

## Connie Mae Hicks Dearman

May 13, 1936 - June 9, 2007



Connie Mae Hicks Dearman was born in Cherokee County Texas on May 13, 1936 to the parents of Lula Bell and Joe Hicks, Sr. She was a

member of the G. W. Bradford High School graduating Class of 1955. Connie was a member of The Church of The Living God, Jacksonville, Texas until 1999 when she joined with Mount Olive Baptist Church, Rusk, Texas. She passed away June 9, 2007 in a Tyler, Texas hospital.

She was married to the late Leon Dearman. Survivors include: One daughter and son-in-law Maria and Tarvare Moore, Rusk, Texas; four sons and daughters-in-law; Larry and Jennifer Dearman, Charles and Callie Dearman, Westley and Veronica Dearman and Eddie Dearman, all of Rusk; ten grandchildren Veronica and Floyd Johnson, Shannon Dearman, Latoya and Jonah Branham, Candace and Michael Overstreet, Clarice Dearman, Darrin Dearman, Quanisha Dearman, Symira Dearman, Mark Mitchell, Raven Moore; twelve great-grandchildren, two brothers, Joe and Mazel Hicks of Houston, Texas; Alonza and Laura Hicks of Rusk, Texas; a best friend Loyal Barron; a host of aunts, uncles, neices, nephews other relatives and friends.

The service was held Saturday, June 16, at Mount Olive Baptist Church under the directions of Mercy - McGowan Funeral Home with Rev. officiating and Rev. Mertis Bartley, Bishop Mabel Berry, Rev. Larry Leonard, Evangelist Stella Bartley and Rev. Gaylon Taylor officiating.

Burial was at Memorial Cemetery, Rusk, Texas.

## Mary Alice Overstreet

Nov. 18, 1943- May 26, 2007

Mary Alice Overstreet was born November 18, 1943 in Rusk, Texas, to the parents of Riley and Emma May Overstreet. She attended G.W. Bradford School in Rusk, Texas and was a member of the "class of 1965". She was a member of the Church of Christ, where she joined at an early age.

Later she moved to Dallas, Texas and made it her home until 1996 when she returned to Rusk to live. At this time she united with Mt. Olive Baptist Church and remained a member until her death.

She was preceeded in death by her parents, four brothers, and two sisters. She passed away May 26, 2007 at Lexington Place Care Center, Rusk, Texas.

Survivors are three sons; Willie Ray Overstreet (Lakisha), of Rusk, Texas; Herman Lee Overstreet of Jacksonville, Texas; and Oscar Eugene Overstreet (Frances) of Palestine, Texas; eight grandchildren, one brother, David Overstreet, of Rusk, Texas; a host of nieces, nephews, relatives, and friends.

Funeral Services were held June 9, 2007 at Mount Olive Baptist Church under the directions of Mercy McGowan Funeral home with the Rev. Mertis Bartley officiating. Burial was at Salem Cemetery, Rusk, Texas.

### A THANK YOU NOTE FROM

#### THE MYRTIE JOHNSON FAMILY

When a loved one so dear is lost, kind gestures from friends make it so much better.

We would just like to say from us to you, that the kind gestures you gave us did truly make a difference. The phone calls warmed our hearts. The visits uplifted our spirits. The food filled our stomachs when we had no desire to prepare food.

Thank you and may god Bless you,  
Your kindness will never be forgotten.

Sincerely,

The Myrtie Johnson Family

## CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS URGES END CONTROVERSIAL

Washington, DC (BlackNews.com) - Ohio Senator Sherrod Brown and Sen. Tom Harkin (D-IA) this week moved to protect low-income teens from some controversial federal research that will soon be forced on federally-funded college prep programs. Meanwhile, the entire House of Representatives membership of the Congressional Black Caucus called on House colleagues to withhold funding for the study entirely (to read the letter, go to: [www.coenet.us/files/upward\\_bound-cbc\\_june\\_2007.pdf](http://www.coenet.us/files/upward_bound-cbc_june_2007.pdf)). The U.S. Department of Education has commissioned a national evaluation of Upward Bound, the venerable and highly-successful college access program that has helped nearly a million students prepare for, apply to, and go to college. The evaluation has been a source of great concern for college access educators because of its design. Upward Bound programs are being required to recruit double the number of teens they can serve, with half of the students placed in control groups

"The vulnerable youngsters and families who make the serious commitment to study hard after school, Saturdays, and summers with Upward Bound will be devastated when they learn that they are, instead, assigned to the control group and can never participate," said Arnold L. Mitchem, president of the Council for Opportunity in Education. "This is an unethical study design that should not be foisted on low-income 14-year-olds to satisfy some bureaucratic whim in Washington," Mitchem continued. "We are tremendously grateful for the leadership of Senators Brown and Harkin and the House Congressional Black Caucus, under the leadership of Reps. Bobby Scott (D-VA) and Gwen Moore (D-WI). Their actions may result in protecting thousands of low-income youngsters from research that can have terrible personal consequences. Some Upward Bound educators believe the study design is reminiscent of the tragic Tuskegee experiments because students will inevitably be harmed in the process. Unless Congress blocks the plan, Upward Bound programs will be forced to participate in the study or lose their funding all together.

"Senators Brown and Harkin and the HELP committee, and Congressman Scott and the Black Caucus are making it clear that the Department of Education does not have carte blanche to engage in this type of unethical research," Mitchem said. "We support research on the effectiveness of Upward Bound. We already know what a superb program it is," he continued. "There are other credible study designs that can be used to examine Upward Bound without harming students."

Upward Bound serves 9th-12th grade low-income and first-generation students with an intensive college prep program including academic support, mentoring, and college admissions and financial aid counseling. Nationally, more than 90% of the Upward Bound students who complete high school go on to college. It is the granddaddy of college access programs, having been founded more than 40 years ago.

For more information, contact Susan Trebach (202) 347-7430 ext 107 (o) or (703) 346-8438 (cell)

### Community Funeral Home

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### County Line Baptist Church

Annual Program  
and All-Night Singing

Saturday, July 7, 2007  
7:00PM

Rev. Julius Session, Pastor  
Contact: Sis. G. McCloud, Sec.