



## Ms. Loretta Foster

May 11, 1927 - May 13, 2023

To view the funeral service: [https://youtube.com/live/dtXEVSwdn\\_4?feature=s](https://youtube.com/live/dtXEVSwdn_4?feature=s)  
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### Her Journey

Loretta Rublyn Foster

With great sorrow and bittersweet gratitude, the Stewart, Foster, and Brooks' families lost their kind, brave, caring and unimaginably generous mother, grandmother, great grandmother, sister, aunt, cousin and friend, Loretta Rublyn Stewart Foster. She succumbed to health challenges and passed away while sleeping on May 13, 2023. She was born on May 11, 1927 to the late Anthony Stewart and Williamette Butler Stewart in Crawfordville, Georgia. The second child of 8 children, she grew up with 5 brother and two sisters, working on the family farm, having fun with cousins and neighborhood friends. Her childhood was an idyllic time in her life, which she recalled fondly. Loretta was an adorable, little pudgy girl who loved eating sweets. She accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as her personal Savior at an early age and became a member of the Greater Level Hill Baptist Church in Crawfordville. She was an active member of the church choir. After graduating from the Taliaferro County Public Schools, she moved to Washington, D. C. to pursue career opportunities.

After moving to Washington in 1948, Loretta secured employment with her

cousin who owned a restaurant. She worked there for several years, but venture into the dry cleaning business where she served as a seamstress. Her interest in this area propelled her to complete a course in dress making at the Margaret Washington Vocational school of Washington DC. She would use this skill throughout her life for personal and professional purposes. She later became the care taker for the McKnight family where she worked for over 20 years. Her love for children lead her to work at St. Ann's Center for Children, Youth and Families in Hyattsville, Maryland, where she always wanted to "bring the children home". But it was her last stint as apartment front desk clerk and resident manager for Borges Management Company, where her love for helping other exploded. It was there where she cared for the residents like family members and used every possible option available to assist anyone that was in need. She also managed properties for the Burrows Management Company until her health challenges would not allow her to perform her duties.

Loretta was preceded in death by her husband, William (also known as Dub) in 1999 after 46 years of marriage. She was a devoted wife, married to a very quiet man, who cherished her dearly. Opposite attracts! They has joyful years of love and a partnership that only few could imagine. He gave her the experience of being deeply understood, truly supported and complete and utterly loved.

In 1956, Loretta united with The Great Tried Stone Baptist Church, 1363 Otis Place NW DC, under the leadership of their late pastor, Rev. Edward W. Burrell. She sang in the Volunteer Choir and was known for her rendition of the song "God Specializes". As an honorary Deaconess, she was a faithful member who gave her time and service to various church ministries -- church

anniversary, women's day, and the pastor's aid ministry, where she once served as president. She especially loved attending Sunday school. As a woman of faith, Loretta wished to have a celebration of the immortality promised to all by Christ. She would love to be remembered as funny, joking, or telling silly stories that celebrate what was good and blessed in her life.

Loretta was a beautiful person inside and out. Affectionately known some as Lo, Gar, GarGar, Mother, Mother Foster, Godmother, Rhetta, she had the biggest heart and tried to help everybody! Her personality embodied strength, independence, sensitivity, compassion, wit and fun. She cared so deeply for the people around her. She was so kind and passionate. She loved cooking, sewing, music, singing, spending time with her children and eating out. She was fearless and independent, yet sensitive and incredibly compassionate. She was strong willed and stubborn, but those traits defined Loretta. They were a part of who she was and her strength undoubtedly, helped her deal with life's challenges.

Loretta is survived by her son Robert E. Brooks (Josie), grandchildren Mark Mathis (Michelle), LaShonda Scott, Marcus Brooks, Candace Brooks Jones (Dwayne), LaToya Easton (Derek Jr.); Great Grands, DaVontai, William, Aniya, Armon, DaNaiya, Lanai, Dwayne III, David, Talanna; great-great grands , Zackary and Nasir. She leaves one brother, Williams Anthony Stewart (Grade) and one sister-in-law Christine Stewart, all of Washington, Georgia. Her memory will live on with her nieces and nephews,

Sandra Ross, Timothy, Eric (Pam), Darlene, Renee, George, Vanessa,

Vincent, Alfreeda, Sandra Stewart, Kelvin and many grand nieces and nephews. Fond memories will be cherished by her Goddaughter Noreen; play daughters, Sharon, Brenda, Betty; surrogate daughter, Wannetta and a special granddaughter, Charlene (Lamont). Her adopted family of the late Dr. & Mrs. Herbert and Alma McKnight and their 9 children --Leslie, Joanne, John, Vinson, Julian, Alice, Albert, Thomas and Timothy, will always have a special place in her heart.

As we put the Loretta to rest today, we buried only her body. Her spirit, her soul, and her amazing ability to give is still with us. It lives on in the stories people are sharing of how she touched their lives, in the love that is visible in the eyes of our family and friends, in the spirit and resilience of those she touched. Things will never be the same – but the world is better for the 96 years our beloved Loretta lived.

God Looked around garden and found an empty place,  
He then looked down upon the earth and saw your tired face.  
He put his arms around you and lifted you to rest,  
God's garden must be beautiful, He always take the best.  
He knew that you were suffering. He knew you were in pain.  
He knew that you would never get well on earth again.  
He saw the road was getting rough and the hills were hard to climb,  
So he closed your weary eyelids and whispered, 'Peace be Thine'  
It broke our hearts to lose you, but you did not go alone,  
For part of us went with you the day God call you home.  
-The Family

# Cemetery Details

## Fort Lincoln Cemetery

3401 Bladensburg Rd  
Brentwood, MD 20722  
(301) 864-5090

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**MAY 18.** 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Johnson & Jenkins Funeral Home  
716 Kennedy Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20011  
(202) 882-8800  
jjfh@aol.com  
<https://JohnsonandJenkinsFH.com>

## Funeral service

**MAY 18.** 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Johnson & Jenkins Funeral Home  
716 Kennedy Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20011  
(202) 882-8800  
jjfh@aol.com  
<https://JohnsonandJenkinsFH.com>

# Tribute Wall

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“ *Condolences to the family of Loretta Foster. It was a truly an honor to know and love such a beautiful lady. I am a better woman because of her. ~Stephanie Nelson-Butler*

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**Stephanie Nelson-Butler** - May 17, 2023 at 09:48 PM

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*Condolences to the family of Aunt Loretta. May the Peace of God keep you close.*

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**Diane Jenkins** - May 17, 2023 at 10:57 PM