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Bishop Robert E. Henson

Eulogy for My Precious Wife Given April 5, 2023

by Bishop Robert E. Henson

First of all. on behalf of the entire Henson family, we wish to thank you for your show of love and respect for Shirley and your support of our family through your attendance here today. To all present, to those online and the many others who have reached out to Shirley and/or our family in some manner during the last few months, weeks or days, we wish to express our sincere appreciation. Your phone calls, emails, text messages, cards, letters, flowers, chocolates, gifts - and especially your prayers - have been deeply encouraging. So, again, THANK YOU!

We wish to acknowledge the presence of all licensed ministers, spouses and organizational leaders here today. **Would you please stand. THANK YOU for** taking the time and making the effort to honor my wife with your presence.

Today, I am announcing my official retirement...as a volunteer of the United States Postal Service. As close as we can estimate, Shirley, has sent upwards of 100,000 personal notes and cards to people around the world in the last 50+ years. This is besides the decades of her monthly copies of the Ladies Touch and other correspondence. Shirley excelled all others in her ministry of personal

encouragement. I trust that someone here today will pick up the mantle of the ministry of encouragement.

Would you believe that I, as her husband, also received many cards and notes from Shirley? One of the hundreds received by me was a card



with the following personal message. **Dear Robert, Thank you for being such** a great husband! I love you. Then she signed it... Robert.

Proverbs 18:22 declares. The man who finds a wife finds a treasure, and he receives favor from the Lord. (NLT) On Saturday, June the 4th, 1966, I received Shirley's small and tender hand in marriage. A week ago this past Thursday, April the 6th, 2023, I held her

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Remarks by by Pastor Jason R. McGhee

One of the things I admire about Queen

Mother is that out of love she would not only encourage you, she would chastize vou. She would discipline vou.

She was willing to tell you the things you needed to hear, maybe not the things vou wanted to hear.

We were on a 16 hour drive and I was occassionaly falling asleep. Ladv McGhee called her mother and she was telling Queen Mother that I was falling asleep. She told Lady McGhee to give me the phone. We began to have a conversation and she told me this. "You need to wake up and be a man!" I wanted to get mad, but I knew she loved me.

So now when I find myself falling asleep on the road I tell myself "Wake up and be a man!".

Spiritually we need to "wake up" and be the man that God has called us to be!



Remarks by Daughters



Mom was an amazing example of what a mother

and wife should be. I never heard her have harsh word about my dad. As we were growing up my mother never talked about my dad. I'm sure you got it privately (looking at Bishop Henson) but we never heard it.

I remember when I was a little girl, my dad had asked her to do something. My mom says, "Your father is just spoiled". I was like "oh, ok".

My dad was in his office working and I said, "Daddy, what does the word spoiled mean?". My father replied, "Well Jerusha, it means it is rotten and

neads thrown out". And I said, "Well, you better go talk to mama then".





Sis. Melissa Hudson

When I was in elementary school in Portage, IN, I did not like to eat breakfast. My

mom wasn't a breakfast person, so she never made me eat breakfast.

There was a special test at school and teachers stressed "the kids have to eat breakfast before they come to school." That morning we woke up and she

says, "Missy, you have to eat breakfast today." She would eat a taco or some pizza. So she started naming off macaroni and cheese, grilled cheese sandwhich, pizza, raviolli. Nothing sounded good, but she said you have to eat breakfast. She then offered ice cream and chocolate syrup. I said, "Yes I WOULD! That would be great!

At school they asked everyone who ate breakfast to raise their hand. The teach asked what they had eaten. One kid had scrambled eggs, another had waffles, I said I had ice cream and chocolate syrup. She was like, "No you didn't, we are going to talk to your mom after school!".

After school my mom came to pick me up. My teacher told my mom that I ate ice cream and chocolate syrup for breakfast. My mom said "Well, she did! All you said was that she had to eat something and that is all she wanted".

From the Bishop's Heart (Continued)

hand as she slipped beyond the hold of marital love and into the arms of God. Shirley indeed brought the favor of God upon my life and ministry. I have walked in that favor for nearly 57 years. I have heard ministers sincerely honor their wives by stating that said wife was a blessing and help to their ministry. I stand today to acknowledge that well over 50 percent of any fruitfulness and success that I have experienced in ministry is, quite frankly, due to my darling Shirley. I am forever indebted to her.

Some ministers become prey to wives who badger them to ease up on the teachings about godliness and holy living. Shirley never put that kind of pressure on me. In fact, just three days before she passed, her and I were alone in our Family Room. She was lying in her hospital bed and I was sitting in my preacher-boy chair. Without opening her eyes, she softly called my name, "Robert..." When I responded, she softly but firmly said, "Don't ever back up on anything." Such was her commitment to godly living.

I wish to acknowledge to you that sweet Shirley was not just a wallflower in our marriage. Ours was the marriage of two strong-willed individuals. Notwithstanding, we made a commitment to each other, early on in our marriage, not to ever use the two-cylinder "D" word. We were so blessed by God's grace to have a delightful marriage. I thank the Good Lord for that and for her.

Shirley was an amazing lady – truly one of a very special kind. Shirley did not seek the limelight, though it often came to her. She never bragged about her "spirituality" though she had a very close walk with God.

A few years ago, Shirley was sitting in our Michigan Room and was praying. I was nearby inside the house. As she was praying, she asked the Lord to let her see her guardian angel. A little while later, while she continued to pray, a tall man walked past the outside

of the Michigan Room, which room sits some three feet or more off the ground. When he reached the end of the room, he made an about face and walked back past the room. The man never glanced even once to look at her. My wife immediately called out to me to see who it was. I ran and looked out the windows, out the front door, out the



garage door and looked up and down our street. There was absolutely no sign of any person or automobile in the area. Shirley always believed that he was her guardian angel.

Shortly after that experience, my wife was shopping at Meijer. Shirley left the store, and realized upon reaching her vehicle, that she had left her purse in the store. She hurried back into the store and inquired at the service desk if a purse had been turned in. The customer service lady responded that a man had just handed her the purse. The lady and Shirley turned to see the Good Samaritan, but he had disappeared. The service lady couldn't believe it. She said, "He just handed this purse to me." He was nowhere in sight.

Fast forward to the time of Shirley's illness. About two weeks prior to her death, she was laying in her hospital bed in our home and praying for our family. She called my name, the names of her daughters, sons-in-law, grandchildren, spouses and greatgrandchildren, asking for God's favor upon us. Near the end of that prayer, Shirley said, "And, Lord, bless Hector!"

When my wife finished praying, our daughter Jerusha inquired, "Mom, who is Hector?" My wife responded, "I have no earthly idea who Hector is." About a week later, in one of her final prayers, Shirley was again praying for family members, calling each of us by name and thanking God for us. Somewhere in that list, Shirley prayed and said,

"Thank You, God, for Hector."

Upon her closing that prayer, the family entered into discussion as to the identity of Hector. It was Pastor McGhee who suggested that the name might be connected to Shirley's guardian angel. A couple of our granddaughters looked up the meaning of the name Hector, and later I did further research on the name. The Greek meaning of the name Hector is "holding fast." The equivalent name in Hebrew means "Father protection," and that is with a capital "F". The Hebrew name can also mean "Protector". This must have been the reason why Shirley gave thanks for Hector.

Shirley was amazingly strong in her faith and belief in the power of God to heal. At the beginning of Shirley's illness, she was adamant in her faith that she was going to be healed. Even as she weakened in body, she continued to be insistent in prayer and dialogue that she would be healed. However, some days prior to her death, the Lord gave Shirley a vision of Heaven. She reported to us that Heaven was much more beautiful than she ever dreamed; and...that there was lots of purple there. \bigcirc From that point on, her prayers to God changed. First, her prayer changed to "Lord, Your will be done." Then after a few more days, she began to pray, "I want to go home, I am ready, Jesus. Please take me to Heaven

Shirley has now reached her goal. Her faith was not defeated! Her faith has truly triumphed! My family and I thank each one of you for loving Shirley. Thank you for your hours of prayer and days of fasting for her. In her closing days on earth, she expressed her deep and sincere appreciation for the abundant support that she had received. May the Good Lord reward each of you for your love, prayers and support.

Shirley, I love you! God being my helper, I will see you in the Rapture!



Remarks from the Family

Rev. Jonathan Hudson

Son-in-law

When I think of Queen Mother I think of the phrase "whatever!" No matter what bad news, good news, "whatever!". Whatever comes my way, I've got Jesus! Everything is going to be alright! I am walking with the Lord.

Another word I thought of was perseverance. She believed what she believed, and she would love you no matter what you believed. But she was not going to give way as to what she believed. It was in her heart and she wasn't going to let go of it.

Jelissa Vega

Grand-daughter

All the words in the world are lackluster when trying to sum up her life. My nana made everything better. She was very special and was fun to be around. Nothing will be the same without her. Most everything will be very different now.

Macy Klinedinst

Grand-daughter

She always had a little gift for someone. Even if it was something small and simple, you knew that it was exactly for you, and that made it special. She loved her family so deeply.

There was not a day that went by that I did not get a text from her. She would say, "How is your day going girl" or "Hope that baby let you get some sleep last night". Most of all she loved the Lord, she was so passionate about His Kingdom and His work.

Madelyn Hudson

Grand-daughter

I have the priveledge to keep all of the cards that she ever wrote me, there is easily over 50.

She was always so kind and loving.

There is a picture of her when she was about my age that everyone calls me her twin.

Nana, if I could be half the woman that you are today, I think that I would have made it in life.

Jade McGhee

Grand-daughter

She was a woman that was always on the go, go, go. If you knew her, she was going to Walgreen, the Post Office, or take us shopping. She could hang with the best of them.

Towards the end she would say, "Gooooo slooooow". It was always followed by "You are going to too fast!".

I would say, "Nana, we haven't been moving for the past 10 min we are just standing here". She would say, "You are still going too fast".

Jason (JJ) McGhee Grandson

I am probably the only grandson that has been to Shipshewanna. When I was there, she always fed me so I was ok with it. She gave me a lot of food.

When Bishop was in the hospital I stayed with Queen Mother. My parents would come over and she would wait for my parents to leave before giving me grilled cheese and ice cream every night.

I love how she was a praying lady and a lady of God. She was an amazing Grandma.

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Statement of Purpose

South Flint Tabernacle is a dynamic, Spirit-filled church that is undergirded by prayer and the Word of God. Its purpose is to win and mentor disciples by doing the following:

Exalting Jesus Christ Encouraging people Equipping Christians Evangelizing the world

Schedule of Services

Sunday

Sunday School & Morning Worship 4th Sunday -

Revival Service 6:0

Wednesday Worship & The Word

Friday

Arise Worship

7:00

Fundamental Beliefs

The Plan of Salvation

• Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ (Acts 16:32).

• Repent of sins (Acts 17:31).

 Be water baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38).

• Receive the gift of the Holy Ghost (John 7:37-39).

The Identity of Jesus Christ

• There is only one God (Deut. 6:4).

 Jesus Christ was both man and God (Is. 9:6, Mt. 1:21, I Tim. 2:15).

Within Jesus dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily (Col. 2:9).

