

MRS. OTTIE LEE GOODEN CELEBRATES A CENTURY

Written by Forward Times Staff
Tuesday, 07 August 2012 15:44

A dinner birthday celebration was held Saturday, July 28, 2012 at HolmanStreetBaptistChurch, Houston, Texas in honor of Mrs. Gooden's **100th Birthday**. She was born in Madisonville, Texas to the parentage of Joe H. and Fessie Tucker Terrell. She had one sister and three brothers. They are all deceased except she and her sister, Naomi Moore.

Ottie spent most of her life in Madisonville where she was an outstanding student and worker. She graduated valedictorian of her class. Working as a nurse's assistant in the hospital and nursing home she was quick to catch on to things and was liked by patients and co-workers. At Shiloh Baptist Church she served as a Deaconess, Sunday School Teacher, Mission Circle Leader, Baptist Training Union Director and she sang in the choir. She delighted in working in the church. Some of her fun activities were reading, gardening, playing Scrabble and dominoes. She was also an avid fisherman before her vision diminished.

She was married to Walter R. Gooden Jr. for 46 years until his death in 1976. She mimicked her parents and had five children. One son, then they were doubly blessed with twins (daughter and son) born on April 15th (tax return day), another son, and finally, another daughter. In spite of their meager wages they sent all of their children to college. Education was a top priority with them. All of her children were present to celebrate her 100th birthday along with her sister, grandchildren, great grandchildren, nephews, nieces, other relatives and friends. Mrs. Gooden says "I'm not old, I've just lived a very long time, thanks to the Good Lord!!!"

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