in the accomplishment of others.

