

# In Memoriam

of

THE LATE EARTHA MARY MAGDALENE WHITE



Deceased Friday, January 18, 1974

## FUNERAL SERVICES

Thursday, January 24, 1974 — 3:00 P.M.  
Bethel Baptist Institutional Church  
Reverend Rudolph W. McKissick, Pastor

Interment — Old City Cemetery  
Jacksonville, Florida  
Holmes-Glover Funeral Home  
Ulysees C. Glover, Mortician

## OBITUARY

Eartha Mary Magdalene, Doctor of Humanities, was born on November 8, 1876 in Jacksonville, Florida, the thirteenth child of Clara English White, an ex-slave woman.

Her grandfather, Adam English, and a cousin, Rev. Henry Harrison, suggested to her mother, six months before her birth, that she be given the name Eartha Mary Magdalene — each relative quoting a Biblical reference for so doing. After her birth, she was blessed by Rev. Cataline Simmons, the first pastor of Bethel Baptist Institutional Church, where her mother was a pioneer member.

She began her early educational training at Stanton School. Following her years there, she attended the Divinity School, Cookman Institute (now Bethune Cookman College), and was a member of the second graduating class of The Florida Baptist Academy (now The Florida Memorial College, at Miami, Florida). In New York City, she attended the Madam Hall's Beauty School, and at The National Conservatory of Music, she was tutored by two famous composers, Harry T. Burleigh and J. Rosemond Johnson. Hoping to fit herself for her life's work in human relations, she avidly sought to add to her knowledge wherever the opportunity presented itself.

She realized early her responsibility to aid others in learning the fundamentals of life. She taught in the public schools of Jacksonville and Bayard, Florida.

Space does not allow the enumeration of the many and varied worthwhile activities in which Eartha Mary Magdalene White engaged during her lifetime. The following enterprises founded by her, however, attest to her ingenuity and her devotion to helping her fellowman:

The Clara White Mission  
The Eartha M. M. White Nursing Home  
The Museum (Moncrief Avenue)

In recognition of her outstanding contributions to humanity, she has received any number of awards, including the following:

1. In 1961 — The honorary degree of Doctor of Laws by Edward Waters College
2. In 1969 — The Good Citizenship Award by the Jaycees
3. In 1970 — "The Lane Bryant \$5000 Cash Award"
4. In 1971 — "Better Award for Patient Care" from the American Nursing Home Association
5. In 1972 — "The Booker T. Washington Symbol Service Award" from the National Business League
6. In 1973 — "Achievement Award" from the Southern Region of Iota Phi Lambda Sorority

"80 Years of Devoted and Faithful Service Plaque" from Bethel Baptist Institutional Church

One of her famous admonitions to others was:

"Do all the good you can,  
for all the people you can,  
while you can."

## PROGRAM

Processional: Medley of Spirituals

Hymn: "All The Way My Savior Leads Me" (Favorite)

Scripture . . . . . Reverend Richard Petry,  
Snyder Memorial United  
Methodist Church

Prayer . . . . . Reverend Charles B. Dailey,  
First Baptist Church - Oakland

Reflections:

Honorable Hans G. Tanzler, Mayor

Mr. Theodore Redding

Honorable Charles E. Bennett, Congressman

Solo . . . . . Mr. Milton Hood  
(of New York City)

Eulogy . . . . . Reverend Rudolph W. McKissick

Recessional

### **ACTIVE PALLBEARERS**

Dr. W. W. Schell

Mr. Harold Gibson

Mr. L. I. Alexander

Mr. Walter Kraemer

Mr. Quentin Messer

Mr. Nathaniel Washington

### **HONORARY PALLBEARERS**

Members of the:

Board of Directors

Clara White Mission

and

Eartha M. M. White Nursing Home

### **FLOWER ATTENDANTS**

Deaconess Board — Bethel Baptist Institutional Church

and

Chi Chapter Iota Phi Lambda Sorority