



## Alverta Odessa (Swinson) Powell

August 18, 1936 - February 4, 2014

Alverta Odessa Powell born to the late Roland and Annie Swinson on August 18, 1936 in Washington, DC at the old Freedmen's Hospital. Her twin brothers Randolph (1978) and Rudolph (1996) have both preceded her in death. Sista, as she was affectionately known, accepted Christ as her personal Lord and Saviour at the age of 12 and was baptized at the Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, Washington, DC under the pastorship of Rev. Robert Anderson. At this young age she became active in the church, singing in the Second Choir. Alverta was educated in the public schools of Washington, DC up until the age of 16. She was married to the late Lovett Powell in 1952. To this union two children were born; one boy Tyrone (deceased) and a girl Diane. Alverta worked in food service for over 13 years before attending clerk typist school where she was extended a job opportunity to work for the Department of Defense, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. While serving as a clerk typist for many years, Alverta moved up through the ranks to become a Secretary. She received many accolades for her hard work and dedicated service to the agency. In 1988, Alverta received what she called "her purpose in life", her grandchildren Chrissette (11) and Dalonte (6 months). She dedicated the rest of her life to raising and caring for them as her own. During this time Alverta continued to care for ailing son, looked after her mother, supported her daughter, and raised her grandchildren. Many of her friends and loved ones labelled her as a "dynamite woman". Alverta never missed an opportunity to tell her story or share the success of her children and grandchildren with

anyone willing to listen. In 2000, Alverta retired from the US Army Corps of Engineers after 27 years of service. She began a new career in raising her great granddaughter Krishauna. She took such pride in being a part of the beginning years of her life, teaching Krishauna to walk, talk, and potty trained. Alverta spent a lot of her time at Midway Casino; she would say "I enjoy the bus ride and the scenery and the food is really good?". Spending time with her family was most important, seeing them happy was her goal in life, and helping in any way that she could. On Tuesday, February 4, 2014, Alverta Powell went home to be with the Lord. She leaves to cherish her memory, caring and devoted, daughter Diane Powell of DC; devoted, faithful, and caring grandchildren, Chrissette Powell Andrews (Shawn), and Dalonte Powell of DC; one great grandchild, Krishauna Andrews of VA; a sister Mavis Russell; one nephew Randolph Swinson, Jr.; one step nephew and niece Vernon Russell and Paulette Jones of Norfolk, VA; two sister-in-laws, Annie L. Swinson (Randolph) of DC and Ruth B. Swinson (Rudolph) of MD; one aunt Helena Alridge of NC, and a host of other family and friends.

# Tribute Wall

NB

“ *During this difficult time, please know you are in our thoughts and prayers.*

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**Nicole & Antonio Byrd** - January 23 at 02:48 PM

LG

“ *As we meditate on the mysteries of life and death, and what the vast eternity may hold, like a bright and shining light comes the knowledge of the promises of God. The darkness disappears... we are content, for with God, all things are right.  
Love your Yvonne*

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**Linda Yvonne Smith Greene** - January 23 at 02:48 PM

WI

“ *Please accept my sympathy. The loss of someone so dear is heart breaking, Jesus too wept with Martha and Mary when Lazarus died. He told them, I am the resurrection and the life. The one who exercises faith in me, even though he dies, will come to life, John 11:25. Please find comfort in our future resurrection hope, when you may see her again.*

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**Wilson** - January 23 at 02:48 PM

MM

“ *Please accept my regrets for the pain your family is enduring through this loss. It can be so hard on individuals when they lose ones to death. As a source of encouragement I invite you to look into God's Word for direction at Revelation 21:3,4. In this scripture we are promised that soon we will not have to suffer the results of death. For more information please review our website at [jw.org](http://jw.org).*

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**Mrs. Marsh** - January 23 at 02:48 PM

LM

“ THINKING OF YOU DURING THIS TIME, AND PRAYING YOU'LL FIND COMFORT KNOWING THAT THE ONE YOU LOVE IS HOME NOW, FREE...AT PEACE IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD. KEEPING ALL UPLIFTED IN MY THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS.

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**LEZERIA " BUNNY" MARSH** - January 23 at 02:48 PM

DK

“ *To Mavis Russell and family.*  
*"A Life well lived leaves behind a beautiful bouquet of memories". In times of tears, may you remember her laughter. In times of sadness, may you remember her smiles. In times of loneliness, may you think of all that you have shared--may it comfort you to know you will have all of those warm and loving memories forever. You have our deepest and heartfelt sympathy.*

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**Dorothy & Ezekiel Kornegay** - January 23 at 02:48 PM

DW

“ *Mavis Russell and Family:*  
*"Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in Me". Know that God will send the comforter, just trust in Him with all of your heart. In deep sympathy for your loss. We will keep you constantly in prayer.*

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**Dicky and Rose Williams** - January 23 at 02:48 PM

OS

“ *Ms. Alverta Powell, beloved resident will be greatly missed and may the family find comforted in the Lord during this time of loss.*

*Ms. Palmer & Staff*

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**Oleitha Palmer and Washington Overlook Staff** - January 23 at 02:48 PM

DC

“ Dear Diane, Chrissette and Dalonte, My sincere condolences to you and to the rest of your family for the loss of your mom and grandma. Alverta was truly a special person. She was a dear friend and co-worker and will be missed very much. I was lucky to know her as our secretary and friend at the Corps and after she retired. Alverta was the very best secretary and friend a person could have. She has always been and will always be in my heart and thoughts. I hope that remembering her wonderful smile and laugh helps you through these difficult times. Thank you to you and to Jewell for informing me of her passing. Your friend. Dan Casapulla

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**Dan Casapulla** - January 23 at 02:48 PM

HA

“ Although "Sister" is gone, she will remain with us forever within our hearts. Please know that your North Carolina family's thoughts and prayers are with you.

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**Helena Aldridge** - January 23 at 02:48 PM