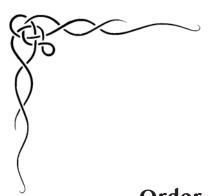
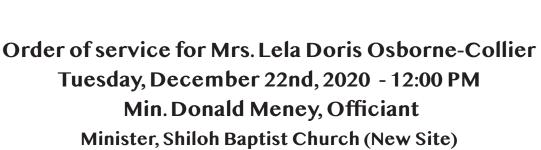




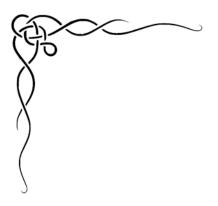
Lela D. Osborne-Collier

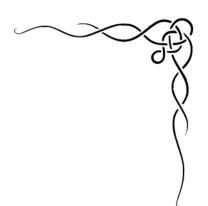
Sunríse Sunset December 19, 1959 December 12, 2020





Introduction	Min. Donald Meney
Scripture Reading	
Old Testament - Psalm 46: 1-3	Lauren Collier-Spruel
New Testament - John 14:1-3.	Lauren Collier-Spruel
Prayer of Comfort	Min. Donald Meney
Selection - I'm Free by Milton Brunson	
Poem - A Celebration of Lela	Allison Collier
Precious Memories	Megan Collier
Remarks	All Attendees
Video of Memories & Obituary Reading	
Eulogy	Min. Donald Meney
Closing Prayer	Min. Donald Meney





Pallbearers

Nathaniel Harley Arthur Lynch

James Marlowe Cecil Curtiss Millner

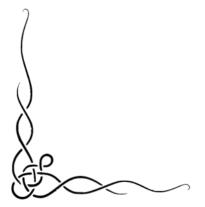
Donald Thomas Roderick Spruel

Location

A.L. Bennett and Son Funeral Home 200 Butternut Dr, Fredericksburg, VA 22408 December 22, 2020 - 12:00 PM

Lay to Rest

Sunset Memorial Gardens 3702 Loren Dr, Fredericksburg, VA 22408



The Story of Lela Collier

Lela Doris Osborne-Collier (Lela Doris Osborne II) of Fredericksburg, Virginia, went on to be with the Lord on December 12, 2020, just shy of her 61st birthday.

Lela was born on December 19, 1959 in San Bernardino, California to Tessie Victoria Wilson Osborne and Cain Osborne. She was the youngest of three siblings and the only daughter. She was named after her late aunt Lela, her father's sister. As she grew older, Lela excelled scholastically and played on her high school volleyball team and badminton team. In 1978, she graduated from San Bernardino High School. She then went on to attend San Bernardino Valley College for two years while she worked as a nurse's assistant. After she transferred to California State University, Long Beach (Cal State Long Beach) she completed her Bachelor of Science in Business Administration in 1982. During her time at Cal State Long Beach, she met Lenart Van Collier at a meeting of the Society for Black Engineers and was introduced by Lela's brother Darrell. The two quickly became inseparable friends and eventually dated and fell in love. After asking Cain and Tessie Osborne for Lela's hand in marriage, Van proposed to Lela on February 14, 1989, and the pair were married on August 5th, 1989 surrounded by friends and family. The couple celebrated their 31st anniversary in 2020. Lela gave birth to three daughters, Lauren (b. 1992), Allison (b. 1994), and Megan (b. 1997).

Following a brief foray into the world of business, Lela answered her calling and pursued a career in education, eventually earning her Master of Arts in Education Curriculum in 1991. Over her 33 years as an educator, she taught students across grade levels and skill levels in the State of California (Laurel Elementary, Wilson Riles Elementary, Augusta A. Mayo Elementary, Mark Twain Elementary, Los Angeles Unified School District, Compton Unified School District, and Long Beach Unified School District) and the Commonwealth of Virginia (Lee Hill Elementary, Ladysmith Elementary, Madison Elementary, Widewater Elementary) and won awards for her outstanding achievement in the profession of education. This quote from her former principal, Edna Allen, highlights her professionalism and compassion as an educator: "In addition to planning diligently for her students' academic needs, she also demonstrated sensitivity and personal regard for their social and personal needs." She worked tirelessly to make sure that none of her students fell through the cracks and often stayed up until one or two in the morning to prepare lessons and activities for her students. She also prepared additional materials for her students who were doing well so that they would be sufficiently challenged. Although she taught third grade in Virginia for almost 15 years, Lela tailored her materials each year to the group of students she educated.

Lela off the Clock

Lela was dedicated to her work and completed it diligently, but she also enjoyed engaging in other activities during her leisure time. She was an avid watcher of television dramas and would frequently enjoy watching shows like: True Crime, Greenleaf, The Haves and the Have Nots, and many other similar shows. Lela was also highly gifted in the art of storytelling and could regale listeners with stories from her life and experiences with others. She had a gift for making even the most mundane occurrences feel like action-packed adventures. Her laugh and humorous spirit would fill up a room. When she was not preparing her lesson plans, she enjoyed needlecrafts like crocheting, knitting, and cross-stitch. She made each of her daughters a customized, crocheted blanket in their favorite colors. On occasions, she enjoyed coloring in elaborate designs to relax. She also dabbled in creative writing, specifically poetry, where she shared her perspective on the world and wisdom.

Lela in Action

Lela was a devoted wife who doted on her husband and cared for him dearly. When Van became ill with kidney disease, Lela would accompany him to his appointments and eventually served as his nurse for home dialysis. Every day, she would come home from work, set up the dialysis machine, and care for Van. She tended to him thoroughly, never once straying from the instructions guide. For Lela, caring for her husband was the most important thing she could do.

Lela was also a supportive friend who would stand with others in their time of need. She would listen compassionately to those who needed support and provided wise advice for all who would hear her. She was also unafraid to step in and help during times of crisis. One instance during her young adult years illustrates this best. Lela intervened and helped an acquaintance escape from a situation of domestic violence, putting her own life at risk in the process.

Lela was incredibly brave, even at a young age. When she was an elementary school student, Lela was one of the first Black students to integrate the local elementary school. She spoke of how arduous her experience was and how it shaped her and influenced her teaching philosophy. She did not want a single student in her care to feel ostracized and unsupported in her classroom no matter their background or skill level.

Lela was attentive to detail and unwilling to let the status quo get in the way of doing what was right. During her time as a nurse's assistant, Lela noticed one of the patients suffering in silence with a life-threatening ailment while other coworkers were distracted. Despite being brushed off by those with higher-level degrees and more experience in the medical field, Lela, fearlessly spoke up with her concerns for the patient until her co-workers listened. Her attentiveness and dauntlessness resulted in saving that patient's life.

Lela's Lessons for Her Daughters

In addition to educating students in a variety of school systems, Lela also educated her daughters, Lauren, Allison, and Megan for many years. She taught them how to read, write, do arithmetic, and lovingly supplemented her lessons with field trips to museums, zoos, aquariums, and more so that her children could have a well-rounded education. She impressed the importance of education upon her children and encouraged each of them to pursue a college degree. Through her patience, endurance, and thoughtfulness, Lela was able to set up each of her daughters for academic success. However, academic success was not the only form of education she imparted to her children. She frequently shared lessons on Biblical wisdom so that they would be equipped to handle the stresses and strife that may be encountered over the course of life.

Lela was never one to put earthly possessions on a pedestal and put her trust in God rather than material gains. She often quoted from Matthew 6:19-21 to her daughters encouraging them to focus on what was truly important:

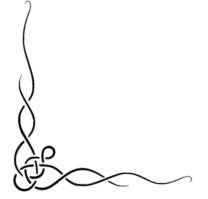
"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." - Matthew 6:19-21

Lela was an excellent judge of character and would encourage her daughters to look beyond the surface level for underlying behavioral patterns. She often cited this scripture:

"You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles? Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Therefore, by their fruits you will know them." – Matthew 7:16-20

Lela was highly conscientious and strived to do all things to the best of her abilities. She was organized and always made sure that things were done decently and in order and encouraged her daughters to do similarly:

"Let all things be done decently and in order." - 1 Corinthians 14:40



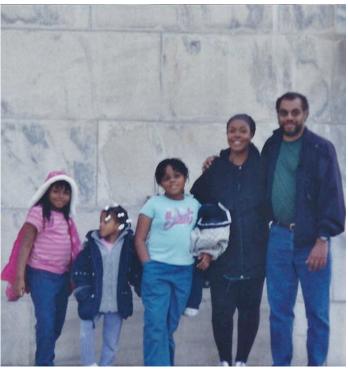
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Lela put her trust in God and knew that He was the only one who was omnipotent, omniscient, and omnipresent. Lela encouraged her daughters to put their trust in the Lord, even when the circumstances seemed dire and hopeless:

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight." – Proverbs 3:5-6

Lela leaves behind her husband, Van Collier, her three daughters, Lauren Collier-Spruel, Allison Collier, and Megan Collier in Virginia as well as two brothers, Larry Osborne and Darrell Osborne in California to cherish her precious memories. She also leaves behind her nieces, nephews, cousins, and a host of close friends whom she loved dearly and considered her family as well. Lela was preceded in death by her mother Tessie (d. 1995) and her father Cain (d. 2012).





Pictures of Lela









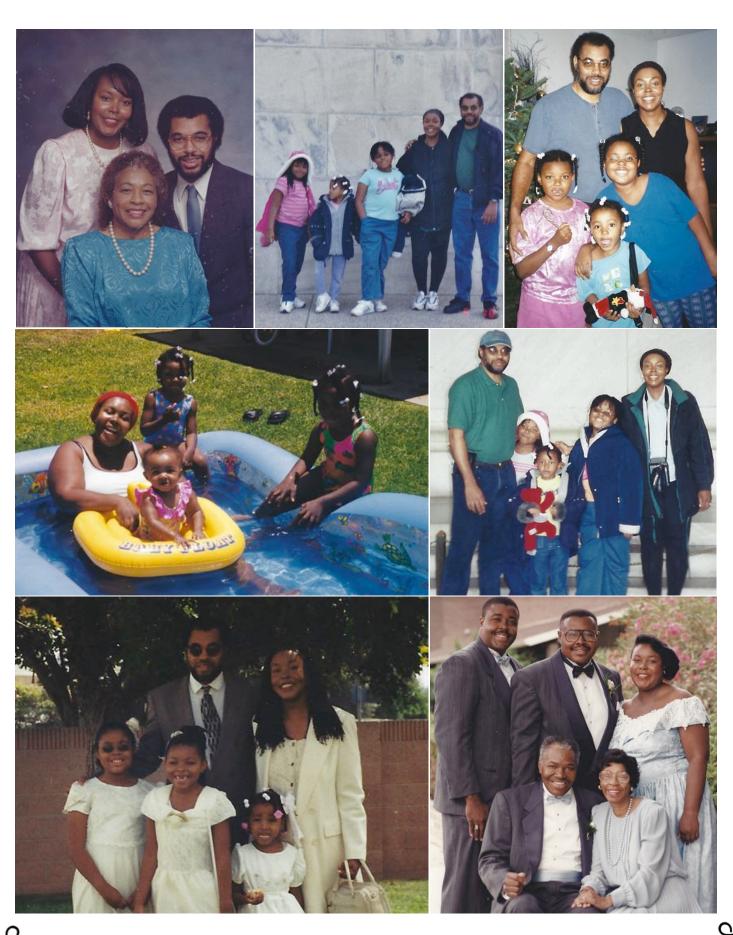


























Our Needs Poem by Lela Osborne 10/24/1988

Our needs are not for something material.
Our needs are not for something physical.
Our needs rest not in the things that are seen,
but in the things that are unseen. Our needs
reach far beyond the soul into the spirit
realm, which few are able to attain.

Therefore, to meet our needs we must look into ourselves. Searching the inner most parts of our very beings, to bring satisfaction to our souls.

Our needs possess not selfish desires. We look sin into the eye and say, "I have conquered you and the likes of you. I am no longer held in bondage by your wicked vices. You are not my master and I have ceased to be your servant. I will not yield the members of body as instruments of the unrighteousness for your namesake."

No human being can meet our needs, we look only to the Omnipotent, Almighty, and Thou Everlasting God. For His thoughts are higher than our thoughts, so are His ways higher than our ways; and he is not a mere man that he should lie.

Acknowledgement from the Family

We would like to express our deep appreciation and thanks for the many acts of love and kindness shown to us during this period of grief. May God continue to richly bless and keep you with His special care.