

MEMORIAL SERVICE

10:45 AM - 11:00 AM Pictorial Display/Instrumental Music
"PRECIOUS LORD"

Welcome/Prayer.....Frederick Clinton, Jr.
Scripture.....Old Testament · Psalm 23 (CEB).....Jennifer Martin
New Testament · John 11:30-45 (NWT).....Terrance Wright
Obituary.....Vivian Martin
Pictorial Display
Reflections.....Christer and Willie Zollicoffer, Vanita Dotson,
Marie King, LaRhonda Potts, Jacob Armstrong, Loretta Pinckney, Jennifer
Martin, Faye Belgrave, Marva Boyer, Charlene Cooper-Brown,
Lisa Martin, Jackie Clinton-Reiter
Closing Prayer.....Reverend Harold Martin

INTERMENT

Long Island National Cemetery · Farmingdale, NY

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The family of **Adeline Clinton** would like to acknowledge the appreciation of your comforting expressions of sympathy, your prayers, cards, telephone calls, visits, flowers, and other acts of kindness during the sadness, sorrow and separation of our loved one. May God richly bless each of you.

-The Family

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THE LIFE, LOVE AND LEGACY

Adeline Clinton

May 28, 1920 - December 23, 2020



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MEMORIAL SERVICE

SATURDAY

JANUARY 16, 2021 · 11:00 AM

**NEUBLE MONUMENT
FUNERAL HOME**

1330 Bluebird Road · Lebanon, TN



Adeline Clinton

MAY 28, 1920-DECEMBER 23, 2020

On December 23, 2020, Adeline Clinton took her last breath on Earth, but she left a legacy which will be treasured forever. On May 28, 1920 she was the first of four children born to Calvin and Winnie Zollicoffer - a hardworking, God-fearing, independent-minded couple of Newsoms, Virginia which was then a small rural town in the southernmost part of Southampton County. There, she grew to be a woman who had a big heart for anyone who needed care or help - family and neighbors, alike.

Adeline excelled in school and, upon graduating high school, earned a scholarship to Shaw University, North Carolina. However, prior to starting the first semester, with her father turning ill as well as her mother becoming incapacitated due to an accidental fall, Adeline decided to stay home and care for parents and other siblings - Shaw she reasoned would have to wait a while. Later, in an effort to provide further financial assistance to her family, she traveled to New York City in search of work. It was there in the County of Brooklyn that she met her future husband, Frederick Clinton, Sr.

For years, they were faithful members of Bethany Baptist Church in Brooklyn. Never too proud to do an honest day's work, she stood on street corners with other women to be picked up and taken to wealthier communities where they cleaned houses for no more than \$1 a day. At other times, she rode hours to get to places of employment serving the war effort during World War II: Piccadilly Arsenal in Dover, N.J. or the garment district in downtown Manhattan where she sewed clothes for soldiers. Yet, despite her tiredness and frustrations, she held onto her bigger dreams, her first being to own her own home. Getting that home took a little more time than she expected. Nonetheless, while her husband was away as a soldier in the European Theatre during World War II, she saved, looked for and bought her home in Queens County before he returned home. Sadly, after almost 30 years of marriage her husband died from complications of a chronic asthmatic condition. Up until the time he became seriously ill she never knew how to drive a car. But, after paying a taxicab driver what she thought was an exorbitant amount of money to take him to the hospital, she was determined to get a driver's license - and she did.

After her husband's death, she began working with the New York City Department of Human Agency and retired 30 years later as Acting Director of Workmen's Compensation for the Agency. Outside of employment she continued to learn new skills in order to keep her home maintained - plumbing, reupholstering, plastering, etc.; in short, whatever was needed. She took free classes whenever she had time and the opportunity presented itself. She also became an active leader in her neighborhood civic group, was a Boy Scout den mother, and an excellent seamstress designing and sewing concert costumes for a local dance company. One of her more interesting jobs was as a Civil Defense instructor during the height of the Cold War crisis. Never fully compensated for her wealth of skills in the workplace, she was a person who knew how to stretch a dollar and how to make wise financial decisions.

This enabled her after retirement to travel extensively throughout the United States and the world, something she never had a chance to do earlier in life. When she was home, if you could find her home, she was putting together puzzle pieces, tackling crossword puzzles, and taking up new hobbies like cross-stitching and painting. She could just look at a photo in a book or magazine and paint it. Her work was later displayed in businesses throughout the city. After living in New York for 60 years she relocated to Mt. Juliet, Tennessee to be closer to her children. She jokingly said that she was promised a warmer climate and a calmer way of life, but ended up traveling through the brutal effects of a 2010 Nor'easter just to get there.

A few years later she was diagnosed with renal kidney failure and underwent weekly dialysis treatment. Although it limited her to some extent, she still maintained a positive, cheerful attitude while doing as much as she could or wanted to do. In March, 2020 a tornado with hurricane winds ripped apart her home, throwing her from her bedroom into the hallway. Recalling that experience a few months later she thought about how she and her family had survived the Great Depression of the 1940s and how she and her family "sheltered-in-place" in 1929 when the Spanish flu pandemic was finally reaching Virginia. Since her response to life had always been to keep moving ahead, she chose to keep doing whatever needed to be done to move forward.

Wherever she lived, she was deeply loved by a host of family and friends for her honesty, her wit, her ingenuity and resourcefulness. She was admired for her indomitable spirit to meet adversity with faith and hopefulness. But most of all, she is remembered for her warm and loving smile, her infectious laugh, and her deep love of family. Adeline's remarkable life journey was marked by resilient joy and determination, in spite of the detours and unexplainable events that occurred over her 100 years.

She was preceded in death by her parents, five siblings (Carroll, Marie, James, Sr, Willie, Sr. and Dorothy), and her husband. She is survived by her children, Frederick Clinton, Jr. of Lebanon, TN and Vivian Martin (Harold) of Hermitage, TN; eight grandchildren: Gwen Clinton (TN), Jackie Reiter-Clinton (TN), Joel Clinton (NJ), Terrance Wright (TX), Jennifer Martin (NY), Lisa Dowling (TN), Katherine Banani (CA), Christopher Martin (TN); thirteen great-grandchildren: Sarah Payne, Dante Reiter, Victoria Clinton, Kayla Clinton, Terrance Wright, Jr., Davion Wright, LaSharon Wright, Christina Dowling, Elizabeth Dowling, Bethany Dowling, Isaiah Banani, Olivia Banani, Daniel Hall; two great-great-grandchildren: Anatasia Wright, Amira Wright; and many nieces, nephews, cousins, in-laws, and friends.

