



Lahoma Esther Ray

January 3, 2013

Lahoma Esther Sampsell Ray our loving Christian mother & friend, age 88 of Harriman departed this earthly life & entered into the gates of Heaven during the early morning hours on January 3, 2012. Acknowledging that her lengthy health struggles are over, we are assured through her faith & witness that she is whole, well & alive with our Lord & Savior. Lahoma resided at Ben Atchley State Veterans Home in Knoxville, TN during the last six months. She was preceded in death by her loving husband Lonnie Earl Ray of Harriman, and loving daughter Carolyn Sue Ray of Cleveland, TN, her parents, Charles & Mary Lou Sampsell and brothers, Roy & Charles Sampsell.

She is survived by her loving daughters

Lalani E. Wright & husband Larry of Gallatin, TN

Mary Lea Byrd-Sullivan & husband Dr Robert Sullivan of Lenoir City, TN

Brother Elbert Sampsell of Hopewell, VA

5 grandchildren Sandi Wright of Spring Hill, FL

Matthew Wright of Austin, TX

Rachel Beth Estep (Chris) of Corinth, MS

Leslea Byrd of Arlington, VA

Eric Byrd of Murfreesboro, TN

3 great grandchildren Skyler, Grady, & Abigail Cate Estep of Corinth, MS

Lahoma was blessed to have a wonderful staff & support systems. She was

blessed to have compassionate & loving caregivers for the last 5 years of her life and the family wishes to thank Patti McFarland, Freda Prichard & Celesta Rhoden for their dedication & loyalty.

Funeral service 12 noon Saturday January 5, 2013 at Kyker Funeral Home Chapel in Harriman, with Rev. Edsel West officiating. Interment in Roane Memorial Gardens. The family will receive friends from 11 AM to 12 noon Saturday, January 5, 2013.

Tribute Wall

PB

“ *Lahoma became a person I looked forward to seeing every day that I worked. She always tickled me with her smile. I shall miss her.* ”

Patsy Blanchard - January 07, 2013 at 12:00 AM

HB

“ *It was a pleasure to get to know Lahoma when I worked at NHC and helped to take care of her. She had a beautiful smile for every day. My thoughts and prayers are with the family during this sorrowful time. I know she will be missed.* ”

Hollea Brown - January 05, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ *Lahoma was a very special part of my childhood. I spent many hours in her yard and at her home playing with Lalonie and Mary Lea. I look back fondley at the days she and my mom spent fixing each others hair while we played with our dolls. She took me to my first Bible School and always put this little girl's fears at ease with her beautiful smile. She was a beautiful person inside and out and I know you will miss her dearly just as I do my mom. I'm sure they are enjoying each others company again in heaven where never again we'll be separated by sickness and time.* ”

Diane McCormick-Mayton - Crossville, TN - friend - January 05, 2013 at 12:00 AM

ST

“ *I'll always have fond memories of Lahoma. She always brought a smile to my face when I interacted with her. My heart goes out to the family and caregivers that grew close to Lahoma because I know she will be greatly missed.* ”

Selina Sheffer - Madisonville, TN - January 03, 2013 at 12:00 AM