



## Annie Belle Rayford

December 28, 2013

Evangelist Annie Rayford (Via) 89, passed away December 28, 2013 at Hospice of Northwest Ohio in Toledo. Born in Town Creek, AL, she came to Toledo in 1944. She was a founding member of Mt. Sinai Pentecostal Church where she served as an evangelist, treasurer, and Sunday school teacher. At the time of her passing she was their oldest member and the last of the founding members. Employed by Craftmaster Inc, she retired in 1985 and later became a foster grandparent for Toledo Day Nursery. Known affectionately as “Ma Belle”, she was a mother to many and a foster parent for over 30 years for Children and Family Services. She was preceded in death by her son Raymond Gaiter and husbands Matthew Rayford Jr and Elder James Via. She leaves to cherish her memory daughters Pearline Ray, Gloria (Steven) Key, Brenda (Billie) Paraham, Jamie (Glenn) Tyler and son Christopher Rayford, brother Ulyess (Marie) Williams of Town Creek, AL, stepdaughters Pearlie Mae Coleman, Yolanda Via, Hazel Via, Joyce Via, and son David (Debbie) Via, 21 grandchildren, 48 great grandchildren , 20 great great grandchildren and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. Special thank you to the Hospice of Northwest Ohio home care and inpatient staff.

Visitation will be Thursday 6–8 p.m. Dale-Riggs Funeral Home Chapel, with family hour Friday 11:00 a.m. followed by funeral services at 12:00 noon at Bibleway Temple, 2535 Collingwood Blvd, Toledo OH. Bishop Harold Wilson

officiant, interment Historic Woodlawn Cemetery. [www.dalefh.com](http://www.dalefh.com)

# Tribute Wall

EC

“ To the family of Sister Belle Rayford,

*I am truly sorry for your loss, and we are praying for you. The Rayford family has been apart of my families history for as long as I can remember. I remember when my grand father Elder Solomon Smaw and Bishop Rayford had a church together, and she was there. Sister Belle Rayford always had an encouraging word for me, she was like family, and I will miss her encouragement and smile. Until we all meet again in the sky, and be encourage.*

*Respectfully,*

*Pastor: Elder William O. Crider, Church of God Apostolic  
and Pastor Pearlina M.(Smaw) Kemp*

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**Elder William O. Crider** - January 07, 2014 at 04:11 AM

AN

“ To the Family.

*I am sorry for the lost of your family member and dear friend. I have an encouraging message that I would like to share with you from God's Word the Bible.*

*Like many people we all want to live and enjoy life with the ones we have lost to this aged-old-enemy death. Sadly, though because of health issues, injustice, crimes and old age we have to suffer the pain when ones fall asleep in death.*

*In the Bible at John 5:28,29 Christ Jesus states that all those in the memorial tombs (graves) will hear his voice and come out. These ones according to Psalm 37:11 will be resurrected right here on the earth.*

*The Bible also gives us comfort and hope at Revelation 21:3-5 which assures us that the day is soon to come in which our Heavenly Father is going to wipe away the tears of sorrow from our eyes forever and death will be no more.*

*I hope that after reading this that it will be of comfort to each of you.*

*To learn more as to why we die and what hope for our loved ones, please feel free to go to the website: [jw.org](http://jw.org).*

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**Annette** - January 04, 2014 at 10:51 AM