

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The family would like to express their sincere appreciation and gratitude for the thoughts and prayers during their bereavement. Your thoughtfulness and concern has been a great comfort and source of consolation. May God continue to bless each of you.

### Psalm 91

<sup>1</sup>Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High  
will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.

<sup>2</sup>I will say of the LORD, "He is my refuge and my fortress,  
my God, in whom I trust."

<sup>11</sup>For he will command his angels concerning you  
to guard you in all your ways;



## HONORING HER LIFE

Rowena Rhodes Stewart, DH



**SUNRISE**

March 6, 1932

**SUNSET**

September 19, 2015

**Funerals by T. S. Warden**

4315 N. Main Street

Jacksonville, Florida 32206

12:00 PM, Friday, September 25, 2015

## WORDS OF REFLECTION

Rowena Rhodes Stewart, DH departed this life September 19, 2015. She was born on March 6, 1932 in Jacksonville, Florida, the only child of the late Essie Brazle Rhodes and Oliver Rhodes. She grew up in New Berlin and graduated from Edward Waters College in 1955. She went on to receive her Doctor of Humanities from the University of Rhode Island.

In 1953 she met and married Clarence Dale Johnson in South Carolina and to this union four children were born.

She will join in Heaven her beloved daughter, Wanetta Johnson. She leaves to cherish her memory: one daughter, Gwendolyn Brittan, two sons, Clarence Johnson (Roberta Johnson) and Alvie Johnson (Claudette Johnson) seven grandchildren, 14 great grandchildren and a host of loved ones and friends.

## THE HISTORY MAKER

She began her career doing social work with the Florida State Welfare Department and in Boston Massachusetts as the Director of the Harriett Tubman House. She later went on to become one of the most sought after African American museum directors in the country.

In 1975, Stewart became the first director of the Rhode Island Black Heritage Society in Providence. In 1985 she was selected by the Mayor of Philadelphia as the Director and Curator of Philadelphia's Afro-American Historical and Cultural Museum. In 1992, Stewart moved to Detroit to head the Motown Historical Museum and three years later, she was recruited to Kansas City, Missouri where she oversaw the development of the American Jazz Museum and ultimately becoming its Executive Director upon completion in 1997.

In 2002, she retired and moved back home to Jacksonville where she served for a time as President of the A.L. Lewis Historical Society Board and Coordinator of the American Beach Community Center and Museum on Amelia Island north of Jacksonville.



## ORDER OF SERVICE

- Processional ..... Organ Medley
- Solo ..... Kathy Williams
- Scripture and Prayer ..... Melvin Kennerly  
*Greater Payne AME Church*
- Eulogy ..... Clarence Johnson
- Remarks ..... Family and Friends
- Comforted with the Word of God ..... Melvin Kennerly  
*Greater Payne AME Church*
- Benediction ..... Melvin Kennerly  
*Greater Payne AME Church*

