



In Memory of

Willie Ruth Branham

Affectionately known as

Mickey

Sunrise
July 27, 1932

Sunset
October 10, 2019

Order of Services October 18, 2019
Prepast 9 am - Wake 10 am - Funeral 11 am

Liberty Baptist Church of Chicago
4849 South Dr. Martin Luther King Drive
Chicago, IL 60615

Reverend Andrew D. Hunt, Jr
Pastor

Reverend Moses Williams
Officiant

Order of Service

Organ Prelude.....	.....	Musician
Processional.....	.....	Minister and Family
Visitation Period.....	.....	Ritualistic Ceremony
	National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa, Inc.	
Selection.....	.....	Musician
Scripture Readings.....	.....	Ministers
Old Testament -	New Testament -	
Prayer.....	.....	Minister
Acknowledgment of Condolences.....	.....	Barbara Nettles
Selection.....	.....	Joyce Newbill
Remarks:		
Family		
Friends		
Phidelka Foundation.....	.....	Aleen Donaldson, President
Resolutions:		
National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa, Inc., Mu Chapter – Leatha Brooks, President		
Liberty Baptist Church of Chicago – Susan Holtzclaw, Vice-President, Senior Usher Board		
Selection.....	.....	Musician
Reading - Life Journey.....	.....	Deborah M. Nolen
Selection.....	.....	Musician
Words of Comfort.....	.....	Rev. Moses Williams
	Pastoral Care Minister, Liberty Baptist Church of Chicago	
Benediction		

Interment

Oak Woods Cemetery
1035 E. 67th St.
Chicago, IL 60637

Life Journey

Willie Ruth Branham was born on July 27, 1932 in Laurens, South Carolina to Willie and Wilma Mickens. Both parents preceded her in death as well as her two brothers, Marvin and Douglas Mickens.

Having been raised in a Christian home "Mickey", as she was affectionately known, accepted Jesus Christ as her personal Savior at an early age and was baptized at the Springfield Baptist Church in Laurens, South Carolina.

In 1963, "Mickey" moved to Chicago, Illinois and began a long career with the Chicago Board of Education. She also sought to enhance her skills as a teacher by earning a Master's Degree from Governor's State University in University Park, Illinois. Of the Okenwald and Raymond school students that were fortunate to have Ms. Branham as their reading teacher, she desired to instill within each child a love of learning. After 35 years of serving as an educator, in June 1998 "Mickey" retired from Raymond School.

In 1981, Mickey joined the National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa, Inc. - Mu Chapter. Her organizational skills were quickly recognized and several years later, she became the National Executive Secretary of the sorority. "Mickey" held that position until her resignation in September 2011.

While living in Chicago "Mickey" placed her membership with Liberty Baptist Church of Chicago. In 1997 she was granted a leave to assist a growing ministry at Mount Vernon Baptist Church. However, her roots were firmly planted at Liberty, and she happily returned to her home church where she willingly worked with the Usher Board. "Mickey" willingly did each task requested of her, often flashing that beautiful smile she possessed as she accepted the challenge.

"Mickey" is survived by nieces, nephews, and cousins that reside in Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, Maryland and Michigan. Likewise "Mickey" will be remembered by a host of friends and colleagues met along life's highway as she participated in her favorite past time - bowling - and the beloved professional educational sorority that mentored educators to thrive in their calling by fulfilling the 'pursuit of excellence'. It shall be noted, "Mickey" was among the first group of members to attain the sorority's coveted Diamond Life Membership level.

Active Pallbearers

The Men of Liberty Church

Honorary Pallbearers

Anthropos of Mu Chapter

The Traveler

*She has put on invisibility
Dear Lord we cannot see
But this we know, although the road ascends
And passes from our sight
That YOU will take her gently by the hand
And lead her on
Along the road of life that never ends
And she will find it not death but dawn.
We do not doubt that YOU are there as here,
And YOU will hold her dear
Our life did not begin with birth,
It is not of this earth;
And this that we call death, it is no more
Than the opening and closing of a door
And in YOUR house how many rooms must be
Beyond this one where we rest momentarily,
Dear Lord, we thank YOU for the truth that frees,
The love that knows it cannot lose its own;
The love that looking through the shadows sees
That YOU and She and We are Ever One!
-Author Unknown*

Acknowledgments

The family of Willie Ruth Branham - "Mickey" appreciates the comforting expressions of sympathy shown towards us during this time. We are especially thankful for our loved one's dutiful and thoughtful caregivers: Evelyn, Leslie, Natasha and Yvettelamond. In addition, we thank God for Mickey's long-time friends and sorority sisters, who encouraged, cared for and prayed with her during her lengthy sick and shut-in period.

*The Family Entrusted Services to
Leak & Sons Funeral Chapels*

7838 S. Cottage Grove Ave. Chicago IL (773)846-6567

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