



FOREVER IN OUR

*Hearts*



*Alberta Catchings Nelson*

July 17, 1940 - August 3, 2024

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SATURDAY, AUGUST 10, 2024, 11 A.M.

**SERVICE TO BE HELD AT:**  
ANTIOCH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH  
13146 US 51  
HAZLEHURST, MS 39083

Pastor Martin Washington, Officiating



## - *Obituary* -

ALBERTA CATCHINGS NELSON, passed away peacefully at her home in Hazlehurst, MS on Saturday, August 3, 2024.

Alberta affectionately known as "Nana" to her children and grandchildren, was born to Whit and Odessa (Miller) Catchings on July 17, 1940 in Hazlehurst, Mississippi.

Alberta received her formal education in the Hazlehurst Separate School District, graduating from Parrish High School in 1960. Later, she matriculated to Utica Junior College, receiving an Associate Degree in Early Childhood Education. In 1970, she attended Jackson State University, where she received her Bachelor's Degree in Early Childhood Education. She also, became a member of the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi Sorority. Later, she received her Master's Degree in Special Education, and an AAA Specialist in Early Childhood and Special Education Degree. Alberta became the Director of C.H.I.L.D., now known as Head Start in Hazlehurst from 1968 until 1972. Sensing the need to impact the older students within her community, she became a Special Education Teacher at Hazlehurst High School. She taught and nurtured students with special needs for twenty-two years until her retirement. With this love of education became the love of books which inclined Alberta herself to write and publish "Incidents at Spichley's Crossing" a suspenseful murder mystery that still can be purchased online. She was also, a lifelong member and on the mother board at St. James Missionary Baptist Church in Hazlehurst, Mississippi.

Alberta is preceded in death by her parents; Whit and Odessa (Miller) Catchings; daughter, Kecia Nelson Hooker; brothers, John, Lee, Robert, Johnny, Aleck, and Willie Alfred Catchings all of Hazlehurst, Mississippi. Sisters, Bertha James and Dora Lee Catchings both of Hazlehurst, Mississippi.

Our beloved Alberta is survived by her son, Verna "Joe" Nelson, III (Brinda); grandson, Joseph "Joey" Nelson and Marcus Hooker; great grandson, Ace Nelson; caregivers, Chantae Sutton, Mary Dixon and Norma Catchings, best friends, Erma Wheeler of Crystal Springs, MS and Roberta Brunt of Gainesville, Florida and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.



# - Order of Service -

Musical Prelude  
Prelude  
Scripture Reading.....Robert "Peter" Catchings, Jr.  
Prayer.....Appointee  
Selection.....Byron Swilley  
Obituary Reading.....Silently Read  
Acknowledgments.....Sis. Juwana Jones  
Selection.....Nieces  
Eulogy.....Pastor Martin Washington  
Recessional

## Alberta's Heart





## *Honorary Pallbearers*

Verna "Joe" Nelson, III  
Joseph "Joey" Nelson  
Ace Nelson  
Marcus Hooker

Pedro Catchings  
Willie B. Murray  
Timothy Dixon  
Ronnie Muray

## *Active Pallbearers*

Robert "Peter" Catchings  
Michael Coleman  
Houston Collins, III

Michael West  
Willie Catchings, Jr.  
Anthony Catchings

## *Acknowledgements*

The family acknowledges with sincere appreciation to Arden Home Health & Hospice for their loving care given during Nana's final days. Also, many thanks to all the comforting messages, floral tributes, and other expressions of kindness during this time of bereavement. May God Bless and Keep You!

The Catchings-Nelson Family

## *Arrangements Entrusted To:*

House of Peoples Funeral Home  
446 Monticello Street  
Hazlehurst, MS 39083

