

Words of Comfort. Celebration of Life for Evelyn Walker. 12/21/23

Thank you Veronica for the beautiful musical selections. And thank you Sister Emma for reading the life story of Mom Walker.

It is truly a blessing to stand here before you all this late morning (or afternoon) as we gather today on this special day to celebrate the life of Mom Walker.

Looking out into this beautiful view of you all, I see so many years of memories and representation of Mom's legacy. And to see you all is truly a gift knowing how she touched so many people and how you may have associated with her.

Whether it was Elder Walker, Oma, Nana, Evelyne, Pastor Walker, or Mrs. Walker, she will always be remembered for enriching the lives of everyone she met with her compassionate, kind, and spunky personality. Mom truly cherished life. She loved people. She loved reaching out to others and being a servant- To help others in need: either to be a listening ear or impart wisdom- she wholeheartedly gave of herself to everyone she encountered.

Growing up in our household, I can honestly say Mom exemplified many traits: she was funny, loved to adorn herself with beautiful items of clothing and jewelry. She was an excellent cook! And loved to dance! But she couldn't sing to well! She had a hunger for knowledge, and was very adventurous. But most important- the one thing her life represented was Jesus. Mom committed her life to spreading the love of Jesus to everyone she met. And I do mean everyone! Even in her last chapter of life, she was even up in the hospital ministering to others, and asking her doctors and nurses if they had accepted Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior. She had a boldness and conviction to let others know about God's

love and what it meant live a lifestyle that represents Jesus, and not just in talking the talk, but she walked the walk.

Colossians 3:1-3 says: “If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. ² Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. ³ For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.”

In this life- we live in a 3- dimensional world: our five senses- Everything we see, smell, touch, taste, hear... things we experience on a daily basis is living a natural life. And there is also a 4th dimension- It is believed that God lives on the 4th dimension. All the blessings God has for us is in the 4th dimension. Seeing verse 3 of Colossians chapter 1 is very powerful for Christians because a person who is saved; a person who gives their life to Jesus- who confesses Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior- they enter into Jesus Christs death, His burial and resurrection. Christ Jesus died on the Cross. He didn't die for Himself. He died for those who receive Him as their Lord and Savior. In the mind of God, the economy of the 4th dimension, when Christ died, believers died at that moment....meaning that's when they entered into their death. So when a person transitions from this natural life to being in the presence of God- they don't die. Now people that don't know God... they die. Death is separation from God. People may have excuses; they don't believe in God, or they say “I just want to do my own thing”... this life of a person without God- they die! And they go to a place where God is not. But Christians, they die when they receive Jesus. This is good news because you won't die when you transition from this Earth because your life is hidden in Christ in God.

Colossians 3 is a faith directive, written to the just. Meaning just people are whom God calls righteous. To be righteous is right standing with God. The ones who are born again; walking by faith according to the Word of God and not by sight (with their own natural eyes)- this scripture is for the ones who are saved.

As we heard earlier in the story of the life of Mom Walker, she yearned and desired to know God. God met her at her point of need. God makes Himself available for everyone, to meet each person at their point of need- If we allow Him to do so. Growing up as child, she went to church, and even lived a life labeled as what people may say a “good girl.” But her life up to that point was separated from God. But once she asked Jesus to become her Lord and Savior- she entered death for the last time because she accepted the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. From there- she diligently sought out to have a lasting relationship with God. She learned to exercise her faith muscles- reading the Word of God, committing to attend church to have imparted into her what was being taught into a lifestyle that was pleasing to God. And most important- She outreached and shared Jesus with others.

As we know- the season to celebrate Christmas is here. No one could predict the moment Mom chose to take her last breath here on this Earth. But wow- what a divine appointment of time we are able to celebrate her legacy... Around the season where this dark world may try to remove Christ from Christmas. But the truth is: God gave us Jesus to take our sin, our death, sorrow, pain and every action that is contrary to the Word of God. Jesus died on the Cross in order that we may have life eternally with God. So when Christians leave this Earth, they don't die... they transition into the presence of God. A Christian should not have

fear of death, because just as Colossians 3 says: ³ For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

In closing, I honor the legacy of Mom Walker by inviting any and all that want to know Jesus Christ on a more personal level. Maybe you confessed Jesus a long time ago, but your walk with Jesus has become dormant. Or maybe you've never prayed for Jesus to become your personal Lord and Savior. I invite anyone to say this prayer with me. It's a very simple prayer... So repeat after me: **Lord Jesus, I confess my sins and ask for your forgiveness. Please come into my heart as my Lord and Savior. Take complete control of my life and help me to walk in Your footsteps daily by the power of the Holy Spirit. Thank you Lord for saving me and for answering my prayer.**

If you said that prayer, that means you have entered a new life in Christ Jesus. Heaven is rejoicing because your name is written in the Lamb's Book of Life, according to Revelation 21:27. And I admonish you to find a church that you can call "home" that teaches the Word of God.

I love you Mom Walker. We honor and celebrate you because you gave us the best gift ever: Jesus! AMEN!