Tears of Joy... A Homegoing for

Jessie Clifton Holland

January 28, 1902 – January 22, 2005

W.P. Porter Mortuary
2611 Virginia Avenue
Louisville, KY

Thursday, January 27, 2005
1:00pm

Reverend Phillip L. Hodge, Sr. - Officiant
Fifth Street Baptist Church
Obituary

Jessie Clifton Holland was born on January 28, 1902 in Staunton, Virginia to William Clifton and Jessie Harris Givens. She was the youngest of five children. When her father died in December 1902, Jessie's brother James E. Givens and sister Fannie Rosalind Givens were sent to Louisville, KY to live with their aunt. Upon her mother's death, when Jessie was 10 years old, she and her other two sisters joined their Aunt Fannie R. Givens in Louisville, KY, where she lived during her young adult life.

Jessie attended Central Colored High School and completed Louisville Normal School, which prepared her to teach. After college graduation, she moved to Asheville, NC and taught grades two through five at Mountain Street Elementary School for 20 years. She married Lafayette James Holland in 1938. They moved to Chicago, where she accepted a position with the government and helped her husband establish the L.J. Holland Funeral Home. After retiring from the government position, she worked with her husband in their funeral business for 15 years.

In 1982, Lafayette and Jessie Holland retired and moved back to Louisville, where they became very active in the Fifth Street Baptist Church and many other political and religious organizations. Lafayette Holland passed away in September 1989. Jessie Holland continued to be active in her church and community, and an inspiration to her nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, students and a host of other relatives and friends. On the occasion of her 100th birthday Jessie said, "My heart is full of laughter. My eyes are filled with tears of joy. My arms want to reach out and hug each of you." She will be missed but her love will live on!

Homegoing Service

Processional                        Family
Selection                            Rev. Hodges
Scripture                           Acknowledgements
Prayer                              Obituary
Selection                            Read Silently
Solo                                Eulogy
Benediction & Recessional           Rev. Phillip L. Hodge, Sr.
Interment                           Fifth Street Bapt. Church
Resthaven Mausoleum
~ Pallbearers ~

Friends of the Holland Family

Jessie Coward Holland was born on May 28, 1902 in Staunton, Virginia to William Clinton and Jessie Harps Givens. She was the youngest of five children. When she was a year old, her father died. Jessie and her siblings were raised by their uncle, Rosalind Givens, until their mother remarried in December 1907. Jessie's brother James E. Givens and sister Fannie were sent to Louisville, KY to live with their aunt. Upon her mother's death, when Jessie was four years old, she and her other two sisters joined their father in Staunton, Givens in Louisville, KY, where she completed her education. 

Jessie attended Central High School and Louisville Normal School, where she aspired to teach. After college graduation, she moved to Asheville, NC, and taught grades one through five at Mountain Street Elementary School for 20 years. She married Lafayette L. Holland in September 1926. Lafayette Holland was a physician who was born in September 1877. They continued to be active in her church and community, and an inspiration to her nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, students and a host of other relatives. A highlight of her life was her 100th birthday celebration in September 2002. At the celebration, she was surrounded by friends, family and neighbors who came to wish her well. 

On behalf of Jessie Holland, the family would like to thank her Church Family ~ Fifth Street Baptist Church, and the two people that cared for her in her later years: Rosa White & Mable Monroe.

The Holland Family

Arrangements:
W.P. Porter Mortuary
2611 Virginia Avenue
Louisville, KY 40211
(502) 775-5555

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