

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The Family of Emily Ivory wishes to express our deep appreciation to those who have extended to us their love sympathy and prayers. Words cannot express our sincere gratitude for all of the visits and small kindnesses shown to Emily during the past three years. Let us together rejoice in all of our memories, and embrace having known Emily, a very special woman.



"GOING UP YONDER!"

SPECIAL THANK YOU'S

Torrance Team of Trinity Care Hospice

Home Health Caregivers

Felicia Smith

Lashawntae Arnold

Yvonne Wallace

**Johnson C. Smith University Alumni
Southern California Chapter**

Angel City Links

Members of Knox Presbyterian Church

*A Witness to the Resurrection
In Celebration of the Life & Faith of*

Emily Marie Richardson Ivory



Saturday, August 30, 2008

1:00 p.m.

**KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
5840 LA TIJERA BOULEVARD
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90056**

Reverend Mark F. Buchanan, Pastor

A Witness to the Resurrection

In Celebration of the Life & Faith of Emily Ivory



This is a time to celebrate a life well-lived. Emily Marie Richardson Ivory stepped into eternity on Sunday, August 24, 2008, cradled in the loving arms of her only surviving child, Darnell Lenese Ivory (Charlotte, NC). This life that counted, began on November 11, 1925 in Charlotte, North Carolina. The youngest of three daughters born to Paul Hamilton Richardson and Lizzie Bernice Martin Richardson, the love of God, value for family, high achievement and education were instilled early during Emily's life. She enjoyed close relationships with her two sisters, Dr.

Annie Louise Richardson and Catherine Elizabeth Richardson Hawkins (Silver Spring, Maryland).

Emily graduated from West Charlotte High School in 1943, where she excelled academically. Gifted in sports and the arts, Emily Ivory became a talented clarinetist in the high school band. She played saxophone, clarinet, and violin in the Seventh Street Presbyterian Church Sunday School orchestra. Her abiding love for music is reflected in the program today, which she outlined three years ago.

After one semester at Talladega College in Alabama, Emily's father died in December of her freshman year, bringing her back to Charlotte. Upon her return, she enrolled at Johnson C. Smith University as a second semester freshman, along with her two older sisters, Annie Louise and Catherine. At Smith, she met and married her college sweetheart, Cecil A. Ivory, a native of Arkadelphia, Arkansas. After receiving her undergraduate degree from Johnson C. Smith in 1944, Cecil continued his studies at JCSU, receiving a second Bachelor's degree in Divinity. They married during Emily's sophomore year.

They both graduated together during the spring commencement convocation of 1946, Cecil with a Bachelor of Divinity and Emily with a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education. While rearing their children, Rev. Ivory later received a Master of Divinity from the ITC Seminary in Atlanta, Georgia.

The young couple was blessed with three, brilliant and energetic children. Their two sons preceded her in death, the Honorable Judge Cecil Ivory, Jr. and Titus Lovell Ivory, an accomplished trailblazer in corporate America and volunteerism. Their daughter, Darnell, followed in Emily's footsteps in her musicianship (saxophone), athletic interest (competitive swimming) and love for children (Assistant Principal at Statesville Road Elementary School in Charlotte, NC). Emily inspired a love of God, family, and living one's purpose in her children, each of whom has made their own, valuable and indelible marks on the lives of others. They have become a part of her life legacy that will remain through the present and future generations of the Ivory family.

With her love for children and education, she chose the profession of teaching, beginning a long and illustrious career that spanned thirty-eight years in three school districts: nine years in Rock Hill, SC; twelve years in Charlotte, NC; and completing her career with seventeen years in the Los Angeles Unified School District in 1991, where she served as a classroom teacher and then later appointed as a reading specialist. Emily's quest for excellence earmarked her work with students, desiring that they set and achieve high goals. She set the same high standards for herself, having completed the Master of Education from the University of Illinois at Urbana in 1968. In June 1969, she received a stipend to study English dialect in the United States from Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green, KY. She was chosen as one of only 25 participants representing residents from every region in the US.

Emily made Los Angeles her home in 1974, continuing her participation in many social and charitable organizations, including the Angel City Links, the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, and several bridge and pinochle clubs. All who knew Emily can attest to her boundless energy, generous heart and indomitable spirit. Excellence earmarked her community and service projects with the Angel City Links. The groundwork she laid in designing and shepherding the Angel City Links Achiever's Souvenir publication is a beacon that guides their work today. This quest for excellence is an important part of her life legacy.

A dedicated and active leader at Knox Presbyterian Church, Emily formerly held offices as Elder and Deacon. Mrs. Ivory was an avid supporter of the Agape Children's Group and volunteered her time helping feed homeless individuals until her health restricted her participation. Her church family has surrounded her with prayer, love and care during the time of her battle against cancer. This family gratefully acknowledges the support and guidance provided by the Torrance Team of Trinity Care Hospice.

One of her profound joys was traveling! Whether to the Naudin-Dibble Family reunions, or international travel with her sister, Catherine, or with numerous friends and other family members, Mrs. Ivory's zest for living and learning were expressed in travel. Children adored her. Emily's sense of humor and keen watchfulness endeared her to all. Everyone had a different nickname for Emily. Her children lovingly dubbed her "Muh". Her grandchildren affectionately called her "Plum". Most of us called her "Friend". A life well-lived indeed!

Celebrating Emily's life and legacy are her daughter, Darnell and daughter-in-law, Carlenia Graham Ivory both of Charlotte, NC; her sister, Catherine Elizabeth Richardson Hawkins, from Silver Spring, Maryland; four grandchildren, Robert Graham of Charlotte, NC, Lisa Johnson Montgomery (Fred) of Detroit, Michigan, Titus, Jr. (Nicole), Sherrill's Ford, NC, and Terrell Lamarque from Charlotte, NC; five great grandchildren, Jordan and Jaden (Lisa and Fred Montgomery), twins Titus and Talia, and their baby sister, Nia (Nicole and Titus, Jr.); devoted nieces and nephews, a host of cousins, other relatives, the Knox Presbyterian Church family and friends.