

In Loving Memory



Valda Veralyn Lomax-Parker

August 26, 1956 - September 27, 2025



Saturday, October 18, 2025

Viewing: 9:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Service: 11:00 a.m.

Queen's Chapel United Methodist Church

7410 Old Muirkirk Road

Beltsville, MD 20705

Rev. Dr. William E. Butler

Order of Service

WORSHIP LEADERS

Ministers Dr. Delilah and Dr. Gregory Parham



FAMILY HOUR

MUSICAL PRELUDE

Phillip Carter

WORDS OF GRACE AND GREETING

Reverend Dr. William Butler

Pastor, Queen's Chapel United Methodist Church

HYMN OF PRAISE

It Is Well

OPENING PRAYER

Reverend Rose Thompson

Mt. Zion United Methodist Church

Laurel, Maryland

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Audra Lomax

READING OF THE HOLY SCRIPTURES

Elder Edd Olds

Saint Paul's Baptist Church

Richmond, Virginia

Psalm 121, Luke 17:20-21, 1 Corinthians 15:51-52

SONG OF COMFORT — He's God

WORDS OF VISITING MINISTERS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND CONDOLENCES

READING OF THE OBITUARY

(Read Silently)

REFLECTIONS

Bryan Newman - Former Queen's Chapel UMC Young People's Choir Member

CDR Alaina Montanez Downey Nurse Corps, United States Navy

“Valda’s Song”

MUSICAL TRIBUTE

Voices of Praise

(Young People’s Choir QCUMC, Combined Choir QCUMC, Bowie State University
Alumni Gospel Choir and Sounds of Victory)

MESSAGE OF HOPE

Reverend Dr. Benjamin Kevin Smalls

Hope United Methodist Church

Southfield, Michigan

BENEDICTION

RECESSIONAL



The Lasting Legacy

Valda Veralyn Lomax-Parker



*“I will sing unto the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have my being.”
— Psalm 104:33*

Valda Veralyn Lomax Parker began her earthly journey on August 26, 1956, and entered eternal rest on September 27, 2025. She was the second daughter born to William Edward Lomax and the late Shirley Elorna Hall Lomax.

From her earliest days in the close-knit and historic Vansville neighborhood of Beltsville, Maryland, Valda’s life was shaped by faith, family, and the deep harmony of community. Those early values became the rhythm that guided her life — a life that sang with purpose, praise, and perseverance.

A proud graduate of High Point High School (Class of 1974), Valda distinguished herself both academically and musically, playing flute in the school’s marching and concert bands. Following in the footsteps of her sister Sharon, Valda became the second African American cheerleader at High Point— a role that showcased her grace, energy, and determination.

Valda later attended Bowie State College (now Bowie State University), beginning her studies in Biology before earning a Bachelor of Science in Organizational Management from Washington Adventist University (formerly Columbia Union College).

More than any professional or academic achievement, Valda treasured her role as mother to her beloved son, Steven Lonzell Parker II. Next to her love for Christ, Steven was the song that never left Valda’s heart—her steady rhythm of joy, her reason to rise, her constant light. She carried his name on her lips and his dreams in her prayers. Her life was a living testament to the boundless love that women of faith have for their children.

Music was the ministry that carried Valda through every season of life. Her clear soprano voice—filled with soul, power, and tenderness—became a vessel of praise. She blended harmoniously with her sisters, lent her talents to weddings, services, and community celebrations, and faithfully sang wherever the Spirit led. She was a cherished member of Severity, under the direction of the late Professor Levenis Smith, and sang with the Sing for King Choir, the Bowie State University Alumni Gospel Choir, and several local church ensembles. A soloist in her own right, she stirred audiences with her renditions of “Ave Maria,” “Black Butterfly,” and “The Lord’s Prayer.” Through every note, Valda offered worship, encouragement, and healing — her voice, ever lifting hearts and souls toward Heaven.

Continued ➤

A lifelong member of Queen's Chapel United Methodist Church (QCUMC), Valda's Christian journey began early and deepened through decades of service. She sang in nearly every QCUMC choir — Children's, Youth, Senior, Mass, Morning, and Combined — before directing the **Young People's Choir**, which inspired a new generation to find their own voices of praise and faith. Former members of the **Young People's Choir** fondly recall the many facial expressions of "Miss Valda." They remember how she would make them hold notes for what felt like an eternity, pushing them to their limits. Some say "Miss Valda" had a million hand and facial expressions—each one sending a clear message: "Yes," "Give me more," or, unmistakably, "That stinks!" Valda served on both the Queen's Chapel Worship Design and the Age-Level Ministries teams. She also organized the annual Hershey Park youth trip and made sure every youth member had the opportunity to participate in the experience.

Professionally, Valda devoted more than 40 years of exceptional service to the United States Department of Defense at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, where she became a guiding force behind the Sterile Processing Department. Valda's reputation for diligence, precision, and integrity made her a respected mentor and leader. Whether collaborating with staff or commanding officers, she exemplified excellence and compassion — never deterred by early mornings, long commutes, or harsh weather.

Although Valda's professional accomplishments were many—including traveling across the country and abroad to Germany for the Department of Defense—she would say that perhaps her greatest achievement was completing in 2018 *The Prelude*, the first EP project by the Lomax Sisters. Through that project, Valda's rich soprano voice touched the lives of people she would never meet, affirming her faith and giving her a deep sense of confidence in God's purpose for her life.

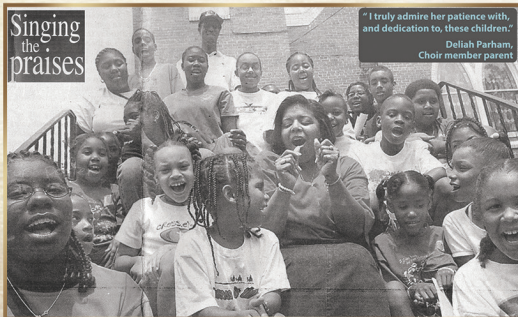
Though she moved through the world quietly, Valda's presence spoke volumes. She was private and discerning, never one to seek attention, yet always aware of the needs of those around her. Her wisdom was calm and her spirit steady. She listened more than she spoke, choosing her words carefully and kindly. To those who came to her in confidence, she offered empathy without judgment — a quiet refuge of understanding. Hers was a strength that did not shout, a faith that did not boast, and a love that ran deep and true.

Outside the workplace and the choir loft, Valda found joy in nurturing life — from the flourishing of her relationships to the blooming of her garden. Her green thumb could revive any plant, her kitchen produced the finest bread and butter pickles, and her apple and peach cobbles were the crown jewels of every family gathering. After her mother's passing, Valda and her father honored Shirley Lomax's memory by canning jellies, jams, sauces, and relishes, preserving not just fruit, but family tradition.

Valda's journey was a melody of devotion, service, and love. Her voice may have quieted on earth, but her melody continues to echo through every life she touched.

She leaves to cherish her memory her devoted son, Steven Lonzell Parker II; her father, William Edward Lomax; her siblings, Sharon Lomax-Smith (Gregory), Dorothea Lomax-Haynes (Joseph), Lolethia Lomax-Frazier (Andre), Darrett Lomax (Cynthia), Danzell Lomax, and Rendel Lomax (Stefanie); her cherished twin birthday cousin, Shyrel "Bep" Green; her lifelong friend and co-worker Sabrina Britt of Orlando, Florida; aunts, uncles, a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, colleagues; and countless friends who became family. She was preceded in death by her beloved mother, Shirley Elorna Hall Lomax.

In honoring Valda's life, let us continue the melody she embodied—a song of bold faith, faithful service, quiet grace, and boundless love. In doing so, her memory will endure in our hearts.



Singing the praises

"I truly admire her patience with, and dedication to, these children."
Deliah Parham,
Choir member parent





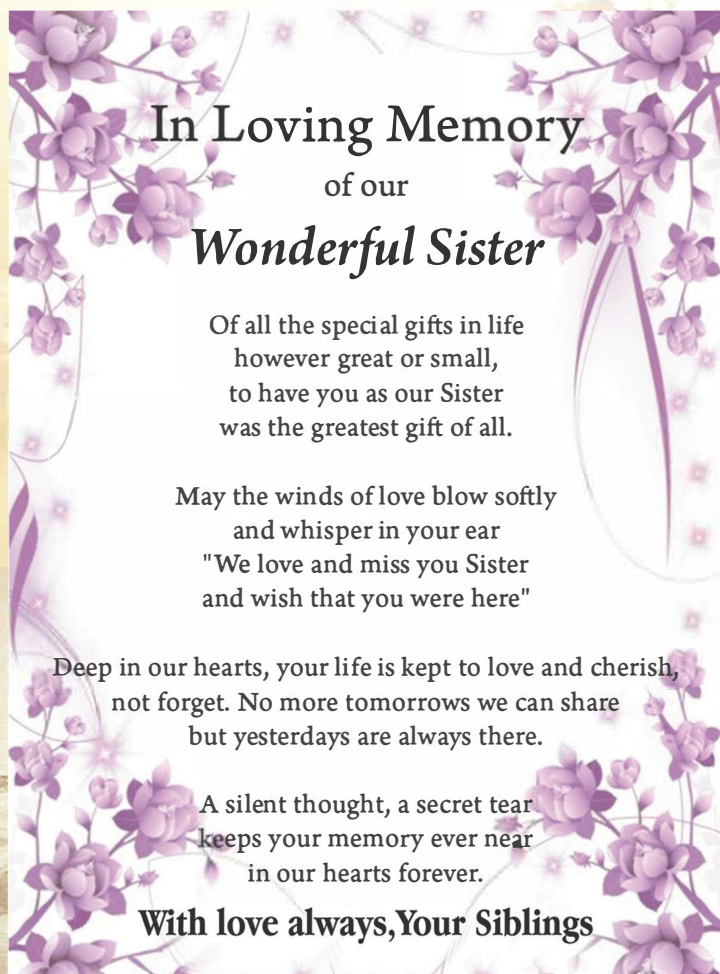


28 April 21
Steven,
My life changed on the
day, at approximately
2333, 2000 years ago.
I never have been so
proud and in love with
anyone as much as I
have been with you. I
am grateful to God
that I was chosen to
be your mother. Everything
the doctors said - well
you made them out to be
leaves of truth. I
knew you would

...for this is the day
the good Lord blessed us all
with you!

Happy Birthday

be a blessing not only
to me, but to others as
well. You are gifted,
talented, intelligent, loved
and blessed. I pray God
will continue to keep
you in His care and
provide you with good
hearts. Love you
more than you know
mom



In Loving Memory of our Wonderful Sister

Of all the special gifts in life
however great or small,
to have you as our Sister
was the greatest gift of all.

May the winds of love blow softly
and whisper in your ear
"We love and miss you Sister
and wish that you were here"

Deep in our hearts, your life is kept to love and cherish,
not forget. No more tomorrows we can share
but yesterdays are always there.

A silent thought, a secret tear
keeps your memory ever near
in our hearts forever.

With love always, Your Siblings

A Note To My Cousin

August 26, 1956 was the date you became my
birthday cousin. You called first this year because
your phone was about to die. We would talk
occasionally on every topic there was. You
entrusted me to be Steven's Godmother, which
was a blessing. Today, Val we celebrate this
precious gift of your life and all of the many
countless blessings you brought into ours. Your
kind and loving spirit will remain in my heart
forever. Sing on my cousin in God's precious
Heavenly choir. He needed another soprano
voice, so he chose you!

Love, Bep
"Your Twin Birthday Cousin"

Pallbearers

George Gibson Justin Jones
Alvin Powell Brian Parker
Jon Thomas Joseph Thomas Jr.
Isaiah Sampson Derrick Smith

Honorary Pallbearers

Mark Armstrong Evan Armstrong
William Cager John Jones
Andre Frazier Joseph Haynes
Gregory Smith
Members of the Stenle Processing Unit - WRNMC

Acknowledgements

The family of the late Valda Veralyn Lomax Parker extends our deepest gratitude for your many kind expressions of love, support, and sympathy during our time of loss. Your gestures have warmed our hearts and lifted our spirits. May the love Valda so generously shared continue to carry us all until we meet again.

Interment

Maryland National Memorial Park
13330 Baltimore Avenue
Laurel, Maryland 20707

Arrangements Entrusted To:

Snowden Funeral Home, P.A.
"A Legacy of Celebrating Life"
246 North Washington Street
Rockville, MD 20850

Program Design
John Jones

