



Mrs. Betty Welch Dukes

January 15, 1953 - January 3, 2014

Betty Sue Dukes entered into eternal peace on January 3, 2014 in the comfort of her home and in the presence of her loving family.

“Soja,” as she was affectionately called, was born January 15, 1953 in Union, Mississippi, daughter of the late Joe and Bonnie Jean Welch. She received her formal education from Carver Elementary and Boler High School, Union, MS, where she met and married her sweetheart Maurice Dukes of over 50 years. Their union gave life upon 4 children, Gloria Wallace (Todd), De-Wanna and Christopher Welch and Miranda Welch-Epps (late Andre).

Betty spent her earlier years working outside the home before her illness called her inside the home where she enjoyed being a provider and caretaker for all her grandchildren in addition to other extended family members, friends and neighbors’ children. Betty was a member of the Anointed Bible Church of God.

“Soja” loved her daytime soap operas. Many mornings and late evenings you could find her sitting on the porch reading her Bible and talking to neighbors. She was a girly-girl, loved to keep her hair and nails done and could shop till she dropped. She would cook like every day was a Sunday dinner. She loved when her husband would sing to her, and she would try to sing along knowing she couldn’t stay in tune or even hold a note. She loved her hand-held solitaire game and carried it everywhere.

In addition to her husband and children, Betty leaves to cherish precious memories: 4 sisters, Joe Alice Beeman, Jean Wilson, Betty Jo Fox and Rose

Johnson; 10 grandchildren, Jassmone, Asya and Mya Epps, Dareian Young, Dawnyae and Andre Hilliard, Christopher Welch Jr., Chanel Shaw, Antoine McLamb and the late DeSean Wallace; along with so many loving extended family members and dear friends.

Services will be held at 12 Noon, Friday, January 10, 2014, at Wallace Funeral Directors, with viewing from 11 A.M to 12 Noon. Interment will be at William Howard Day Cemetery. Memorial gifts may be made to any local cancer foundation. wallacefd.com