



## Mother Effie M. Rogers Bonner

April 10, 1920 - May 23, 2022

Mother Effie M. Rogers Bonner, 102, formerly of Chicago, IL passed away peacefully surrounded by her loved ones at 10:23 am on Monday, May 23, 2022 at OSF Richard L. Owens Hospice Home, Peoria, IL.

Mother Effie was born on April 10, 1920 in Blue Mountain, MS to the late Samuel Rogers and Annie Hill. She was the third oldest of ten children. She met and married the love of her life, Frank Bonner in 1954. The two enjoyed 32 years of marriage together until his passing in 1986.

Mother Effie accepted Christ at 10 years of age at Antioch Missionary Baptist Church (Blue Mountain, MS.) under the anointed leadership of Reverend Milton Callin. In 2002, Mother Effie returned to Blue Mountain, MS and reunited with Antioch Missionary Baptist Church. Mother Effie moved to Peoria IL in 2017 and united with Grace Baptist Church under the divine leadership of Rev. Claude L White, Jr.

Mother Effie graduated from Ripley High School (Blue Mountain, MS). Due to her superior intellectual prowess, she was awarded a full scholarship to attend Rust College in Holly Springs, MS. She graduated at the top of her class. Effie hated the “one-room” school-house concept that she had to suffer through as an elementary school student. She believed that each grade level should have their own classroom and their own teacher.

So, as a Community Hero she returned to Blue Mountain as a teacher with the charge of making things better for the children in Blue Mountain, especially as it pertained to their education. Mother Effie believed that she was called by God to build a multi-tiered modern classroom school to enhance the students' learning environment. She secured the land on which to build from those that believed in her vision. She mobilized the community to provide labor and materials to bring the vision into manifestation. Thus the "Antioch Elementary School" was born!!! She was definitely a courageous pioneer being a woman that was able to accomplish such a monumental God inspired mission during a time of heightened cultural division and racial unrest.

Mother Effie was led to move to the North Chicago, IL area in the late 1950's. Shortly after her move to Chicago she got married. Together they founded and maintained several independent businesses: Professional Dry Cleaners, Transportation Cab Company, and a Neighborhood Grocery Store to name a few. Due to her powerful presence in the community, she became the mother of the neighborhood and affectionately called "Miss Bonna."

Mother Effie is survived by one loving sister and caregiver Verlene Penn (Peoria), Georgia M. Rogers (sister-in-law), and special niece and caregiver, Karen Walls (Peoria) and a host of nieces and nephews, great-nieces and nephews, great-great nieces and nephews, other relatives and friends who loved her. Along with her husband, she is also preceded in death by her parents; four brothers, Sammie Lee Rogers, George Rogers, Paul Rogers, and Amos Rogers and four sisters, Elizabeth Knox, Grace Turner, Mary Brown, and Natalie Evans.

Mother Effie truly believed that the children are our future. So, when she was asked, what gifts would she like to receive? She would always reply, trust God and do His will; and always love and help the children!!!

Mother Effie's favorite scripture was John 6:33 "But Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

We will miss Mother Effie Bonner the Unsung Hero, Community Hero, Entrepreneur, School Teacher, School Builder, Family Matriarch, Trailblazer, but most of all Mother Effie was a woman of God!!!

In Her Own Words

"God's Sitting on the Throne"

"I Gotta a Big Shout on the Inside of Me"

"Do Your Best and Let God Do the Rest"

Funeral services will be held at 11 am on Friday, June 3, 2022 at Grace Baptist Church with a visitation beginning one hour at 10 am. Pastor Claude L. White, Jr. will officiate and Elder Roger Walls, Sr. of Freedom Temple C.O.G.I.C., Chicago, IL will bring forth the eulogy. Mother Effie will be laid to rest at Parkview Cemetery.

Simons Mortuary has been entrusted with arrangements. Online condolences may be made at [SimonsMortuary.com](https://www.SimonsMortuary.com).

The service will be live streamed on Simons Mortuary's Website or Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Simons-Mortuary-232095303487150> promptly AT THE TIME OF THE SERVICE (Central Time).

Due to Covid-19, social distancing is encouraged to be consistent with recommendations from the National Funeral Directors Association (NFDA), funeral home directors have been instructed and should follow CDC guidelines on gatherings, including those directly related to funerals,

visitations, or graveside services.

\*In an effort to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, we ask that everyone in attendance: wear a face mask and refrain from hugging, kissing and shaking hands (as hard as it is to see someone you care about and not touch them).

\*It is our responsibility as Funeral Directors, to do everything we can to advise families in order to honor our beloved Families and to keep everyone as safe as possible.

Thanks in advance for your cooperation!

# Cemetery Details

## Parkview Cemetery

2001 N University St  
Peoria, IL 61604  
(309) 688-0733

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN 3. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Grace Baptist Church  
405 N. Richard Pryor Place  
Peoria, IL 61605

## Funeral Service

JUN 3. 11:00 AM - 12:15 PM (CT)

Grace Baptist Church  
405 N. Richard Pryor Place  
Peoria, IL 61605

# Tribute Wall



“ *Simons Mortuary created a Tribute Video in memory of Mother Effie M. Rogers Bonner*



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**Simons Mortuary** - June 07, 2022 at 03:02 PM



“ *Simons Mortuary created a Tribute Video in memory of Mother Effie M. Rogers Bonner*



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**Simons Mortuary** - June 02, 2022 at 03:20 PM



“ *Mother Effie M. Rogers Bonner*

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January 29, 2023 at 06:10 AM



“ *Mother Effie M. Rogers Bonner*

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January 29, 2023 at 03:12 AM



“ 1 file added to the album *Burial at Parkview Cemetery*



Simons Mortuary - June 07, 2022 at 03:02 PM

JH

“ *Sending Our Condolences to Mrs Verlene Wall -Penn and Family may God Give You Strength to Endure We Love You Mrs Effie Was Such A Beautiful Lady From Joyce And Katie*

joyce Howard - June 03, 2022 at 11:51 AM

RB

“ *The fellowship with Mother Bonner was truly an honor and a Blessing. Her words of wisdom and gallant smile, will be missed, but most of all her statue as a daughter of the most High will be forever remembered.*

*"Blessed Assurance, Jesus is mine! Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine! Heir of salvation, purchase of God born of his Spirit..."...take your rest Mother Bonner!!*

*With sincere condolences to our family,  
Troy and Rita (Vinson) Burns Family*



Rita Burns - June 03, 2022 at 10:31 AM



“ Auntie was always asking how others were feeling even though she was not feeling her best. She had a way of making you feel loved. She was an amazing person and a true role model. We will miss her but never forget her strength and courage. Brother Geo Rogers Children, Nephews and Nieces.



Joycie Laws - June 02, 2022 at 09:22 PM

MR

“ Mattie Risby sent a virtual gift in memory of Mother Effie M. Rogers Bonner



Mattie Risby - June 02, 2022 at 01:06 PM

BC

“ BRENDA CAYSON lit a candle in memory of Mother Effie M. Rogers Bonner



BRENDA CAYSON - June 01, 2022 at 04:42 PM

PW

“ Our condolences go out to you and the family. May God continue to give each and everyone the strength to endure. May God bless you. We Love you from Hazel (Hill) Wicks and family.

Peaches Whitfield - June 01, 2022 at 10:58 AM

CF

“ *Children of the Richard and Lina Hiill Family purchased the Love's Journey for the family of Mother Effie M. Rogers Bonner.*



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**Children of the Richard and Lina Hiill Family** - May 31, 2022  
at 09:27 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mother Effie M. Rogers Bonner.*



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May 31, 2022 at 03:59 PM