



Hazel Isabelle Evans

April 10, 1935 - September 14, 2022

Hazel Isabelle Evans was affectionately called, Hazel, Sister Hazel, Aunty Hazel, Maa, Mommy, Mom, Grandma. She is the namesake of a queen and she was indeed a queen. She was an extraordinary woman, one of kind, one that was often imitated but could never be duplicated. From her early years, she touched everyone with whom she interacted in an unforgettable way until the final moments of her life. Hazel epitomized the word, "family". She was unmistakably the matriarch of our family. Family was always welcome at her house. There was no hierarchy, family was family. If you needed food, clothing or dwelling, she was the "go to person". In her early years in New York, she instituted the "Sunday Dinner" with immediate as well as extended family. She arranged picnics, boat rides, hiking and other fun family events. Mariam and Walter Evans were blessed with their fifth child, Hazel on April 10th, 1935 in Georges Valley District, Manchester, Jamaica West Indies. Hazel was born beautiful and was often nicknamed, "China Doll". She was a pleasant, loving girl who got along well with all of her siblings and had many friends. Her mother, Miriam, was a God-fearing woman and raised all of her children in that manner. Hazel attended Georges Valley Primary School, Richmond All-age School and Mayday District Secondary School. In July of 1955, she gave birth to her son, Carlton (Vern) before moving to the big city of Kingston in order to find employment to help her parents and other siblings. While being gainfully employed, she was also formally trained at the Royal School of Music. Shortly after graduation, she was given the opportunity to

emigrate to the United States in 1965. Little did she know how much of an impact the opportunity had afforded her. The entire family and about everyone whom she encountered benefitted from her actions. Between the years of 1968 and 1969, Hazel proved herself to be nothing short of a super woman by working diligently to gain certification in Infant and Geriatric Care and Nursing Assistance as well as her High School equivalency diploma. She also purchased her first home in South Ozone Park, Queens, New York. This home was a fortress for almost all family members that emigrated from Jamaica thereafter. Hazel was in no way selfish about the opportunity to emigrate to the United States that she was blessed with. She sponsored or adopted most of her family members—parent, siblings, nieces, nephews and other extended family, giving them an opportunity for success in the United States. Between the years of 1980 to 1995, Hazel took an even more important step in helping her family by adopting four of her sister's and niece's children, Petal, Ewan, Alecia and Shauna Lee. In addition to working as a Certified Nursing Assistant in New York, because of her love for children, Hazel was a beloved foster parent who fostered at least five children. After several years of service at Riverdale Nursing Home in Bronx, New York, she retired and moved to Ocala, Florida in 1991. Here she continued to provide foster care, to over a dozen foster children, many whom called her "mom". Anyone who knows Hazel, know that she was a soldier for the Lord. She was an active and beloved member of her church, Ocala Bible Chapel. She volunteered her services with other faithful servants; the late brother and sister Mcghie and the Henrys. Other such as the Wints, Browns, Anderson and several others to several nursing homes in the Ocala area where she was greatly loved and recognized. Hazel enjoyed a fruitful life here in Ocala in service for the Lord before becoming ill in the year of 2018. She bravely battled her illness like a soldier before succumbing to her illness on September 14th, 2022. Hazel leaves to mourn her, 5 children, 5 grandchildren, a sister, Mercelin, a brother, Levi, a host of nieces, nephews, extended family and close friends in the United States, Jamaica, England,

Canada, Ireland and Japan. As we bid Hazel farewell, at the end of her journey here on earth, we know beyond the shadow of a doubt that she has gained her wings and is now resting peacefully and painlessly in the arms of her father in heaven. Lovely Submitted By The Family