



Dorothy Kernodle Garris

February 25, 1926 - October 20, 2015

Dorothy Lillian Kernodle Garris, born in 1926 in Reidsville, NC, died on October 20, 2015 in Waldorf, MD. Dear wife for 43 years of the late Reverend Grant S. Garris, she was a longtime resident of Washington, D.C., moving to Washington with her family as a very young child. She attended Ambush Elementary, Randall Junior High, and finally Dunbar High School, from which she graduated in 1943. Always wishing to be a teacher, she entered Miner Teachers College and graduated in 1947. She became a much loved elementary school teacher, teaching at a number of DC elementary schools, including Syphax, Van Ness, and Mary Church Terrell. She had a lifelong love of education and poetry, and was especially adept at spelling. On March 15, 1991, she won first place in a Senior Spelling Bee and became eligible for the Washington Metro Area Senior Spelling Bee Championship where she won first place on April 12, 1991. A Christian all her life, she joined her husband in founding The New United Baptist Church on September 15, 1963. She was predeceased by her beloved mother Edna B. Strickland and father Obra Kernodle, and brothers Junior and Freeman. She is survived by her children Tangela Garris Roe, Grant S. Garris, Jr., Lynnette A. Garris, Kevin S. Garris, two grandsons, three great grandchildren, and numerous other relatives. Dorothy will be sorely missed by her family and a host of relatives and friends. A small service was held for the immediate family at Fort Lincoln Cemetery.

Arrangements by Johnson and Jenkins Funeral Home, Inc..

Tribute Wall

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“ I was very sorry to learn of the passing of Mrs. Garris. We used to live around the corner from her on capitol hill and really enjoyed visiting and talking with her. She was very sweet to my son and we especially enjoyed hearing her stories as a teacher in DC. She was a very proud and fine lady and although I'm sure she will be missed by her family, friends, and students, I'm also sure that she will be fondly remembered.

Randy Kaplan

Randy Kaplan - October 25, 2015 at 06:49 AM