



Allean Brunson Dixon was born on October 11, 1936 to the late Annie Lee Brunson and the late John Wesley Dowe in Summerton, South Carolina. She was just ten months old when her mother died. Thankfully, her grandparents, Joe and Alean Brunson and her great-grandmother, Charlotte Brunson, stepped in to raise her and her brother, Joe. She cherished the one photo she had of her mother as a little girl. Allean accepted Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior at an early age and was a faithful member of Taw Caw Baptist Church in Manning, South Carolina. She was educated in the South Carolina Public School System and graduated from Scotts Branch High School in 1954.

#### She Was A Loving Daughter (Granddaughter)

She loved her grandparents dearly and would often reminisce about growing up with them. Her grandparents played a major role in molding her into the wonderful woman she became. They taught her the meaning of hard work. She often spoke of having to work on the farm in extremely hot weather all day long. She picked cotton, tobacco and produce. She loved to tell her children how she had to walk 3 miles to school. Although life was difficult growing up in the South in the 30's and 40's, she still enjoyed her childhood and youth as best she could. In the 50's, she moved to New York in search of a better life; however, she still remained close to her grandparents until their deaths in 1978.

#### She Was A Sister

Allean shared a very special bond with her older brother, Joe. She was nicknamed Sissy and Joe was nicknamed BoPeep. These nicknames followed them into their adulthood. They were quite mischevious and fought just like any other normal siblings. She often laughed about the time he cut his foot with an axe and how it became swollen and painful. After a disagreement, she stomped down on his foot and it burst open, screaming in pain he limped into the house to tell their grandparents. Of course, she denied doing such a thing. After her relocation to New York, she stayed in touch with him. She was devastated when he was accidently killed in 1963. She held on to the letters he wrote to her, including one dated January 7, 1963, which he wrote a few weeks prior to his death.

#### She Was A Loving Wife

In June, 1956 at the age of 19, a funny thing happened to her while sitting on the steps of her apartment building on 121st Street in Harlem. She locked eyes with a handsome young man named, William Richard Dixon. It was love at first sight. Not only did their eyes lock, but so did their hearts. After an eight-month courtship, they were united in holy matrimony on February 19, 1957. She became his chief caregiver when he became ill in 2003. They remained married until William's death in 2004. He died just 8 days shy of their 47th wedding anniversary. They truly loved each other.

#### She Was A Loving Mother

This union was blessed with seven children. As the family matriarch she was affectionately called Mommy or Marme. She provided a safe loving environment for her children. She set an example of what a good mother should be. She always kept a clean, neat home and seemed to be constantly cooking. Sunday dinners were always important to her. She was actively involved in her children's education and was a member of the parents association. She taught her children the importance of having a good education, being a hard worker and being a dedicated employee.

#### She Was A Loving Grandmother and Great Grandmother

She was affectionately known as Granny to her nineteen grandchildren and sixteen great grandchildren. She served as the first and sometimes only babysitter for most of them. She loved them and they loved her. This year she anxiously awaited the arrival of three new great-grands. In August, she met her newest great grandson, Andre, III, and at the time of her passing she was awaiting the arrival of another great grandson and a great granddaughter, who she nicknamed "Lil Missy". In 2007, she received the grandparent of the year award by the Grandparents Around The World Productions, Inc. She was honored at a banquet and rode in a white horse drawn carriage from Central Park to the banquet. She loved it.

#### She Was A Loyal Friend

She once said she never met a stranger. She found something good in everyone. If you had her as a friend, you had a loyal friend. Over the years, she developed many close relationships, but none closer than the one she shared with her best friend of nearly 50 years, Johnnie Mae Wilkinson. They spent countless hours on the telephone and visiting each other's houses for coffee. She had a long-lasting friendship with Ann Francis, Irene Williams and her cousin, the late Minnie Cherry. She was devastated when Minnie died. In recent years, she developed special friendships with her sisters in Christ, Sis. Elma Staten, Sis. Mable Townsend, Sis. LaVerne Kane, Rev. Gilder Anderson, the late Sis. Loretta Forbes and the late Sis. Elise Underwood.

#### She Was A Neighbor

She was a resident of NYCHA for nearly fifty years. She was actively involved in the tenants' association and served as a member of tenant patrol. She won numerous awards for her flower gardens. She was loved, well known, and respected by everyone. You could often find her sitting on the bench in front of her building chatting with neighbors. She even served as the babysitter for some of the neighborhood children.

#### She Was A Hard Worker

She worked several jobs throughout her life including in factories and as a home attendant. She enjoyed caring for others especially senior citizens. We believe that because she was raised by her grandparents, she always had a special bond with senior citizens.

#### She Was A God Fearing Woman

She found her new church home in the early 80's when she became a member of Thessalonia Baptist Church under the leadership of the Rev. Dr. Shellie Sampson, Jr. She was a faithful and dedicated member of the Hospitality Team, The Missionary Crusaders, The Welcome Committee, Sunday Church School, and Discipleship School and served as a Chaplain. As the Captain of the State Rally for the great State of South Carolina she raised thousands of dollars. She loved the Lord and continued to increase her knowledge of Him. Her faith in Him is what sustained her. With Allean, it was not about religion; it was about her relationship with the Lord.

#### She Was A Talented Woman

She loved sewing, crotcheting and nurturing her plants. She had the gift of gab and a great sense of humor. She could make anyone laugh. She enjoyed watching a variety of soap operas, but "The Young and the Restless" was her favorite. She also enjoyed Matlock, and of course, those cooking shows. She had a love for the actor, Billy D. Williams and even had a photo of him hid behind a picture of her beloved husband. In recent years, she developed her own passion for acting. She was proud of her roles in "The Mystery of Who Killed Bubba Brown" and the Off-Broadway play, "Dinner at Grandma's". She even wrote a few skits herself. Her grandson Kyle said, "I owe so much to my grandmother. More than just the clothes she brought, the take out that she ordered for me or the toys. She was the person who introduced me to my greatest passion; acting. And for that I'm eternally grateful."

#### She Was The Recipient of Various Awards

She proudly displayed the countless awards she received for her dedication to her church and to her community. She was the recipient of awards from the Governor, Senators, Representatives, the Bronx Borough President and City Council.

In 2010, she was diagnosed with uterine cancer. In January 2011, she had surgery and declared that she didn't have cancer anymore. She would say "I HAD cancer but they took it out." She took one dose of chemotherapy and decided that it was one dose too many. She decided not to take any more treatment but rather to live the rest of her life feeling relatively good. For the past twenty-two months she has fought the good fight of faith. She proved the doctors wrong on several occasions and continually beat the odds and kept on fighting. Although, she refused to give up the fight, she was confident in knowing that her Lord and Savior would deliver her – in His time.

In the early morning hours of September 30, 2012, deliverance came! Hallelujah! While at Calvary Hospital, surrounded by two of her sons, Willie and Curtis, she entered into eternal rest. Just as she lived, she left; peacefully.

Allean Brunson Dixon, was a phenomenal woman of God. She was a True Proverbs 31 Woman. She had a smile that lit up the room. She could easily engage in conversation with anyone. She was a peacemaker who was always willing to help others. She believed in God and that everything should be done in decency and in order, according to God's Word. Her daughter, Diana, said it best "Mom, You Are Simply the Best."

In addition to her husband, William, her brother, her parents and her grandparents, she was preceded in death by her parents-inlaw, Frank and Martha Dixon, her brother-in-law, John Sapp, her son-in-law, Andre Brown, Sr., and her daughter-in-law, Linda Dixon.

Those who loved her and who will cherish her memory are: her seven children, Calvin (Thelma) Brunson, William (Debra) Dixon, Jr., Diana Dixon-Brown, Curtis (Cynthia) Dixon, Ronald (Regina) Dixon, Darlene (Roosevelt) Zinnerman, and Alicia Dixon; her nineteen grandchildren, LaToya (Curtiss), Clatterrica, Cassandra, Cynthia, Ash-Leigh (Richard), Ammie, Jean, Jasmine, Sasha, Toni, Kelvin, Andre, Jr. (Crystal), Curtis, Jr., Ronald Jr., William, III, Anthony, David, Christopher and Kyle; her sixteen great-grand children, Davien, Tianna, Taleah, Zandria, Andre III, Shah, Aleigashaw, Eliah, Terion, Akira, Calvin, Shemara, Elisha, Devana, Shakira and Sabrina; one sister-in-law, Bertha Mae Brunson, five nieces, Annette Brunson, Gloria Holloman, Zena Brunson, Levolia McNeil and Candace Johnson; one nephew, Marvin Brunson; one God Daughter, Barbara Jean Johnson; A Loving Extended Family, Lou Ellen Johnson, Willene Dowe, Rebecca Paige, Mary Dowe, Rena Monroe, Betty Anne Brunson, Nurlean Brunson, James Brunson, Jr., The Johnson Family, The Dowe Family, The Cherry Family, The Brunson Family and The Pinkney Family; Special Friends, Johnnie Mae Wilkinson, Ann Francis, Irene Williams, Elma Staten, Laverne Kane, Mable Townsend, Rev. Gilder Anderson, Rev, Christella Watts and Pastor Veda Grampus, and her church family along with a host of other relatives, friends and neighbors.



# Safely Home

I am home in Heaven, dear ones; Oh, so happy and so bright! There is perfect joy and beauty In this everlasting light.

All the pain and grief is over, Every restless tossing passed; I am now at peace forever, Safely home in Heaven at last.

Did you wonder why I so calmly Trod the valley of the shade? Oh! But Jesus' love illumined Every dark and fearful glade.

And He came Himself to meet me In that way so hard to tread; And with Jesus' arm to lean on, Could I have one doubt or dread?

Then you must not grieve so sorely, For I love you dearly still: Try to look beyond earth's shadows, Pray to trust our Father's Will.

There is work still waiting for you, So you must not idly stand; Do it now, while life remaineth -You shall rest in Jesus' land.

When that work is all completed, He will gently call you Home: Oh, the rapture of that meeting, Oh, the joy to see you come!

-unknown author

## <u>Acknowledgement</u>

The family acknowledges with deep appreciation all acts of kindness extended to them during this bereavement hour.

God bless you for all your thoughtfulness and concern.

### **Interment**

Rosehill Cemetery Linden, New Jersey

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