



Maria C. Benson

December 6, 1942 - December 8, 2024

Maria Benson, of Alexandria, VA, went home to be with her LORD on Sunday, December 8. She was born in Cuba and immigrated to the United States in 1966. She met her LORD and SAVIOR in 1972. At the time, she was married to her first husband, Emilio Ares.

Subsequent to her first husband's passing, Maria earned her associate's degree in divinity from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary in 1981.

She met her current husband, Reverend James L. Benson, of Springfield, VA during a singles education training. They were wed in December 1987.

Maria is survived by her husband Rev. James L. Benson and her 3 children, Emilio and his wife Angie, of Charlotte, NC, Robert and his wife Deborah, of Mt. Zion, IL, and Lourdes and her husband Edward, of Dunn Loring, VA.

Maria was blessed with 7 grandchildren, and 12 great grandchildren. In addition, while she was licensed daycare owner for many years in Springfield, VA, all of the children through the years, and there were many, lovingly referred to her as Abuela (grandma).

Maria's passion was serving her LORD and SAVIOR, Jesus Christ. She planted numerous Spanish missions in Northern Virginia. She taught Sunday

school, preached, led choirs, and completed general administrative church functions in her lifetime.

Her faith has now been made sight. HALLELUJAH!

Tribute Wall

LB

“*Mrs. Benson was a beautiful woman, who loved the Lord and people. She gave generously of her time and talents to those that crossed her path. She exuded joy and friendship and was 100% genuine. Maria Benson, you will be missed! May you now join the angels in praising your Lord and Savior.*

Lisette Bassett - December 12, 2024 at 05:03 PM



“*Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Maria C. Benson.*



December 11, 2024 at 12:56 PM

AB

“*My fondest memory of Maria Benson was during my childhood. She owned and ran the Christian Bookstore in Springfield (later owned by Lifeway). She would be there every Saturday as we ran errands in preparation for church functions. She would be so polite but also sassy asking of me and my mom questions of faith, church growth, and things on leadership we might not have been thinking about. She lived ahead of her time as a strong Cuban-American woman of faith. I'm thankful for her leadership and exemplary life of service. I don't remember her ever questioning her role as woman, pastor's wife, teacher, seminary trained intellect, and all the other titles she could have claimed. She simply did what needed to be done because the Lord compelled her to do it <3.*

Artemia Archie Tamayo Bates-Mendoza - December 10, 2024 at 08:46 PM