

John 14:1-4

Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also and whither I go ye know, and the way ye know.



SERVING SINCE 1937

Stephenson-Shaw

FUNERAL HOME, INC.

Home Office

807 North Hays Avenue
Jackson, TN

Henderson-Chester County
529 Luray
Henderson, TN

Gibson County
715 Craddock Street
Humboldt, TN

It's Printed • 357-A North Royal • Jackson, Tennessee

Basketbearers

Paul Parker
Ernest Miller

Richard Jefferson
Charlee Bond

Lorenzo Smith
Savannah Ingram

Flowerbearers

Deacon's Wives of St. John #2 Baptist Church

Acknowledgements

The family of Mrs. Chatman acknowledges with deep gratitude, all acts of love and kindness shown by each and everyone. Your prayers, visits, cards, flowers, food, kind words and other expressions are greatly appreciated. We will always and forever be grateful. May God shower blessings upon each of you.

The Family of Velma Chatman

Interment

St. John # 2 Baptist Church Cemetery
Jackson, Tennessee

Home Going Celebration

of

Mrs. Velma Bond-Gillispie Strayhorn Chatman

Saturday, September 7, 2002 • 1:00 P. M.

**St. John #2 Missionary Baptist Church
241 Bond Cemetery Road • Denmark, Tennessee**

Rev. Roy Bell, Officiating

IN LOVING MEMORY



*Do not stand at my grave and weep;
I am not there, I do not sleep.
I am a thousand winds that blow.
I am the diamond glints on the snow.
I am the sunlight on ripened grain.
When you awaken in the morning's hush
I am the swift uplifting rush
Of quiet birds in circled flight.
I am the soft stars that shine at night.
Do not stand at my grave and cry;
I am not there, I did not die.*

—Anonymous

Eulogy Rev. Roy L. Bell

Selection "Soon and Very Soon" Sanctuary Choir

Recessional

Ever Close in Mind and Heart

*No farther away than a picture, a smile, or remembered phrase,
Our loved ones live in memory. . . so close in so many ways.*

*For how often does a sunset bring nostalgic thoughts to mind
Of moments that our loved ones shared in days now left behind!*

*How often has a flower or a crystal autumn sky
Brought golden recollections of happy days gone by!*

*Yes, memory has a magic way of keeping loved ones near. . .
Ever close in mind and heart are the ones we hold most dear.*

ORDER OF SERVICE

Processional	Rev. Roy L. Bell
Selection	Sanctuary Choir
Scripture.	Rev. Leroy Hunt
Prayer	Rev. James Carter
Selection	"Hold To God's Unchanging Hand" Sanctuary Choir
Expressions	Mr. John A. Bond Dr. Cynthia Hobson Mrs. Catherine Williamson
Resolutions and Acknowledgments	Mrs. Linda Short
Obituary	(Read Silently) Soft Music
Solo	Glorette Martin

Miss Me – But Let Me Go . . .

*When I come to the end of the road and the sun has set for me,
I don't want rites in a gloom filled room, why cry for a soul set free.
Miss me a little but not too long, and not with your head bowed low.
Remember the love that we once shared, miss me, but let me go.
For this is a journey that we all must take, each must go alone.
It's all a part of the Master's plan, a step on the road to home.
When you are lonely and sick of heart, go to the friends we know
And bury your sorrows in doing good deeds
Miss me – but let me go.*

Mrs. Velma Bond Gillispie Strayhorn Chatman was born December 4, 1914 in Denmark, Tennessee. She was the daughter of the late Mary Utley and Alfred Bond.

She attended the public schools of Madison County. Mrs. Chatman professed a hope in Christ at an early age, was baptized and joined the Denmark Missionary Baptist Church where she was a faithful servant until her family moved to Indianapolis, Indiana in 1950. There, she united with the Church of the Living God and served in many capacities.

Mrs. Chatman was married to Leroy Chatman on June 30, 1979. She was an active member of her church and community. In church she was a member of the Missionary Society, Sanctuary Choir, Deaconess Board, The Middle Twelve, Senior Citizens Center and West Madison Neighborhood Watch.

She leaves to cherish her memory a daughter, Fannie M. Parker-Jefferson; nine stepdaughters: Bernice Coleman, Marie Allen, Dorothy Johnson, Carolyn (Robert) Morgan, Norma J. (Henry) Meeks, Brenda (Lee) Hart, Evelyn Chatman, Yvonne Chatman and Emma Anthony of Flint, MI; four stepsons: Attorney Hewitt (Dornell) Chatman, Leonard (Clementine) Chatman, John Henry (Ann) Chatman, and Leroy (Corine) Chatman, Jr.; daughter-in-law, Barbara Chatman; nephews: John A. Bond, Mack Goff; niece, Mary Dyes; a host of grandchildren, great-grandchildren, great-great grandchildren, special friends and the St. John #2 Baptist Church Family. She was preceded in death by a son, Christopher Gillispie and husband, Leroy Chatman. Also included in memory is special friend, Mr. Odell Chatman.



Although The Curtain Falls

*There comes a time for all of us when we must say good-bye
But memories of those we love live on and never die.*

*Although the curtain falls at last is that a cause to grieve?
The future life is brighter still if only we believe.*

*So trust in God's eternal care and when the Master calls
We'll know a fairer world beyond although the curtain falls.*