



H. Hortense Ward

March 28, 1929 - July 7, 2020

H. Hortense Ward, 91, passed on Tuesday, July 7, 2020, from vascular dementia after living with the effects of the disease for several years.

H. Hortense (Lewis) Ward was born on March 28, 1929, in Rossford, Ohio. She grew up in a large family with mother (Susie Sally Whitfield Lewis), father (Grover Cleveland Ousley), three brothers (Andrew, Isaac, and Frank), and two sisters (Rozell and Delores). The family moved to Toledo, Ohio, shortly after she was born.

She attended Gunckel Elementary School, Robinson Junior High School, and Libbey High School in Toledo, Ohio. After graduating from high school, she attended Wilkins Beauty School in Cleveland, Ohio, and became a licensed cosmetologist. She worked as a cosmetologist for a year before marrying Dorsey Ward and becoming a mother to their daughter, Brenda.

Once Brenda was in school, she began working as a Key Punch Operator at Erie Ordnance Depot. She also worked key punch at Rossford Ordnance Depot and Ohio Citizens. While working at Ohio Citizens, Head Start hired her as an Assistant Teacher. Realizing how much she enjoyed working at Head Start, her mother encouraged her to go to college and pursue teaching.

She completed her Bachelor's Degree in Education in 1975, Master of

Education in Teaching in 1976, and Education Specialist Degree in 1979 from the University of Toledo. She spent the majority of her career teaching second grade at Garfield Elementary School in Toledo, Ohio. She retired in 1996 after teaching for more than 20 years.

Always active, she was a member of the United Missionary Baptist Church, where she participated in several ministries. She was also a member of Just Among Us Girls (J.A.U.Gs), Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., the Sew n' Sews, Charms, Inc., and Red Hat Society. During her later years, she moved to Cleveland, Ohio, and became a watch care member of Antioch Baptist Church, where she enjoyed worship and several activities for seniors and women. She also actively participated in senior activities at the Eliza Bryant Adult Day Center.

She spent her last days at home in Cleveland, Ohio, with her daughter Brenda (Mansfield) Frazier and granddaughter Bridgett King who she leaves behind along with her godson Stephen Copper Butler and an extensive extended family of nieces, nephews, grandnieces, grandnephews, cousins, and friends.

The family of H. Hortense Ward would like to thank: T. Austin, Eliza Bryant Adult Day Center, Cleveland Clinic - Internal Medicine and Geriatrics, ER, ICU, G80, and Hospice Center for Connected Care.

The memorial service for H. Hortense Ward will be on Thursday, July 16, 2020, at United Missionary Baptist Church (2705 Monroe St, Toledo, OH 43606). A wake will be held from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM. The memorial service will follow. Attendees are required to wear facemasks and practice social distancing.

H. Hortense Ward will be laid to rest in a private family burial at Ottawa Hills Memorial Park beside her beloved husband, Dorsey Ward.

In lieu of flowers or other tributes to her life, the family requests that contributions be made in her honor to the United Missionary Baptist Church Board of Christian Education. Arrangements entrusted to Dale-Riggs Funeral Home.

Cemetery Details

Ottawa Hills Memorial Park

4210 West Central Avenue
Toledo, OH

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL **16**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

United Missionary Baptist Church
2705 Monroe Street
Toledo, OH 43606

Tribute Wall

LM

“ The one time I met Mrs. Ward, when Brenda and ymbrother married, she and Mr. Ward opened up their home and hearts to our family. She always made you feel important when you were around ner. I am grateful she entered my life and the lives of my family. Great lady and great life lived. May she rest in God's arms. Brenda and Bridgett, be proud she was in your lives for so ling. God keep each of you.

Love,

LaVerne Robinson Miller and the entire Robinson Family

LaVerne Miller - July 17, 2020 at 10:47 PM

BC

“ To Brenda and Bridgette. We are so thankful that through your mom's friendship, she lightened the load on many occasions for our mom *Elfreda Foster*. Love from Benson, Lynne, Cassie, Freida and Angela.

Benson Cooke - July 14, 2020 at 01:02 PM

JC

“ I have many wonderful memories of being with both Dorsey and Tense. Among my favorites times are the lost weekends spent playing bridge with only the girls at Fox Lake. We never turned the TV on. We ate, played records, laughed, and just enjoyed each others company. Tence was a great friend and confident. I loved her and were miss her very much.

Judith Clark - July 14, 2020 at 09:28 AM

CL

“ I’m sorry for your loss. I worked with Mrs. Ward at Garfield for several years and she was a wonderful lady and an inspiration to me.
Coral Long

Coral Long - July 14, 2020 at 09:14 AM

DR

“ To Brenda and family: sorry to hear of Hortense’ passing. We went to lunch and visited Mrs. Howard before your mom moved to Cleveland, OH. That was the last time we saw each other. Thank you very much for writing about what Hortense had been doing.

Sincerely,
Dorothy Randall

Dorothy Randall - July 11, 2020 at 10:03 AM

JC

I have many wonderful memories of times spent with both Dorsey and Tense. Among my favorites were the weekends at Fox Lake with just the girls. We played a lot of bridge, ate, talked, and laughed on those lost weekends.
Those were great bonding events. I will miss my friend very much.

Judith Clark - July 13, 2020 at 01:53 PM