



## Erma Sears Cooke

October 21, 2004

On October 21, 2004, Erma, a loving wife, Mama, and Nana, was called by her Lord Jesus Christ to come live with Him in paradise.

Born to Wade and Laura Sears, she spent most of her growing up years in Portsmouth, VA. Erma was an active member of Westhaven Baptist Church, Portsmouth. She attended nursing school at Maryview hospital and worked at the Norfolk Naval Shipyard in the supply department. Erma was also an active supporter of the American Diabetes Association, the Mothers Against Drunk Drivers Association, the Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Association, and the Muscular Dystrophy Association. She was a member of the WMU, the Francis Johnson and Adult III Sunday school classes, and the VFW auxiliary. Erma was an active member of the Churchland High School class of 1947. She proudly served as a spokesperson for Lou Gehrig's Disease.

Erma is survived by her devoted husband of 52 ½ years, Robert Lewis Cooke, Sr.; two daughters, Laurel Cooke Loving, and Lisa Cooke Wagner and husband Dennis, all of Chesapeake; two sons, Robert L. Cooke, Jr. of Washington, DC and Ronald L. Cooke of Portsmouth; three grandchildren, Suzanne Michelle Loving, Elizabeth Anne Wagner, and Dennis Robert Wagner; a brother, Milton Sears, of Fredericksburg; a sister-in-law, Helen Hartman, of Maryland; many nieces and nephews; and many, many friends.

A funeral service will be held at 2:00PM Saturday in Westhaven Baptist Church by Dr. Tim Dixon, with burial in Olive Branch Cemetery. The family will receive friends in Loving Funeral Home, Churchland Chapel, Friday from 6-8PM. Memorial contributions may be made to the A.L.S.A. so that a cure may be found. Mark your donation for research.

When the roll is called up yonder, when the roll is called up yonder, when the roll is called up yonder I'll be there. When I die, hallelujah, by and by, I'll fly away!

# Tribute Wall



“ Dear Laurel and Lisa and family of Erma Cooke:  
I remember Mother Erma well from my days in Job's Daughters. She was loved and will be missed. My sympathy to you and your family. Love in Christ,  
Judy###imported-begin###Judy Goodridge###imported-end##

December 23, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ To my cousin Laurel, Robert, Lisa and Ronnie and Uncle Bob: Please know that you all are in my prayers. Only time can heal the pain. Stay strong in the Lord and he will provide you the strength you need through this tough time. Aunt Erma was a wonderful woman which is a refectioin in all of you. God Bless each of you abundantly. Love your cuz, Charlotte###imported-begin###Charlotte Weber###imported-end##

November 15, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ dear laurel and family,  
i am so sorry to hear about your mom/grandma. when passing your mom's home, i knew something was going on, and wanted to call. but didn't..please forgive me. i pray that the happy memories of the times you've spent with your mom/grandma will bring peace and comfort to you during those times that become burdened with saddness. she will live long forever in your hearts...and we all know that she is whole, joyous and walking those awesome streets of gold that we always sing about!! you and your loved ones will be my prayers..love ya sweet lady..  
millie and family###imported-begin###millie anderson###imported-end##

November 12, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ My heart and prayers go out to you. Erma was a very special woman and an inspiration to us all. I knew Erma through working at Pam's hair designers. I miss her smile and my weekly kiss on the cheek. She will be greatly missed. God bless you and your family through this difficult time.

Michelle Harrell###imported-begin###michelle harrell###imported-end##

November 11, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ My thoughts and prayers are with you, Robert. I know how much you will miss your dear mother.  
Much love to you,  
Aileen###imported-begin###Aileen Tobias###imported-end##

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October 26, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Robert Cook & Family,

*My condolences about the loss of this invaluable person to your family. Robert, knowing you through Transformation Retreat ... I can tell your mom was an important person to you in your life. Know that your Transformation family is praying with you and for you and your family.###imported-begin###Dave Schleck###imported-end##*

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October 25, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Laurel,

*Terry and I are so very sorry to hear of your mother's passing. We know this is hard to bear, but we are sure your faith will give you strength. Your mother had a great faith in God, and we are sure she is at rest with the Lord now.*

*Please tell your dad that we are thinking about all of you and express our deepest sympathy.*

*Take care of yourself.*

*Bill and Terry Byrd###imported-begin###Bill Byrd###imported-end##*

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October 24, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Robert, I'm so very sorry to hear about your mother. I know you went through alot taking care of her. You're a wonderful and caring person. I know you will miss her. Please take care of yourself now...you're in my prayers. Love, Dwight email me sometime###imported-begin###Dwight Rackley###imported-end##

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October 24, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear sweet Robert, I am so sad for you today as you grieve the loss of your much loved Mother. I am keeping you and the family in my heart and prayers this weekend and will be with you in spirit. I think of the wonderful anniversary party you did and I know she felt much loved. God bless you, Ruth

October 23, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ I am very sorry for your loss. Robert Jr had shared with us his great concern and love for his mother. Please be assured of my remembrance in prayer for all of you in these days. May God continue to bless all of you in your love for Erma and for each other, and with the assurance that she is in the loving arms of her Creator, where there is no more suffering, but only the fullness of Love, Joy and Life Eternal.

October 23, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Laurel,

I was so sorry to hear about the passing of your mother. You and your family have been in my prayers for a long time. Please let me know if there is anything I can do for you.

Love you, my dear friend

Brenda Tye Gurnik

October 22, 2004 at 12:00 AM



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October 22, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ I am sorry that I can not be there with you, I am very sick. I would very much like to be with you. My prayers are with you all at this time. If I can help in any way please call or drop me an e-mail, if I can.

Sincerely

Milton Jr.

October 22, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ I am sorry for your loss. She was my ex-sister-in-law and I kept in touch. I will miss getting a Christmas card from her. God bless Bob and children and grandchildren.##imported-begin##Margaret Sears Moss##imported-end##

October 22, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Laurel & Suzanne,  
My thoughts and prayers are with you both and to your whole family. Heaven has received a precious gift. May god be with you both in this time of sorrow. Your friend, Denise##imported-begin##denise##imported-end##

October 22, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Friends,  
I am so sorry to hear of your dear Mother's passing. Please know that our thoughts and prayers are with you all and your Mother is in the company of the angels and our Heavenly Father.

Betty Ann Eure Powell  
and family##imported-begin##Betty Ann Powell##imported-end##

October 22, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ My thoughts and prayers are with you.##imported-begin##John E. Elliott##imported-end##

October 22, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Laurel, I was very sorry to hear about your mother. My thoughts and prayers are with you. Cindi##imported-begin##Cindi Martin Yopp##imported-end##

October 22, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Although we never had the privilege of meeting Erma Cooke, we knew her well through Robert. Her leaving her earthly home will leave an dark spot, but her light from heaven will shine on forever and turn away the darkness. Our prayers and love are with you all.##imported-begin##Narce and Leslie Caliva##imported-end##

October 22, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Robert Jr.  
*I'm truly sorry to hear about your mother and your family is in my prayers for strength. You are a loving son and she appreciates all that you do. Sorry I haven't been in touch, but my life has changed since we've talked. I'll try and do better. If there's anything I can do just let me know. God bless U, Larry*###imported-begin###Larry Forrest###imported-end###

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October 22, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Dearest Laurel,  
*Please know you are a living testament to your mother. By your caring ways and wonderful smile, we know your Mom was a wonderful caregiver to you. She shared herself by having you and letting us get to know you. May she now be released from her pain and suffering and know the true joys of living with her Lord and Savior. I send my prayers to you and your families.*###imported-begin###Charlene Ihrig###imported-end###

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October 22, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ To Robert and family: *I didn't know your mother but I do know Robert. He is such a loving and special person to all of us at Transformation Retreats, he must have been loved deeply by a loving and special mother. May God's peace surround you and may your grieving bring grace in this time of loss.*

Love

*Your friends at Transformation Retreats*###imported-begin###Wanda Rue###imported-end###

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October 22, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ Laurel,  
*I was so sorry to hear of your mothers passing. I know we haven't kept in touch since you left Northern Star Credit Union, but I wanted you to know your in my thoughts and prayers. I lost my mom 10 years ago. Just remember during these bad times that your mom will always be in your HEART! Call me sometime!*  
*Debbie*###imported-begin###Debbie McCuiston###imported-end###

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October 22, 2004 at 12:00 AM