



Heddie L. Becks

May 8, 1944 - November 30, 2017

Funeral Services for Mrs. Heddie L. Becks, 73, of Tishomingo, Oklahoma will be held on Saturday, December 9, 2017 at 1:00 p. m. at the Calvary Baptist Church with Dr. Rex Clayton officiating. Interment will take place on Monday, December 11, 2017 at 1:00 p. m. in the family cemetery in Jewett, Texas. Mrs. Becks passed away on November 29, 2017 at the Mercy Hospital in Oklahoma City. Heddie Middleton Becks was born May 8, 1944 near Tulsa in Clarkesville, one of the many small all-Black towns in Oklahoma, to Odessa Scott Middleton and Comer White Middleton. She was the sixth of seven girls in her immediate family, the eighth of ten, in total. In Clarkesville, she grew up surrounded by extended family from both sides, including grandparents, cousins, nieces. As a child, Heddie wanted to learn to read to gain insight into the tantalizing world of "grown folks" business. Though this particular motivation was undoubtedly thwarted, her love of reading remained lifelong. Heddie attended Clarkesville Elementary School; she then graduated from Carter G. Woodson High School in Tullahassee, Okla. in 1962. After graduation, she lived in Oklahoma City. Later, she moved Parsons, Kans. to attend junior college. In 1970, she married Laprell Becks. Heddie received her bachelors degree in education from Pittsburg State University in Pittsburg, Kans. Though she never worked as a full-time teacher, like most of the women in her family, Heddie was a passionate advocate of education her entire life. One of the ways she passed this drive on to her three children was making frequent trips with them to the public library. Heddie was known to her

family by her ability to turn a phrase, intelligence, and curiosity about the world at large. As a young woman, Heddies ambition was to work for a senator in Washington, D.C.; decades later, one of her great-nieces did so. Heddies decision to attend Pittsburg State University motivated one of her nieces to matriculate at that institution. At the age of 70, Heddie became a grandmother. It was also obvious to all how dearly she loved her children. Heddie is survived by two daughters Jackie and Courtney Becks; a son Wesley Becks, daughter-in-law Shannon Koonce Becks, and granddaughter; and husband Laprell Becks. She was preceded in death by her parents, three brothers, and three sisters.

Tribute Wall



“ *Heddie L. Becks*

October 05, 2023 at 07:47 PM



“ *Aunt Heddie, I'll always remember my visits to your home in Kansas as a child, along with your love of politics, race relations, and current affairs. Those good times and discussions helped to shape my beliefs and views today. Thank you. Rest in peace. Your great-niece Lynn*

Lynn Davis - December 08, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ *So glad I had one last chance to see you in Early November. I will miss you dearly Aunt Heddie. I had so much fun with you over the years, from pre school age until my now 60 years old. May God forever bless you eternally. Love ! Your Nephew Bruce!*

Bruce Davis - December 08, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ *I'm so sorry for the family's loss. I am truly thankful for the blessing that Heddie was to us and our church. She will be greatly missed. Love and continued prayers for Laprell and family.*

Clint Spence - December 07, 2017 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ *A very sweet lady. We became friends because of my Bible Trivia in the Milburn News column of the Capital-Democrat. She made beneficial comments about my Bible Trivia several times. I thought very highly of this fine lady.*

Jerry Blackerby - December 07, 2017 at 12:00 AM