

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF



MOTHER

Searlene
HUTTON

October 25, 1933 - July 8, 2024

Saturday, July 20, 2024

*Draper Memorial Church of God in Christ
313 Beirne Ave NE, Huntsville, AL 35801*

Pastor Dave Draper, Jr. - Officiant

A black and white portrait of a woman with short, dark, wavy hair and bangs. She is smiling slightly and looking towards the camera. She is wearing a dark-colored top, a small star-shaped pendant on a thin chain, and a small earring. The background is a light, neutral color.

Earlene

October 25, 1933 - July 8, 2024

OBITUARY

Mother Jearlene Groce Hutton, born on October 25, 1933, in Riverside, Alabama, was a beacon of faith, love, and dedication. Daughter of Mr. Judge Groce and Mrs. Ritter Ragland-Groce, she spent her formative years in Lincoln, Alabama, as the second of four siblings: Clenon, Marie, and Monroe Groce. From an early age, Mother Hutton embraced Christ as her Savior and remained a devout member of the Church of God in Christ (C.O.G.I.C.) since 1949.

Mother Hutton's educational journey began at Lincoln Junior High School, followed by her graduation with honors from Talladega County Training School in Renfroe, Alabama. She pursued further studies at Monroe School of Business and May's Beauty School of Cosmetology in Nashville, Tennessee, becoming a licensed cosmetologist.

Mother Hutton attended Tennessee State University and Lehman College in the Bronx, New York. She was a proud member of the Golden Key Honor Society and a graduate of The Samuel & Minnie Canion (S & M) Bible Institute in New York City. Her dedication to biblical study enriched her spiritual life, allowing her to teach and inspire many with her profound knowledge of the scriptures.

In 1961, she married Jesse Hutton, and together they moved to New York City, where they shared 56 years of marriage. Their union was blessed with three children: Latisha R. Hutton, Lynette D. Hutton, and Eric A. Hutton.

Mother Hutton continued her professional journey as a substitute teacher at P.S. 178 (Bronx, NY), sharing her knowledge and nurturing young minds. Later, she joined the U.S. Postal Service, where she diligently served for many years. Her commitment and hard work were eventually rewarded with a well-deserved retirement from the Postal Service, marking the culmination of a distinguished and fulfilling career.

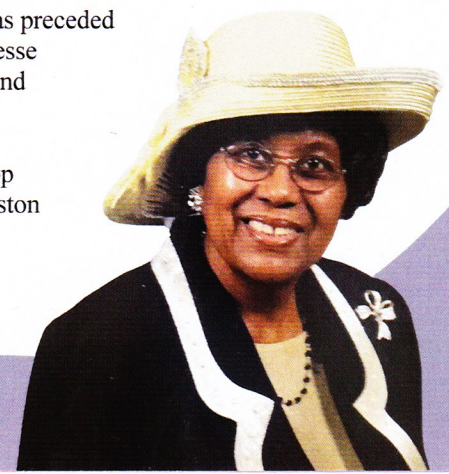
Her commitment to her faith community was unwavering: she served as a Sunday School teacher, Young People Willing Workers (Y.P.W.W.) teacher, and President of the Young Women's Christian Council (Y.W.C.C.) at her local church in New York. One of her notable achievements was founding the Gospel Temple Church of America's Annual Fellowship Breakfast (1974 – 1990). This event grew to be one of the church's most successful fundraisers, thanks to her tireless efforts and leadership. Mother Hutton's dedication and passion turned this event into a cherished tradition, enriching the spiritual lives of many.

Mother Hutton was a selfless, trusted, and respected neighbor, as well as an accomplished wedding planner and coordinator. As an entrepreneur, she successfully sold Princess House crystalware and chinaware, as well as vintage Cattani lingerie. Her talents extended to sewing and crafts, including clothing, pillow making, and decorative soaps. Every place she called "home" was exceptionally decorated with her signature touch. Mother Hutton was also an excellent cook, known for her homemade specialties such as yeast rolls, cakes, banana pudding, vanilla ice cream, fried chicken, and chicken & dumplings. She also took pleasure in teaching young women etiquette according to the principles of Emily Post. She enjoyed tinkering on the piano and was an avid reader who loved watching Jeopardy and Wheel of Fortune, enjoying PBS programming, and solving word puzzles. Those who knew her personally recognized that Scrabble was her favorite board game, and she played with expert skill.

In 1991, Mother Hutton relocated with her family from New York City to her home state of Alabama, and became a member of Beirne Avenue C.O.G.I.C. (now Draper Memorial C.O.G.I.C.), Huntsville, AL. She faithfully served in multiple capacities at the local church, district, and jurisdictional echelons. Mother Hutton's service and ministry throughout the years has left an indelible impact on numerous individuals in and beyond the church community, inspiring generations with her dedication, leadership, and unwavering faith.

Mother Jearlene Hutton peacefully transitioned into eternal rest on July 8, 2024. She was preceded in death by her parents, Judge Groce and Ritter Ragland-Groce, her husband, Deacon Jesse Hutton, her daughter, Latisha R. Hutton, brothers, Clenon (Sarah) and Monroe Groce, and sister, Marie (Superintendent Timothy) Huffman.

She leaves to cherish her memory: her daughter, Lynette D. Hutton, her only son, Bishop Eric Hutton and his wife Kenneisha, and her three grandchildren, Kiana, Jadon, and Triston Hutton. She also leaves to mourn a host of nieces and nephews, cousins, and friends.





Order of SERVICE

Processional

Opening Prayer Elder Emory Hughes
Draper Memorial COGIC

Old Testament Scripture Elder Ethan Rozier
Bridge of Destiny Worship Center

New Testament Scripture Elder Kenneth Leslie, Sr.
Seed of Faith Ministries

Musical Selection Mother Hutton Celebration Choir

Acknowledgements Sister Carolyn Draper
and Resolutions Mother Linda Draper
First Lady, Draper Memorial COGIC

Words of As a Family Member - Cedric Huffman (Nephew)
Expression As a Spiritual Daughter - Evangelist Sonya Leslie
Seed of Faith Ministries
As a Spiritual Son - Dr. Paul Ruffin
Pastor, Forge Temple COGIC

Musical Tribute Buford Crutcher
"Order My Steps"

Eulogy Bishop Eric Hutton
Pastor, Bridge of Destiny Worship Center

Closing Prayer Pastor Jesse Draper
Pastor, Right Way COGIC

Mortician Royal Funeral Home

PROVERBS 31

Verses 10-12, 20, 25-31 KJV

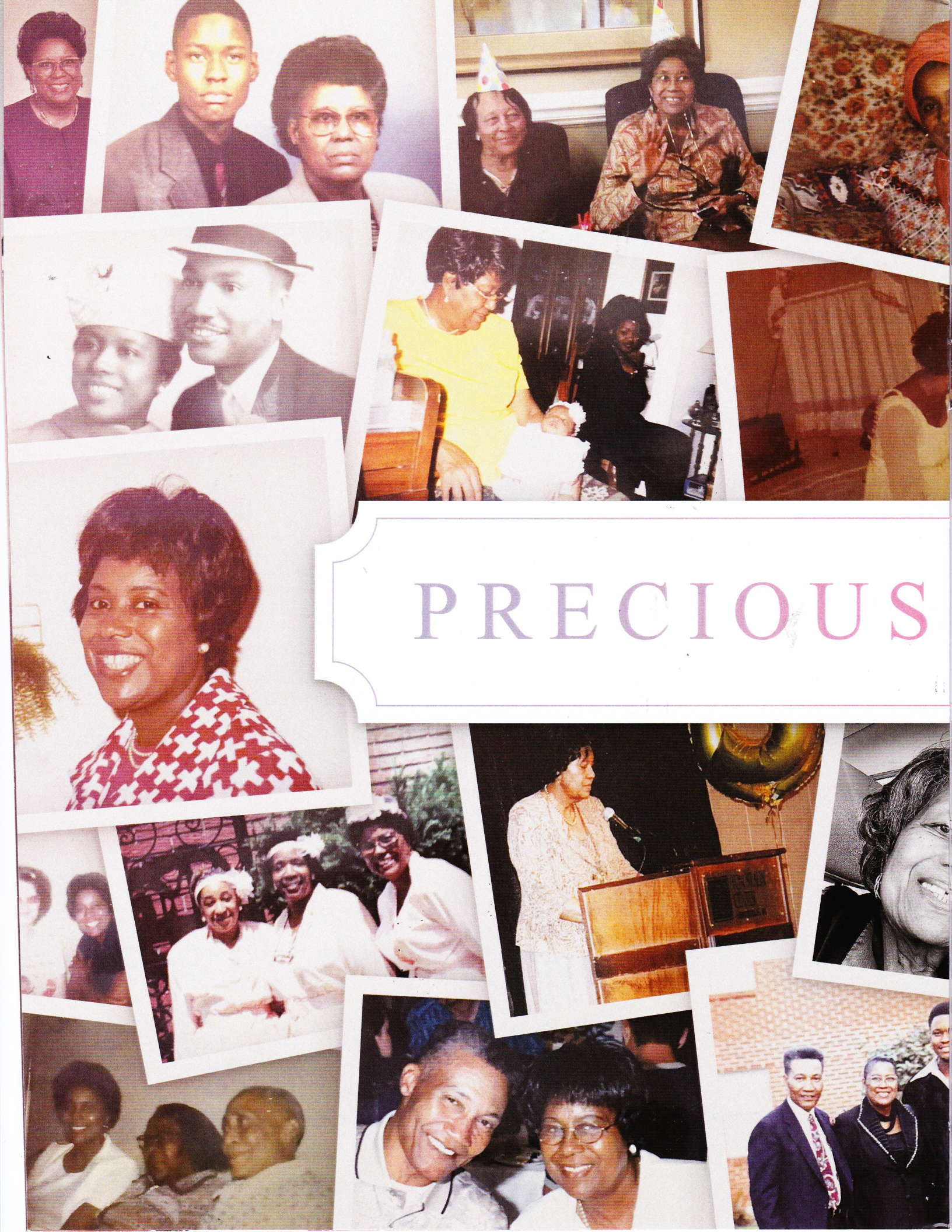
Who can find a virtuous woman? For her price is far above rubies.
The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her, so that he shall have no need of spoil.

She stretcheth out her hand to the poor; yea, she reacheth forth her hands to the needy.

Strength and honour are her clothing; and she shall rejoice in time to come.
She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue is the law of kindness.
She looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness.
Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her.

Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all.
Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised.
Give her of the fruit of her hands; and let her own works praise her in the gates.





PRECIOUS



MOMENTS



PALLBEARERS

Nephews

Flower BEARERS

Mothers, Missionaries, & Friends

Final Arrangements ENTRUSTED TO



Royal Funeral Home, Inc.
4315 Oakwood Avenue
Huntsville, AL 35810

INTERMENT

Huntsville Memorial Gardens
6810 University Drive NW, Hwy 72 W
Huntsville, AL 35806

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The family of Mother Jearlene Hutton acknowledges with most sincere gratefulness and appreciation the many heartfelt expressions of love, care and thoughtfulness extended through prayers, cards, phone calls, messages and various other means during our time of bereavement.

Special thanks to all who aided and participated in Mother Jearlene Hutton's health care journey: family members, church family members, neighbors, friends, her caring team of doctors, the entire staff of Southern-Care New Beacon Hospice and the Home Health Care workers.

The family extends the most sincere appreciation to the staff of Royal Funeral Home for their excellence and committed service.

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