



On Friday morning, January 1, 2016, 9:09 a.m. at McLeod Medical Center, Dillon, South Carolina, the matriarch of the family, **Mother Sarah Helen Carmichael Bethea** was called home to be with the Lord.

**Sarah Helen** was born on March 9, 1921, the ninth child of the late Robert C. Carmichael and Rosa Bell Carmichael. She joined Canaan AME Church and was converted at an early age. She attended Dillon County Public School. **Sarah Helen** earned her cosmetology license from Sunshine Cosmetology College in Columbia, South Carolina.

On January 9, 1947, **Sarah Helen** was united in Holy Matrimony to Mr. Samuel Bethea, to this union eight children were born.

**Sarah Helen** joined Bethel AME Church where she attended faithfully for over sixty-seven years and worked diligently, currently she was the Church Mother and received many accolades for being a top fundraiser. She also was involved in her community and civil rights activities. **Sarah Helen** was a member of Bright Star of the Valley, Order of Eastern Star, Chapter #217 for fifty-nine years and her civic services included traveling to Beaufort, South Carolina.

Preceding her in death was her daughter, Helen; son, David Paul and her sisters and brothers.

Her memory will be forever cherished by her loving family ~ Sarah E. (Charlie) Redden of Columbia, SC, Lutricia Gadson and Hattie Y. Blackmon both of Dillon, SC, LaSandra Faye (Robert) Bass of Florence, SC; two sons: Samuel Lee (Dorothy) Bethea and Derrick Bethea of the home; fourteen grandchildren; twenty-seven great grandchildren; three great, great grandchildren; one devoted nephew: Robert L. Carmichael; two brothers-n-law, Rosier Page Bethea and Thearchie Wright; three sisters-n-law: Ruby Bethea, Marie Bethea and Esteria bethea; numerous loving nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

“Who can find a virtuous woman? For her price is far above rubies.” Proverbs 31:10