



Mrs. Juanita Irmagene Purnsley

March 19, 1937 - August 7, 2023

Juanita Lowe Purnsley was born on March 19, 1937 in Little Rock, Arkansas to a sharecropper Robert Lowe and Callie Lee Locklin. She spent her childhood years in Tyronza, Arkansas before relocating with her mother and finally settling down in Southern Pines, N.C. It was here that she planted her roots and began to make her mark on life. She starred athletically, academically, and theatrically at West Southern Pines High School. She matriculated to Shaw University where she paid her way through college and always made sure that her grandmother, mother, and younger brother had enough. While at Shaw she was extremely active in the drama club playing Queen Elizabeth in a Black College touring review, graduating with a B.S. in education as well as becoming a member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Incorporated. Juanita taught 43 years and was Moore County teacher of the year in 1984. Juanita taught at numerous schools notably, Leak Street High School coaching the girls basketball team, Southern Pines Middle, and Vass-Lakeview as well as positions in Cumberland Co., Hoke Co., Fairbanks, Alaska and many others. She was beautiful, classy, always flawless, a mentor, and master motivator. But, it was in 1961, in Southern Pines where she would meet a handsome young Army Paratrooper from Wilmington, Delaware, Ernest L. Purnsley Sr. and 6 weeks later they were married. It lasted for 62 years. Together they had 4 children Ernest Jr., Ernesto, Endre', and Ernita. With Ernest Sr. serving in the U.S. Army the couple found themselves in Fairbanks, Alaska. It is here where her youngest son was injured in and

accident and it changed the course of her life forever. She entered into a covenant with God and never turned back. Along with her mother they started a bible study group on Gaines St. in Southern Pines which blossomed in Revival for Jesus Church. As an anointed evangelist, and following the word of God this mother and daughter team founded and built House of God Prayer Tabernacle now located in Parkton, N.C. She preached the word of God in Revivals, and conventions from Massachusetts to Georgia, and could never be found without her beloved best friend and organist Mrs. Cynthia Woods. Juanita loved her children and could always be found on the sidelines cheering them on from Pinecrest High School to Wake Forest, to Catawba College, and Fayetteville State. She was an avid traveler who loved cruising to exotic ports the world over. God truly favored Juanita and we all benefitted from her anointing. If you ever wondered how her children excelled, she was always, always praying. Every morning the family alarm clock was Andrae' Crouch playing on her record player she bought on layaway. But she not only encouraged her children, she encouraged everyone she met. Inspiring thousands of young people and old alike to be their best and reminding the that God loves them. There was never a moment spent with her that she didn't hug you, tell you she loved you, and would pray for you on the spot.

Family

Juanita is survived by a blessed family: Husband Ernest L. Purnsley Sr.; children Ernest L. Purnsley Jr.(Katherine), Ernesto L. Purnsley, Endre L. Purnsley (Jackie), Ernita N. Purnsley-Deans (Phillip); grandchildren Elise N. Purnsley, Evan L. Purnsley, Calina R. Purnsley, Ernest L. Purnsley III, Charles E. Arnold; brother Paul L. Locklin(Sylvia); a host of nieces, nephews, and very special cousins Barbara Jean Winston; Denise Williams, and Maurice Winston.

Previous Events

Viewing

AUG 16. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Colvin Funeral Home Chapel
2010 Murchison Road
Fayetteville, NC 28301

Funeral

AUG 17. 10:30 AM (ET)

House of God Prayer Tabernacle
2942 S. Fayetteville St
Parkton, NC 28371

Burial

AUG 17. 2:00 PM (ET)

Sandhills State Veterans Cemetery
8220 Bragg Blvd
Spring Lake, NC 28390

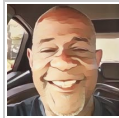
Tribute Wall



“ Colvin Funeral Homes & Cremations created a Tribute Video in memory of Mrs. Juanita Irmagene Purnsley



H. M. Colvin Funeral Home - August 11, 2023 at 03:37 PM



Totally awesome. Love you forever Juanita.

Steve Wright - August 25, 2023 at 07:21 AM

CS

“ My condolences to the Purnsley family. I knew Mrs. Purnsley early in my teaching career when she was a retired teacher and was a sub for me .What a lovely and interesting person. I always enjoyed talking with her when she was in my school. Hold on to all of your special memories of her. I know you have many!. May God continue to bless each of you.

Cynthia Stevenson

Cynthia Stevenson - August 24, 2023 at 10:32 AM

FW

“ *Fran Wesley lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Juanita Irmagene Purnsley*



Fran Wesley - August 17, 2023 at 12:47 PM



“ *Celestial Love was purchased for the family of Mrs. Juanita Irmagene Purnsley.*



August 16, 2023 at 09:08 PM



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mrs. Juanita Irmagene Purnsley.*



August 16, 2023 at 10:16 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Mrs. Juanita Irmagene Purnsley.*



August 15, 2023 at 09:12 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Mrs. Juanita Irmagene Purnsley.*



August 15, 2023 at 12:20 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mrs. Juanita Irmagene Purnsley.

August 15, 2023 at 12:20 PM



“ *My sincere condolences to you and your family! Keep on looking up as you are in my thoughts and prayers 🙏*

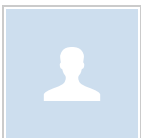
Shannon Council - August 15, 2023 at 01:41 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Mrs. Juanita Irmagene Purnsley.*



August 14, 2023 at 04:29 PM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Mrs. Juanita Irmagene Purnsley.*



August 14, 2023 at 02:20 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mrs. Juanita Irmagene Purnsley.

August 14, 2023 at 02:20 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Mrs. Juanita Irmagene Purnsley.



August 13, 2023 at 12:40 PM



“ *I am so sorry for your loss. She will truly be missed. She was my grandfather's favorite teacher when they worked together in Moore County Schools. Thoughts and prayers with the family.*



Jim Kelso

Jim Kelso - August 12, 2023 at 01:21 PM



“ *Enduring Light Casket Spray* was purchased for the family of Mrs. Juanita Irmagene Purnsley.



August 12, 2023 at 12:33 PM



“ *Tonya McCullough lit a candle in memory of Juanita Purnsley* ”



Tonya McCullough - August 09, 2023 at 12:06 PM