In Loving Memory

of

Mrs. Nora Alberta Rouse Pope

Tuesday, August 14, 2001
11:00 A.M.
Tabernacle Baptist Church
1223 Laney Walker Boulevard - Augusta, Georgia

Reverend Otis Moss, III ~ Pastor
Mrs. Nora Alberta Rouse Pope, was born in Lincolnton, Georgia on May 31, 1919, to Nettie and Jesse Rouse; she was the second child born to them and was fondly known as "Sister" by her family and siblings. She graduated from Washington High School for coloreds located in Washington, Georgia in 1939. In 1940, Nora moved to Augusta, Georgia and worked at several jobs, including one at Camp Gordon located near Augusta. This is where she met Wilbert J. Pope, Jr.; they married in 1943. After World War II, Nora decided to continue her education and enrolled at Albany State College in Albany, Georgia where she majored in Home Economics. After the war ended and she received her degree, Nora and Wilbert set up residence in Augusta where they raised three children; she was given the moniker "Sister Pope" at this time. Sister Pope worked as an educator for the Washington-Wilkes County School System, the Lincoln County School System and the Richmond County Board of Education. She retired in 1985 after a little more than thirty years of service.

Sister Pope was baptized at the New Tabernacle Baptist Church in Lincolnton, Georgia at an early age. She was a diligent member of New Tabernacle for her entire life. She served as the co-treasurer of the Ladies Auxiliary Club and was instrumental in raising funds for the construction of the new church sanctuary in the late 1970's. As an adult Sister Pope rejoined Tabernacle Baptist Church in Augusta where she served in many capacities. At Tabernacle, Sister Pope was a member of the Deaconess Board, the Lydia Bible Class, the Missionary Society, the Mother's Board and the Senior Citizens Retiree Club. She also served as Youth Prayer Service Director and assisted in the Baptist Training Union of New Tabernacle for many years. Additionally, Sister Pope served as a delegate at the New Era Baptist Convention and the Progressive Baptist Convention on behalf of the church. She was also an active member of the Albany State Alumni Association.

Although she was very active in her churches, Sister Pope's main passion was the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. She was a strong advocate of the agenda for the NAACP and was an avid recruiter for membership and support of the NAACP and its practices and principles. Sister Pope had been inducted as a life-long member of the organization. She also was honored by the women of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority in 1997 at the Georgia State Capital by being presented the Women Community Leaders Unsung Heroes Award as a result of her activities in the NAACP.

Sister Pope loved her family and was a leading matron of her family for many years. She believed in "knowing your history" and planned and participated in many family reunions throughout her years. She also supported the community by offering her residence as a boarding place for students at Paine College and the Medical College of Georgia. Sister Pope considered many of these students to be her "special children".

Nora Alberta Rouse Pope is survived by: two sons, Elbert Pope, Augusta and Wilbert (Margie) Pope, III, Athens, Georgia; one daughter, Jo Nevia Pope-Williams, Augusta; a devoted daughter-in-law, Gladys Pope, Augusta; three brothers, James (Sandra) Rouse, Augusta, Spurgeon (Gertrude) Rouse and Thomas (Evelyn) Rouse, both of Detroit, Michigan; five sisters-in-law, Mary Frances Fearnot, Far Rockaway, NY, Amanda (Robert) Hooker and Gertude Pope, both of Raleigh, NC, Ann Rouse and Bessie Lou Rouse, also of Augusta; two brothers-in-law, Paul (Lois) Pope, Raleigh, NC and Clinton Lanier, Sr., Stone Mountain, GA; one aunt, Clara Wynn, Lincolnton, GA; seven grandchildren, Trazanna (van) Armstrong, Raleigh, NC, Torin Pope, Stone Mountain, GA, Amanda Pope, Victor Pope, Vincent Pope and Verdrick Pope, all of Athens, GA and Jessica Williams, Augusta; one soul daughter, Georgejean McKenzie, Augusta; several "special children", Keena Aldrich, Augusta, Rhondi Bennings, Stone Mountain, GA, Kayla Cooper, Augusta, Gary Dot, Detroit, MI, Larry Dent, Petersburg, VA, Derek Gainey, Schwetzingen, Germany, Vincent Griffith, Mildred Jones, Elijah, Monica and Otis Moss, Shirley Nixon and Howard Salen, all of Augusta; close family friends, Annie Edwards, Tuscaloosa, Alabama and Dennis Williams, Milwaukee, WI; a dear friend, Nettie Johnston, Macon, GA; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and extended family and friends.
"Life... the beginning... it is God's gift..."

In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting donation, join, or renew a membership to the Nat Colored People (NAACP). Sister Pope was an active member of several chapters of the NAACP. She believed that all African-Americans should be actively involved in supporting the NAACP.

Please join us in helping to continue Sister Pope's legacy by renewing or joining the NAACP. You may contact Sister Pope's memorial team at 706-724-0390.

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