

A portrait of a young woman with dark hair, wearing a blue lace top and a gold necklace. She is looking slightly to the right. Two large yellow flowers are visible: one in the top right corner and one in the bottom left corner. The background is dark and textured.

*Tronaca
Morris-Baker*

25TH MAY, 1934 - 14TH DECEMBER, 2010

RITE OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL
FOR THE LATE



*Ironaca
Morris-Baker*

Born: May 25th, 1934

Died: December 14th, 2010

Thursday, 23rd December, 2010 at 10:00 a.m.

St. Joseph's Church

Boyd Road,
Nassau, The Bahamas

Celebrant:

Fr. Martin Gomes, SS.CC.

Deacon Gregory Taylor

Organist:

Mr. Cyril Baker

Commentator:

Mrs. Carla Jackson

Interment:

Church's Cemetery

Boyd Road

R . I . P



OBITUARY



Ironaca Morris-Baker

25TH MAY, 1934 - 14TH DECEMBER, 2010

"Who Can Find A Virtuous Woman? For Her Price Is Far Above Rubies"

PROVERBS 31:10

Ironaca Morris-Baker was the second child born to Ortlund and Orian Bodie (nee Stuart) in the tranquil community of Mangrove Cay, Andros on the 25th May, 1934. She was baptized at St Benedict Catholic Church.

When her parents came to Nassau, she attended Our Lady's School, Southern Primary and Secondary Schools. Later she entered St. Francis Xavier Academy on scholarship where she obtained her Cambridge Senior Certificate and high school diploma.

Ironaca attended Our Lady's Church and participated in most of the activities afforded the youth of the parish. She was a member of the catholic band, and also played on the basketball team under Father Alban Furst and Father Marcian Peters respectively. Because of her working hours, Ironaca left Our Lady's Church to attend St Joseph Catholic Church where the time of mass suited her schedule. At St Joseph's Church she became active as a Sunday school teacher, a choir member and served as chairman of the bazaar committee, among others.

Ironaca also had a close relationship with the nuns of St Martin's Convent. This relationship began from her early years at St Francis Xavier Academy. She became a Benedictine volunteer and for many years was active along with her late sister Ilonka organizing home visits to the sick and elderly of the church. They were also responsible for the social outreach program.

She obtained a teachers certificate in secondary education in 1952 and taught for two years at Eastern Secondary School before going abroad to England to study nursing at the age of 19. Ironaca attended Orpington and Sevenoaks Hospital School of Nursing in Kent where she became a state registered nurse in 1957 and a year later a state registered mid-wife.

Ironaca returned to the Bahamas in 1960 and worked as Head Nurse and Ward Sister at the Princess Margaret Hospital. She was eventually appointed Senior Nursing Officer at the Bahamas School of Nursing and later Principal Nursing Officer at the Department of Nursing Education. A trained teacher by her first profession Ironaca reasoned that nursing education was a logical career path after nursing training and that there was a need for more Bahamians in this area. Ironaca further pursued additional studies at the Royal College of Nursing where she was awarded the Tutors Diploma from London University in 1966. Ironaca also completed studies at the University of Miami receiving a bachelor's degree in science of nursing and a master's degree in education. In 1990, Ironaca was a graduate of the advanced diploma in public administration and policy management programme.

A highlight during her tenure was the School Of Nursing being granted full reciprocity by the General Nursing Council of England and Wales enabling students trained at the Bahamas School of Nursing to be eligible to be registered in England.

While studying in the United Kingdom Ironaca was an active officer of the Student Nurses Association and represented the association at conferences at the Royal College of Nursing and other events. Her interest and activities with the Nurse's Association led to her involvement with the Bahamas Graduate Nurses Association and the Nurses Association of the Bahamas. An active member of the Nurses Association, Ironaca has served as secretary, first vice-president and president. She was also chairman of the Nursing Council from 1984 to 1992.

Ironaca retired in 1994 and continued to lead an active life as a volunteer. She acted on her interest in gerontology and in her spare time assisted with the formation of an Alzheimers Disease Association. The Pilot Club of Nassau of which she is a charter member is a project partner. Ironaca continued to attend St Joseph's Church assisting in many church activities. She served as a past chairman of the bazaar committee, a choir member, a volunteer with the Let's Read Bahamas literacy programme for adults and a Benedictine volunteer.



Ironaca married the first of her two husbands Shadrach Andrew Morris (deceased) in 1959, becoming a mother to three children, Sharon (deceased), Monique (deceased) and Shadrach, Jr. In 1988, she found true love once again and married Gorman Beresford Baker (deceased).

A natural homemaker, Ironaca enjoyed being a wife and a mother. She took her duties seriously and ensured that her children had a Christian upbringing. She loved, among others, to cook, bake and entertain. It was a constant comment after a particularly savory meal for Mr. Baker to remark that if his wife was not the best cook, that she was among the best cooks. These culinary skills served her well in boasting attendance at meetings as many otherwise errant members would turn out with the anticipation that tasty treats would be present. Above all, Ironaca was consistently devoted to her God. Her ability to live her faith and to actualize love in her daily tasks touched her family, friends and those she came in contact with in the community. "Educated and brought up by the nuns, I was committed to service....", she says, "we should all have a social conscience.....it is the quality of the life you live that is important."

In late March of this year, Ironaca's health took a sharp downward turn and she was hospitalized. She fought back bravely and recovered enough to leave the hospital and return home to convalesce. It was during this period that many of her family, friends and past colleagues visited her expressing well wishes, songs and prayers. The family is indeed grateful for the efforts of all those family, friends and colleagues who gave comfort in those visits, inquiries, telephone calls, songs and prayers. Ironaca's health, however continued to fail and on Tuesday the 14th December, 2010, after exemplary care from her doctors and nurses, Ironaca passed away peacefully into the arms of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

With memories cherished and precious, she is survived by her **Son:** Shadrach Morris Jr.; **Sisters:** Reorien Rolle, Venus Ryan, Yvonne Smith, Nancy Rigby, Althea Stuart, Sylvia Mitchell, Natalie Bodie, Rose Stubbs, Beautis Morales, and Clorina Jackson; **Step- sons:** Bernard, Sylvian, Dwight, Jeffrey & Michael Baker; **Step-daughters:** Christine, Cecilia and Terecita Baker; **Brothers:** Jack, Rev. Prince, Duke, Reortland, Kirkland and Orthland, Jr., Alphonso, Charles and John Bodie; **Grandchildren:** Jonathon Williams and Miracle Morris; aunts: Euterpie Newbold, Inez Burrows and Clarita Stuart; **Daughters-in-law:** Sherry Morris, Linda, Pearl and Cherrine Baker; **Grandnieces' and Nephews:** Brianne and Brenelle, Dwight, Jr., Elayna, Ryan, Georgia, Jeffnae, Jessica Ravyn, Julian and Ashley Baker; **And a host of other relatives and friends too numerous to mention but including:** Sam Williams and Family, Edmeston J. Williams and Family, Rudolph Williams, Veronica Williams, Evalina Johnson, Walter Williams, Gentry Morris, Maxroy Williams, Jessica McQuay, Jacqueline Williams and Family, Sharlene Hickson & Family, Ahab Morris & Family, Joseph Morris & Family, Maurrena Morris, Eloise Morris and Hestine Morris, Nelson Forbes and Family, Livingston Forbes and Family, Patsy Thompson and Family, Eunice Hanna and Family, Leta-Mae Forbes and family, Violet Duncombe and Family, Kenneth Sealey and Family, Ricky Sealey and Family, Abie Sealey and Family, Claudette Sealey and Family, Zipporah Sealey and Family, Lillian Sealey and Family, Carol Morris and Family, Patrick "Shem" Morris and Family, Philip Morris and Family, Cyril Baker and Family, Commodore Davy Rolle and Family, Joan Rolle and Family, Yvette Thompson and Family, Dr. Christopher Basden and Family, Rachael Williams and Family, Wendy Craigg and Family, Richard Bowe, Lome Smith Sr. and Family, Lorne Bernard Smith and Family, Chester Smith and Family, Scott Smith, Leslie Ryan, Sr and Family, Yvena Brown and Family, Kwame Ryan and Family, Kwesi Ryan and Family, Anastasia Sergeant and Family, the entire Stuart Family including Clarietta Stuart, Henrietta Gilbert, Rupert Stuart and Family, Tyrone Stuart and Family, Bertie and Emeline Murray and Family, Eugene Cooper and Family, Catherine Tucker, Floraine Gibson of Miami, Fl., the family of the late Terecita Christopher of Arizona, the family of the late Ellen Williams, the family of the late Ivan Blackman, the family of the late Madge and Edward Simms of Goulds, Fl., Alphanso, Sidmouth and Lancelot Bodie, the Wilson Family, Andrea Adderley, Elza Benren and Sylvie Baker, Mary Thompson, Lolitha McKenzie, Helen and Ronnie Rolle, the family of the late Audley and Ethel Kemp, Trevor Thompson and Family, David and Rosemae Bain and Family, Julian and Candice Bostwick, Alice Neymour and Family, Anastasia and Tyrone Brice, Dorothy Hepburn and Family, Vernita Cleare and Family, Gurth and Beverly Ford and Family, Juliette Barnwell and Family, Jean and Jerry Isaacs, Dr. and Mrs. Eugene Newry and Family, Ethel Russell and Family, Margaret Claridge and Family, the Godet/ Moss Families, Judymae Brice and Family, Dr. Henry Podlewski and Family, Dr. Jean Turnquest, Carla Jackson, Patricia Lewis and Family, Kirklyn Barr and Family, Vylma Curling & Family, Edmund Rigby and Family, Leroy Thompson and Family, Samuel and Rosalie Hall and Family, Trevor Ginton and Family, Mispah Tertullien, Van Benson and Family, Jimmy & Terry Jones, Isabel Edgar of England, Dorothy Claridge of England, Bishop Samuel Greene and Family, Bishop Wenith Davis and Family, Bishop Roscoe Davis and Family, Fr. Martin Gomes and the parishioners of St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Dr. and Mrs. Percival McNeil and family, Dr. Eugene Gray and staff, Dr. Vincent Nwosa and staff, Dr. Agreta Eneas-Carey and Staff, the members of the Pilot Club of Nassau, members and staff of the Nursing Council of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas, Sisters of St. Martins Convent, members and staff of the Nursing Association of the Bahamas, members of Christian Gospel Church, members of Bahamas Holy Mission, Nursing staff of the Princess Margaret Hospital and Nurses of the Department of Public Health and the Ministry of Health.

All praise and thanks to God. May Her Soul Rest In Peace.



ORDER OF SERVICE

AT THE CHURCH ENTRANCE:

Celebrant: Praise be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of consolation! He comforts us in all our afflictions and thus enables us to comfort those who are in trouble, with the same consolation we have received from him.

Assembly: **Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

BLESSING WITH HOLY WATER:

Celebrant: I bless the body of our sister, **Ironaca** with the holy water that recalls her baptism of which St. Paul writes: "All of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death." By baptism into His death we were buried together with Him, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live a new life. For if we have been united with Him by likeness to His death, so shall we be united with Him by likeness to His resurrection.

PLACING THE WHITE PALL ON THE CASKET:

Celebrant: In remembrance of baptism we place a white pall over the body of **Ironaca**. On the day of her baptism **Ironaca** put on Christ. In the day of Christ's coming may she be clothed with glory.

ENTRANCE HYMN "The Strife Is O'er"

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
The Strife is o'er, the battle done
Now is the Victor's triumph won
O let the song of praise be sung
Alleluia!

On the third mourn He rose again,
Glorious in majesty to reign,
O let us swell the joyful strain,
Alleluia!

Death's mightiest powers have done their worst
And Jesus hath His foes dispersed
Let shouts of praise and joy outburst.
Alleluia!

Lord, by the stripes which wounded Thee,
From death's dread sting Thy servants free
That we may love, and sing to Thee.
Alleluia!

CEREMONY OF THE PASCAL CANDLE

Celebrant: Behold the light of Christ.

Assembly: **Thanks be to God.**

Celebrant: Jesus says, "I am the Resurrection and the Life; the person who believes in Me, though she dies, yet shall that person live, and whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?"

Assembly: **Yes! We believe that Jesus is the Anointed One, the Son of God, He who is to come into the world.**

Celebrant: We must work the work of Him who sent us while it is day, for night comes when no one can work. "As long as I am in the world." Jesus says, "I am the Light of the world."

The Lord is with you.

Assembly: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray:
Almighty Father, You raised Your Son Jesus Christ from the dead so that we who believe Him to be the Light of the world may, with Him, be brought to the fullness of Light in His resurrection. Grant, we ask You, that our sister, who has left this world will inherit eternal life through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, Our Lord who lives and reigns with You, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God, forever and ever.

Assembly: Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING LAMENTATIONS 3: 17-26 Read by: Dr. Christopher Basden

RESPONSORIAL PSALM..... "The Lord is my shepherd"

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
In verdant pastures he gives me repose;
beside restful waters he lead me; he refreshes my soul.

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

He guides me in right paths for his name's sake.
Even though I walk in the dark valley I fear no evil;
for you are at my side with your rod and your staff that give me courage.

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

You spread the table before me, in the sight of my foes;
you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Only goodness and kindness follow me all the days of my life;
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord for years to come.

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING REVELATION 21: 1-7 Read by: Emeline Murray

V. Alleluia, alleluia.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

V. I am the resurrection and the life says the Lord; whoever believes in me will not die for ever.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL READING

HOMILY

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Celebrant: We turn to a loving Lord, who knows well our sadness this day, and who has promised to bring consolation to those who mourn.

Leader: For **Ironaca**, in thanksgiving to God for the many ways in which her life enriched ours, we pray to the Lord.

Assembly: Lord, hear our prayer

Leader: For **Ironaca**, given the promise of eternal life in baptism, that she may be rewarded for all good done and suffering borne well, we pray to the Lord.

Assembly: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: For all family members and friends who have preceded **Ironaca** in death, that they may be there to welcome her to eternal life, we pray to the Lord.

Assembly: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: For all who face their own death with confusion and fear, that they might be strengthened, enlightened and consoled by the Holy Spirit, we pray to the Lord.

Assembly: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: For all the sick and suffering of our community, those hospitalized and homebound, those facing and those recovering from surgery, we pray to the Lord.

Assembly: Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader: For all who mourn for **Ironaca**, that they may benefit in their own lives from having known and loved **Ironaca**, we pray to the Lord.

Assembly: Lord, hear our prayer.

Celebrant: Gracious God, you who bring into being all creation, hear our prayers this day for those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith, that they may enjoy eternal rest and be rewarded for their faithfulness to you. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Assembly: Amen.

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS..... **Brianne Baker and Ryan Baker**

PREPARATION OF THE ALTAR

OFFERTORY HYMN..... "Alleluia! Sing To Jesus!"

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!
His the scepter, his the throne;
Alleluia! his the triumph,
His the victory alone;
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion
Thunder like a mighty flood;
Jesus out of every nation
Has redeemed us by his blood.

Alleluia! Bread of heaven,
Here on earth our food, our stay!
Alleluia! here the sinful
Flee to you from day to day;
Intercessor, friend of sinners,
Earth's Redeemer, plead for me,
Where the songs of all the sinless
sweep across the crystal sea.

Alleluia! Not as orphans
Are we left in sorrow now;
Alleluia! he is near us,
Faith believes, nor questions how;
Though the cloud from sight received him,
When the forty days were o'er,
Shall our hearts forget his promise,
"I am with you evermore"?

Alleluia! King eternal,
You the Lord of lords we own:
Alleluia! born of Mary,
Earth your footstoll, heav'n your throne:
You within the veil have entered,
Robed in flesh, our great High Priest:
Here on earth both Priest and Victim
In the eucharistic feast.

Celebrant: We pray together as Jesus taught us,

All: "Our Father."

THE SIGN OF PEACE:

Celebrant: We share a greeting of peace with one another.

PEACE HYMN "Just A Closer Walk With Thee"

Just a closer walk with Thee,
Grant it, Jesus, is my plea,
Daily walking close to Thee,
Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

Through this world of toil and snares,
If I falter, Lord, who cares?
Who with me my burden shares?
None but Thee, dear Lord, none but Thee.

I am weak, but Thou art strong;
Jesus, keep me from all wrong;
I'll be satisfied as long
As I walk, let me walk close to Thee.

When my feeble life is o'er,
Time for me will be no more;
Guide me gently, safely o'er
To Thy kingdom shore, to Thy shore.

Lamb of God:

COMMUNION HYMN "Thou, Who At Thy First Eucharist Didst Pray"

Thou, who at Thy first Eucharist didst pray
That all Thy Church might be forever one,
Grant us that ev'ry Eucharist to say
With longing heart and soul, "Thy will be done."
O may we all one bread, one body be,
Through this blest sacrament of unity.

We pray Thee too for wand'ers from Thy fold;
O bring them back, good Shepherd of the sheep,
Back to the faith which saints believed of old,
Back to the Church which still that faith doth keep;
Soon may we all one bread, one body be,
Through this blest sacrament of unity.

For all Thy Church, O Lord, we intercede;
Make Thou our sad divisions soon to cease;
Draw us the nearer each to each, we plead,
By drawing all to Thee, O Prince of Peace;
Thus may we all one bread, one body be,
Through this blest sacrament of unity.

So, Lord, at length when sacraments shall cease,
May we be one with all Thy Church above,
One with Thy saints in one unbroken peace,
One with Thy saints in one unbounded love;
More blessed still, in peace and love to be
One with the Trinity in Unity.

COMMUNION MEDITATION Sister Cecilia Albury, O.S.B.

FINAL COMMENDATION:

INVITATION TO PRAYER

Celebrant: Let us pray.
Saints of God, come to her aid! Come to meet her angel of the Lord.

Assembly: **Receive her soul and present her to God the Most High.**

Celebrant: May Christ, who called you, take you to himself, may the angels lead you to Abraham's side.

Assembly: **Receive her soul and present her to God the Most High.**

Celebrant: Give her eternal rest, O Lord, and may Your light shine on her forever.

Assembly: **Receive her soul and present her to God the Most High.**

Celebrant: Let us pray

RECESSIONAL HYMN "Through All The Changing Scenes Of Life"

Through all the changing scenes of life,
in trouble and in joy,
the praises of God shall evermore
my heart and tongue employ

Of His deliverance I will boast,
till all that are distressed
from my example comfort take,
and charm their griefs to rest.

O magnify the Lord with me,
with me exalt His name;
when in distress to Him I called,
He to my rescue came.

The hosts of God encamp around
the dwellings of the just;
deliverance He affords to all
who on His succour trust.

O make but trial of His love;
experience will decide
how blest they are, and only they,
who in His truth confide.

Fear Him, ye saints, and you will then
having nothing else to fear;
make you His service your delight
Your wants shall be His care.*

To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
the God whom we adore,
be glory, as it was, is now,
and shall be evermore.



Graveside Hymns

HEAVEN'S JUBILEE

Some glad morning we shall see Jesus in the air,
Coming after you and me, Joy is ours to share;
What rejoicing there will be when the saints shall rise,
Headed for that jubilee, yonder in the skies.

*Oh what singing, Oh, what shouting.
On that happy morning when we all shall rise;
Oh what glory, Hallelujah!
When we meet our blessed Saviour in the skies.*

Seems that now I almost see all the sainted dead,
Rising for that jubilee, that is just ahead;
In the twinkling of an eye, changed with them to be,
All the living saints to fly to that jubilee.

When with all the heav'nly host we begin to sing,
Singing in the Holy Ghost, how the heav'ns will ring;
Millions there will join the song, with them we shall be
Praising Christ thru ages long, heaven's jubilee.

HOW SWEET THE NAME OF JESUS SOUNDS

How sweet the Name of Jesus sounds
In a believer's ear!
It soothes his sorrow, heals his wounds,
And drives away his fear.

It makes the wounded spirit whole,
And calms the troubled breast;
'Tis manna to the hungry soul,
And to the weary rest.

Dear Name! the Rock on which we build;
Our shield and hiding-place;
Our never-failing treasury, filled
With boundless stores of grace.

Jesus, our Savior, Shepherd, Friend,
Our Prophet, Priest, and King;
Our Lord, our Life, our Way, our End,
Accept the praise we bring.

Weak is the effort of our heart,
And cold our warmest thought;
But when we see Thee as Thou art,
We'll praise Thee as we ought.

Till then we would Thy love proclaim
With every fleeting breath;
And triumph in that blessed Name
Which quells the pow'r of death.

"TIS SO SWEET TO TRUST IN JESUS"

'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus,
Just to take Him at his word;
Just to rest upon His promise;
Just to know, "Thus saith the Lord"

O how sweet to trust in Jesus,
Just to trust his cleansing blood;
Just in simple faith to plunge me
'Neath the healing, cleansing flood.

Yes, 'tis sweet to trust in Jesus
Just from sin and self to cease;
Just from Jesus simply taking
Life and rest, and joy and peace

I'm so glad I've learned to trust Him
Precious Jesus, Saviour, Friend;
And I know that Thou art with me,
Wilt be with me to the end.

*Jesus, Jesus how I trust Him!
How I've proved Him o'er and o'er!
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus!
O for grace to trust Him more.*

GOD BE WITH YOU

God be with you till we meet again;
By His counsels guide, uphold you,
With His sheep securely fold you;
God be with you till we meet again.

*Till we meet, till we meet,
Till we meet at Jesus' feet;
Till we meet, till we meet,
God be with you till we meet again.*

God be with you till we meet again;
Neath His wings protecting hide you;
Daily manna still provide you;
God be with you till we meet again.

God be with you till we meet again;
With the oil of joy anoint you;
Sacred ministries appoint you;
God be with you till we meet again.

God be with you till we meet again;
When life's perils thick confound you;
Put His arms unfailing round you;
God be with you till we meet again.

God be with you till we meet again;
Of His promises remind you;
For life's upper garner bind you;
God be with you till we meet again.

God be with you till we meet again;
Sicknesses and sorrows taking,
Never leaving or forsaking;
God be with you till we meet again.

God be with you till we meet again;
Keep love's banner floating o'er you,
Strike death's threatening wave before you;
God be with you till we meet again.

God be with you till we meet again;
Ended when for you earth's story,
Israel's chariot sweep to glory;
God be with you till we meet again

Tribute

THE NURSES' ASSOCIATION OF THE COMMONWEALTH
OF THE BAHAMAS
(NACB) Est. 1947

A TRIBUTE TO A NURSE LEGEND

Mrs. Ironica Morris-Baker

*President The Nurses' Association of the
Commonwealth of The Bahamas 1970-1972*

Mrs. Ironica Morris-Baker was an Icon in the nursing profession. Her many achievements and accomplishments in the development of nursing throughout the Commonwealth of the Bahamas are legendary. She was a pioneering advocate for the growth and development of the NACB locally, regionally and internationally. She campaigned for the educational and professional development of nurses throughout the Commonwealth of The Bahamas. Behind the many achievements, awards and accolades, there was a woman who personally touched and enriched the lives of countless nurses with whom she worked, taught, mentored, supported and knew. Mrs. Morris-Baker modeled leadership behaviors and professionalism. Her active involvement in multiple organizations was evidenced by serving on boards, holding leadership positions and positions of advocacy. She was indeed a change agent. Nurses are the heart and soul of health care and Mrs. Morris-Baker has inspired many nurses to remain in the profession. She believed that nursing is truly an Art and a Science. She believed in the value of preserving human dignity in health and illness. She convinced nurses that there is self-satisfaction in knowing that you have made the right choice in choosing nursing as a career. She will always be remembered for her significant contributions to the Nurses' Association of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas and maintenance of our relationship and membership with The International Council of Nurses (ICN), The Commonwealth Nurses Federation (CNF) and The Caribbean Nurses Organization (CNO).

May Her Soul Rest in Peace

Deepest Sympathy from: The President NACB Mrs. Rosemarie L. Josey (2008-2010), the entire executives and members and indeed nurses throughout the Commonwealth of The Bahamas.

MRS. MORRIS-BAKER - DISTINGUISHED GUEST OF HONOUR - APPRECIATION
LUNCHEON FOR ALL PAST PRESIDENTS OF NACB,

MAY 12TH, 2009.

Tributes

Ironaca Morris Baker A Bahamian Nurse Legend

She was a legend in her time
Talented and strong but very kind
A professional of the highest order
One of the nation's finest daughters
To raise the standard of nursing was her goal
Her many successes remain untold

But when her story is told
It will reveal a heart of gold
For many lives were molded and touched
By this lady who gave so much
Nursing in the Bahamas is forever changed
Because of the recognition this giant gained
The road is paved for all to see
How rewarding this profession can be
Farewell great teacher, mentor, Friend
until in heaven we meet again.

**Written by: Sandra C. Adderley Coleby,
RN RM GHN MBA**

Ironaca "Auntie Ron" *Intelligent, Radiant Smile, Obedient, Nurse, Astute, Calming Presence, Angelic*

GO IN PEACE

There will be no more darkness, There is no more night,
no more night
There will be no more sadness, only joy and light, joy and light
Lift your eyes beyond the hills, and see the dawn
There is beautiful mercy, in the arms of the Holy One

Go in peace, God be with you, Go in peace, be at rest
With the saints and the angels, now you are free
Go in peace

See, the Father is waiting, with a robe of white, purest white
Go and feast at his table, with the bread of life, bread of life
Lift your heart, rejoice and sing for you are home
Home at last and forever in the arms of the Holy One

Go in peace, God be with you, Go in peace, be at rest.
With the saints and the angels, now you are free
Go in peace

-by Sarah Hart

*"Auntie Ron" you have left an indelible mark on our hearts,
he Lord has blessed us with you for this time and
we will see you again in glory.*

- Dorea, Davy, Stephanie, Davone & Daria Rolle



Tribute

A TRIBUTE TO MRS. IRONACA MORRIS-BAKER

By: Mrs. Marcel Johnson

Director of Nursing, Ministry of Health

"All the world is a stage and all the men and women merely players. They have their exits and their entrances; and one man in his time plays many parts..." These words penned by the great playwright William Shakespeare in his play "As You Like It," can be applied to our fallen colleague, Mrs. **Ironaca** Morris Baker.

This nursing legend entered the professional stage of life via The Teachers Training College of the Ministry of Education in January 1951 and following successful completion was transferred to the Eastern Secondary School, where she taught until the end of June 1954 under the late Mr. Donald W. Davis. Responding to a clarion call for Bahamian nurses, by The Government of The Bahamas, Mrs. Morris-Baker left New Providence on 1st August 1959, to study Nursing in the United Kingdom. Upon her return home, she was officially transferred to the Ministry of Health where she began her legendary Nursing career.

An educator par excellence, Mrs. Morris-Baker made magnanimous contributions to the field of Nursing Education in The Bahamas. This dynamic educator was appointed to serve as Principal Nursing Officer at the Department of Nursing Education, Ministry of Health on December, 1968. Recognizing the need for further academic preparation, she pursued and successfully completed a Masters of Education Degree at the University of Miami in 1977.

Mrs. Baker was known as an expert in Nursing Education at home as well as in the CARICOM region. She was intricately involved in the planning for the "Regional Examinations for Nurse Education" in CARICOM countries. In March 1979, she was invited by The Regional Nursing Body to assist in the assessment of Regional Nursing Schools in the Caribbean.

Mrs. Morris-Baker was appointed to serve as the second Bahamian Director of Nursing on 1st October, 1983. As Director of Nursing, she impacted the nursing profession at home and abroad. This legendary nurse served as a member of The Regional Nursing Body and during her tenure a Regional Nursing Body Meeting was held in The Bahamas, in July 1990.

Mrs. Baker made her exit from the professional stage of life by retiring from the Public Service on 25th May, 1994, following a colorful career in Nursing. A nursing legend of her time, her many contributions to the nursing profession will never be forgotten. She along with others has left a strong foundation on which we in the profession today are building. On behalf of The Ministry of Health and people of The Bahamas, I extend deep gratitude to Mrs. Baker's immediate family, those who predeceased her, as well as her son Andrew, his wife Sherry and grandson and granddaughter Jonathan and Miracle, for allowing her to serve our noble profession and The people of The Bahamas.

May she rest in peace!

Tribute

A TRIBUTE TO MRS. IRONACA MORRIS-BAKER

By: The Nursing Council Commonwealth of The Bahamas

Mrs. Baker was an Icon in the Nursing Profession as she was the Queen of Education in Nursing. As a Powerful Educator; she spent her whole career in training nurses to achieve their full potential and strive for excellence. During the 1960's, she along with the late Ms. Hilda Bowen and a few other pioneers networked with the Nursing Leaders Regionally and Internationally to advance the Nursing Profession.

These efforts resulted in the formation of the Nursing Council of The Bahamas in 1972 following the passing of the Nurses and Midwives Act in 1971. The Council is the Regulatory Body of Nurses. It is responsible for the training of nurses by determining the curricula; the qualification of tutors, evaluating and approval of nursing schools, the setting and marking examinations which have to be reviewed by the External Examiners, registration of nurses before they are allowed to practice, the setting of standards of practice and the disciplining of offenders.

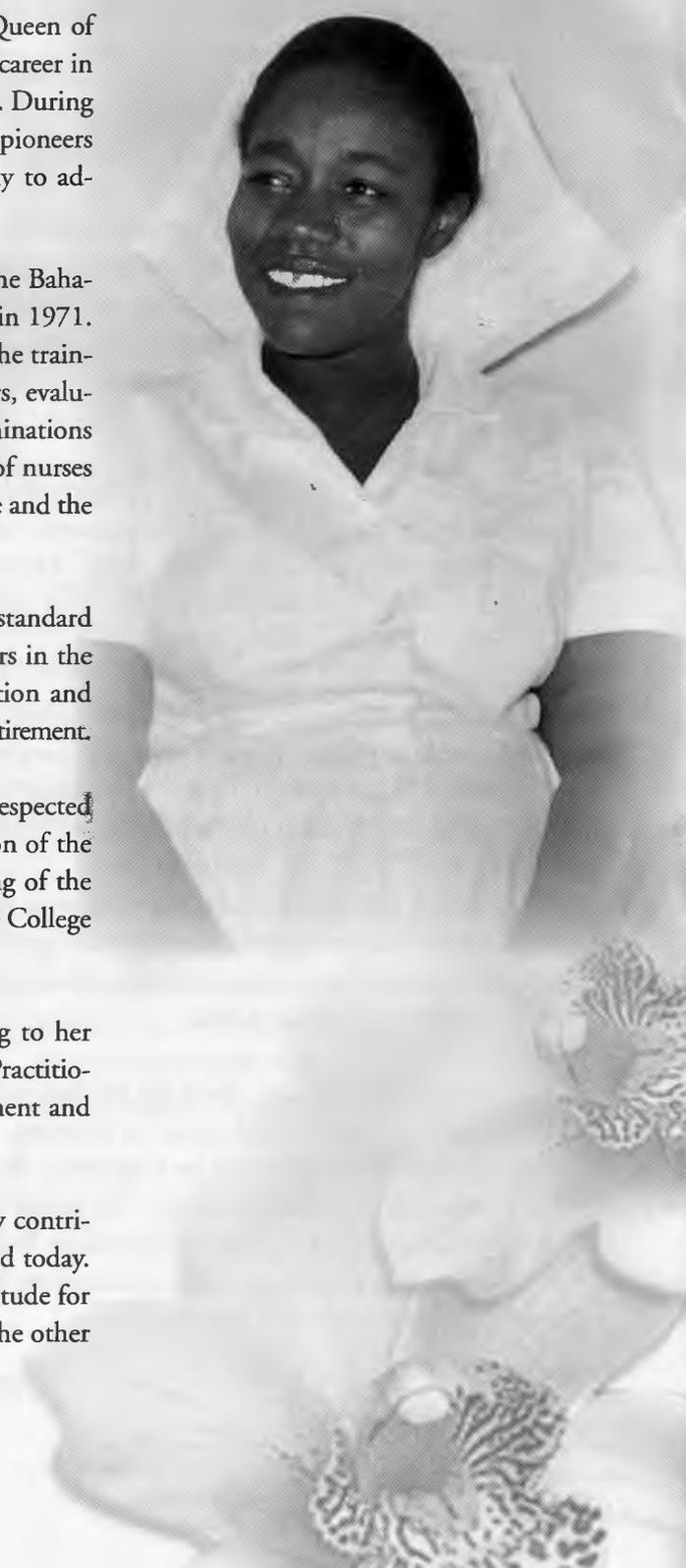
These are all necessary to ensure that Nurses are trained at a high standard to give quality and safe care to their clients. Ironaca spent many years in the Council, performing such roles as Secretary, Chairman to Registration and Education Committee and then as Chairperson to the Council until her retirement.

Her efforts led to the development of nursing to one of the most respected in the Regions. One of her most proud moments was the completion of the Nursing School building. She was pivotal in the design and building of the School of Nursing in Grosvenor Close, which is now a campus of the College of The Bahamas for the training of nursing students.

Some mentors under her leadership recall how in the 70's listening to her planning for nursing in the year 2000. Her vision then was Nurse Practitioners in many specialties; nurses working with high technical equipment and nurses taking Regional Examinations.

She was on target and today, Nursing has benefitted from her many contributions as it is on the shoulders of persons like **Ironaca** that we stand today. So the Nursing Council members both past and present express gratitude for her services and convey deepest sympathies to her son Andrew and the other family members.

May she rest in peace!



Tribute

Dear Sister Baker,

All the members of St. Joseph's Senior Choir are assembled. We've come to honor you.
To share sweet recollection and express our gratitude. You sang with us for many years.

Your melodious voice rang out among the altos. This we shall never forget.

But even more unforgettable, your generous loving spirit and your radiant smile was the best ever yet.

We know that we were privileged, to know someone so faithful and dear.

And now that you've left us, the loss is much to bear.

Sleep on Sister B!" Sing with the Heavenly Choir

"around The White Throne" as precious memories
of you will continue to live on.



Heartfelt condolences are extended to the family and friends of
the late **Ironaca Morris Baker**, *Former Director of Nursing*.

From: The Acting Principal Nursing Officer and staff Department of Public Health.

May the wonderful memories of **Ironaca**
live on in your hearts.

May the Lord strengthen you during this time of bereavement.



Tribute to Grammie

Thank you Grammie for Caring!
Thank you Grammie for Sharing!
Thank you Grammie for Loving!

I will never forget you.

Rest In Peace

Jonathan David Williams





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Pallbearers

Scott Smith

Kwame Ryan

Kenneth Sealey

Richard Bowe

Joel Morris

Chester Smith

Kwesi Ryan

Ricky Sealey

Andalino Sands

Abie Sealey

Honourary Pallbearers

Commodore Davy Rolle

Garnet Morris

Bernard Baker

Orthland Bodie, Jr.

Reorthland Bodie

Rev. Prince Bodie

Dr. Christopher Basden

Ahab Morris

Samuel Williams

Jack Bodie

Kirkland Bodie

Nelson Forbes

Acknowledgements

We the family assure you of our deep appreciation and thank you for all sympathetic gestures that you rendered during this our time of bereavement. Your flowers, prayers, visitations, words of encouragement and cards will continue to console us over time. May God continue to richly bless you all.

THE FAMILY



BETHEL BROTHERS MORTICIANS

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