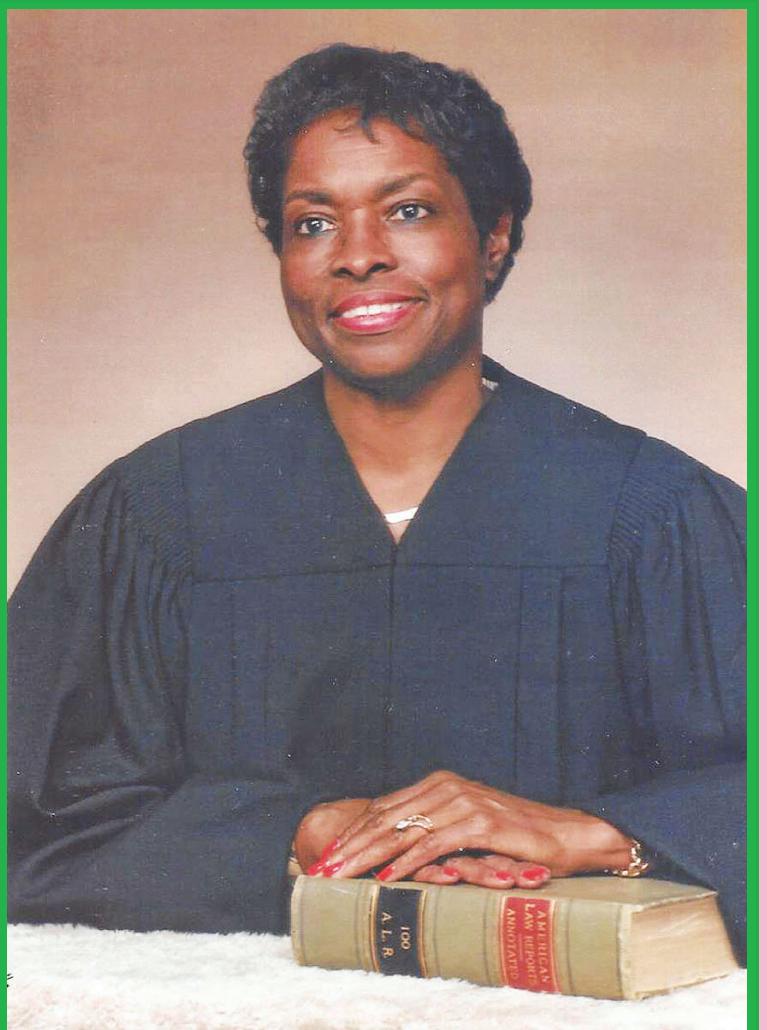




Service of Celebration For the Life of The Honorable Bonita Joyce Dancy

January 21, 1946 - November 23, 2018



Inurnment

Garrison Forest Veterans Cemetery
Owings Mills, Maryland
Friday, December 7, 2018 @ 10:45 a.m.

Honorary Pallbearers

Retired and Active Judges of the Circuit Court for Baltimore City

Acknowledgements

The family is deeply appreciative and is profoundly grateful to each of you for all the kind deeds, comforting words, prayers and other expressions from friends and family during the passing of our loved one. May God bestow upon you His grace and keep you in His protective care.

Special thanks to Gayle Wilson who lovingly cared for Bonita throughout her adult life, but especially this last year.

Donations in Judge Bonita J. Dancy's name can be made to:
Camp Farthest Out
c/o Douglas Memorial Community Church

Arrangements

Professional Services of Comfort Entrusted to:



Redd Funeral Services

1300-02 Eutaw Place
Baltimore, Maryland 21217
410-523-1600 • www.reddfuneralservices.com

Program by Alphonso Gillis - 410-599-6287

Thursday, December 6, 2018

Family Hour: 11:00 a.m.

Worship Service: 12:00 noon

Douglas Memorial Community Church

1325 Madison Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland 21217

The Reverend Dr. S. Todd Yeary, Officiating

Obituary

On January 21, 1946 **BONITA JOYCE DANCY** was born to Joyce and Homer B. Dancy, Sr. in Baltimore, MD. Bonita was educated in the Baltimore City Public School System and graduated from Douglass High School with honors in 1963.

Excelling in all levels of her education, Bonita received a Bachelor's Degree from Morgan State University, a Master's Degree in Social Work from the University of Maryland School of Social Work and the Juris Doctor from the University of Maryland School of Law.

As a staunch advocate for families and children, Judge Dancy served for thirteen years as Master-In-Chancery, Domestic Relations Division, Circuit Court of Baltimore City in which she was responsible for hearing and deciding family law matters. She also served on the Board of Directors of Family and Children's Services of Central Maryland. Judge Dancy was committed to serving families and was known for her expertise in the area of Family Law.

In addition to Family Law, Judge Dancy was quite active in numerous other professional services. Judge Dancy worked in various capacities in the following associations: The Bar Association of Baltimore; The Maryland Institute for Continuing Professional Education for Lawyers; The Monumental City Bar Association; The National Association of Women Judges; The American Bar Association; The Maryland Alliance of Black Women Attorneys; The Board of Directors of Family & Children's Services of Central Maryland.

Appointed a Circuit Court judge in December 1995, she sat on the bench hearing civil, criminal, and family dockets. When she retired in March 2006, Judge Dancy agreed to become a recalled retired judge. She continued to serve as Lead Judge of Baltimore's Child Welfare Model Court until December 2013 when she retired from her recall position.

On a personal level, Bonita was passionate about God, others, and life. On July 10, 1982 she married the love of her life, Theron N. Whitaker. Bonita and Theron loved to entertain family and friends in their lovely home. They also enjoyed traveling throughout the world, going to and planning social outings, and being a part of many activities at Douglas Memorial Church. Bonita loved and was devoted to God and chose to share her wisdom and love, especially with children and young adults. She encouraged them to dream the impossible dream. She mentored numerous young people throughout the city. Also, Bonita loved her sisters in Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated and was a charter member of Rho Xi Omega Chapter and a Life member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated. She enjoyed, a social club, EtCetera, in which the members traveled extensively. Accordingly, she was extremely active in her sorority and EtCetera until she became too ill to participate. In addition to Rho Xi Omega Chapter, Bonita chartered and worked diligently with the Coalition of 100 Black Women, Baltimore City Chapter. Additionally, Bonita loved God and served Him faithfully. She worked tirelessly at Douglas Memorial Community Church on the Board of Trustees and "The Friends."

Judge Dancy has received numerous honors including being listed in Who's Who of American Women, Who's Who in American Law, The Monumental City Bar Association Founder's Award and the Alpha Kappa

Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, Rho Xi Omega Chapter's, Cultured Pearl Award for Outstanding Service. Judge Dancy was recognized by Warfield's Business Journal as one of Maryland's Top 100 Women. Additionally, she received the Delta Sigma Theta Baltimore Alumnae Chapter Community Service Award and the Jewel Award of the Baltimore Metropolitan Chapter of the Coalition of 100 Black Women.

Bonita was extremely well known and loved. Her bright, infectious smile and personal regard for everyone were her trade mark. She was a gentle soul who also gave generously to numerous causes. At every opportunity, she championed the underdog. But the incredible part about Bonita was her indomitable spirit in spite of her many health challenges throughout her life. The beautifulness of Bonita was that the God in her was so evident.

On Friday, November 23, 2018, a host of angels escorted Bonita to her heavenly home.

Bonita leaves to celebrate her life her husband, Theron N. Whitaker; her sisters, Josephine Fuller, Norva Dancy, Rhonda Dancy Smith (Michael); her brothers, Homer B. Dancy, Jr. (Nicola), Edward Dancy; sister-in-law, Johnette Whitaker; step-children, Theron Whitaker, Jr (Nikki), Danielle Whitaker Gonzales; grandchild, Isabella Gonzales; and a host of family and friends.



I'm Free

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free,
I'm following the path God laid for me.
I took His hand when I heard him call,
I turned my back and left it all.
I could not stay another day,
To laugh, to love, to work or play:
Tasks left undone must stay that way.
If my parting has left a void,
Then fill it with remembered joy.
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,
Ah yes, these things I too will miss.
Be not burdened with times of sorrow,
I wish you the sunshine of tomorrow.
My life's been full, I savored much,
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.
Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your hearts and share with me,
I'm with God now; I've been set free.

Service of Triumph

PROCESSIONAL

THE PRELUDE.....Patrick Alston

THE HYMN OF CELEBRATION.....Page 158....."Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

THE PRAYER OF COMFORT.....Rev. Yvonne Davis-Robinson

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING: Psalms 27:1-6.....Lydia McCargo-Redd

THE NEW TESTAMENT READING: Matthew 5:1-12Edith S. Green

"HOW GREAT THOU ART"Sherry Hunt

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS/
PROCLAMATIONS.....The Honorable Marcella Holland, Senior Judge

REFLECTIONS

Career: The Honorable Robert M. Bell,
Chief Judge, Court of Appeals of MD, Retired
Family: Rev. Gina Whitaker-Cannon
Friend: Judge Melissa Copeland Bryant
Church: Chairperson of the DMCC Board of Stewarts

READING OF THE OBITUARY(Silently)

SOLOSherry Hunt

WORDS OF COMFORTRev. Todd Yearly

"JOYFUL, JOYFUL"Page 120Patrick Alston

BENEDICTION

RECESSIONAL

