



Bobbie K Hentrel

September 9, 1936 - October 16, 2020

Bobbie K. Hentrel made her transition in the early morning of Friday October 16 in Southfield, MI. Please encourage the Hentrel family with an everlasting note of condolence on our Tribute page.

Previous Events

Strolling Visitation

OCT **23**. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Kemp Funeral Home & Cremation Services

24585 Evergreen Rd

Southfield, MI 48075

(248) 702-5367

info@kempfh.com

<https://www.kempfuneralhome.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *Bobbie K Hentrel*

September 27, 2022 at 08:40 PM



“ *Bobbie K Hentrel*

September 27, 2022 at 06:52 PM



“ *Tiesha Becker lit a candle in memory of
Bobbie K Hentrel*



Tiesha Becker - November 19, 2020 at 07:42 AM

JB

“ If Bobbie were right here right now, I would thank her for her kindness to me when I joined the ESOS of Southfield Public Schools and my office was located in Brace-Lederle Elementary School down the hall from her (principal's) office. She was always full of energy and encouraged everyone in her building to work hard for the benefit of the children in her school. She ran a tight ship and was a strict disciplinarian, but she also had a great sense of humor and was very good to her staff and students. My new job was in the Information Office working for Dr. Kenson Siver, and we worked in Brace-Lederle School when I was first hired by SPS.

Dr. Hentrel was generous and thoughtful to Dr. Siver and to me, and she encouraged us to join in some educational and social activities. It made me feel very comfortable to watch how the children blossomed under her direction as she enjoyed working in her very creative and organized school.

Brace-Lederle was a large school, and I'll bet she knew the name of every student in that school. She was observant, professional, and direct in her approach to communication. She was an exceptional leader in the field of Education.

To her husband, son and family I express my sincere sympathies and know you must have some beautiful memories of Bobbie to embrace forever.

Joan R. Brinich, M.A.
former secretary of Southfield Public Schools
1988 through 2008

Joan R Brinich - October 31, 2020 at 12:37 AM

JH

She made ordinary schools EXEMPLARY!

Joyce Herron-Taylor - November 11, 2020 at 01:18 AM

SB

“ So sorry to hear of Dr. B . Hentrel's transition.
My prayers are with the family.
She was amazing and brilliant .

Sherry Bonner - October 24, 2020 at 07:35 PM



Royce
Thomason

RIP, Dr Hentrel. When my parents divorced when I was in 4th grade I came to Brace Lederle in the middle of the school year. Not only were you the Principle, but you were the only black person who worked in the school, save perhaps someone in the lunchroom. I didn't appreciate the significance of that at the time. Years later, you would hire my mother to teach there, and she worked for you. Eventually, when you left the school and went to another role in the district, you would hire me as a sub. It was at that point that I began to see you in a different light, and it is in this moment that I'm appreciating you on a different level than I ever had before. God rest your soul, Dr Hentrel. 🙏

Royce Thomason - June 23, 2021 at 09:33 AM

RR

“Bobbie left an enviable record for future educators and civic leaders in Southfield. When she saw a need, she filled it. I believe she was hired as the first African American principal of a school in Southfield, and she held everyone to a standard that made us the envy of Oakland County. She applied for a Charter to establish a chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. in Southfield, because there was an eagerness for the growing African American population to make its contributions to the City. We attended Council meetings; we attended Court hearings; we gave scholarships to deserving students; we held etiquette classes; and Red Cross sanctioned emergency classes; we took the children to the Shrine Circus and to the Fire Department and to City Hall; we tutored all students and counseled with their parents.

Concurrently, our husbands, including Bobbie's loving husband Percy, established the Kappa Alpha Psi, Inc. fraternity chapter, where they did similar activities with local boys. We created opportunities for the children to interact around our events. When there was an attempt to put sub-standard housing north of 8 Mile, Bobbie joined forces with those who opposed it. She joined forces with the movement to establish the Martin Luther King annual celebration, which still exists today. If you had a cause that would benefit children, not only was Bobbie onboard, but she opened her school up for your meeting. I remember when she had Governor Blanchard come to her school to make the announcement for the Michigan Education Fund, which still exists.

Bobbie was a leader, who stood for what she believed in, and we followed her because we respected her integrity. Leaders like her don't come along every day and she will be sorely missed by those of us who had the privilege of knowing her, and knowing her heart for ALL children. When I met her my son attended a private school in Southfield. I took him out and enrolled in Bobbie's school, Brace-Lederle Elementary.

She wasn't always the one who had to be in the front of the microphone, but if you stood for what was right you had a

formidable ally in Bobbie. Our final meeting was last year, on the 35th anniversary of our sorority. She still had her glow. I will miss you Bobbie. Rest in Glory!

Rosemary & Bob Reed

Rosemary Leonard Reed - October 23, 2020 at 04:45 PM

LW

Rosemary, you captured it all. What a poignant testament to her life's story.

I was fortunate to snap a few pictures with her as I walked with her to car last November. They were short and sweet, loving moments.

She kept telling me she was fine, she could stand, walk, wait, open the car door, and she could have. But how could she serve this community in such a stellar fashion and not be fussed over and served in golden moments. I missed a lot of hugs and greetings on that day, but I'm glad I stole those moments. ❤️❤️

Lisa Love Wright - October 23, 2020 at 10:50 PM

NA

“*My sincere condolences to the family of my sorority sister and charter member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. I walk and serve in the path you created. Ase`.*

Sending love and comfort during this solemn time.

Nikhol J. Atkins

Nikhol J. Atkins - October 23, 2020 at 04:24 PM

MD

“ Dr. Bobby Hentrel was truly "one of a kind", Her fierce drive and determination led Brace-Lederle, Stevenson, and MacArthur elementary schools to excellence. She never shied away from a challenge and by supporting and leading her staff, she was able to bring the best for her students. She was definitely a "my way or the highway" principal and it was an effective leadership strategy for her. She was an avid Michigan alum and fan which brought us into friendly conflict each October as I am a loyal Spartan. She was great fun to be around and had a wonderful sense of humor. I truly admired Bobby Jean as an educator and was always happy to call her a friend. My sincere condolences to the Hentrel family.

Marlene Davis

Marlene Davis - October 23, 2020 at 10:59 AM

YW

“ Today, is a day that makes me think of the good old days, the days of Dr. Hentrel and her leadership, her drive for excellence, her tenacious attitude and love for education. But above all her love for the children in Southfield. Dr. Hentrel was a storm that did not disrupt the life of the children, but cleared their path. I am sad today. But I will always remember my great encounters with someone who absolutely loved what she did. May she rest, knowing that she and her legacy of greatness will go on. Our work is cut out for us and it is imperative that we follow through what was created. This is a day that the flag should be flown at half mast in tribute of the life and legacy of Dr. Hentrel.

Yvette Ware-DeVaul - October 23, 2020 at 10:34 AM



“ Sending prayers, light and condolences to the family of Dr. Bobbie Hentrel. Many Blessings, Kelly Dean

Kelly A. Dean - October 23, 2020 at 02:15 AM

TC

“ Top of the evening,

May the LORD cover your family and all those connected to you during this difficult time. It is my prayer that, your loved one transition was peaceful and, the memories created over the years will allow you to embrace her life and legacy.



We do not KNOW the day, moment, time or cause prior to departing this life for, no man know the timing when their name will be called therefore; it is imperative to LOVE one another every moment you can. Learn to live in the time we stand in until, GOD says otherwise.

Blessings to the Hentrel family abundantly.

Teresa Creggett

Teresa Creggett - October 22, 2020 at 10:18 PM

GH

Bobbie thrived on new projects and challenges. Her goals were to make a difference in her community and having immediate impact was in her DNA. In August 1983, Soror Dr. Bobbie Hentrel started the process to establish a new chapter of the sorority. Bobbie initiated and coordinated the chartering of Southfield Alumnae Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated in the city of Southfield, MI.

November 17, 1984, a financial group of thirty-one chartering members became an official Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated. Now our chapter has a membership of 450 actively working ladies on service projects to help our communities. Southfield Alumnae Chapter celebrated and honored Bobbie at our 35th Anniversary Celebration November 15, 2019 as a phenomenal woman.

Bobbie leaves behind a thriving chapter. We are blessed to have had her in our lives. We thank you Bobbie!

Gloria Hardy

Gloria Hardy - October 27, 2020 at 04:19 PM

KL

“ *Kathy L. purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Bobbie K Hentrel.*



Kathy L. - October 22, 2020 at 06:23 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Bobbie K Hentrel.*



October 22, 2020 at 05:25 PM

DE

“ *Dr. J. Green and the SPS Board of Education purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Bobbie K Hentrel.*



Dr. J. Green and the SPS Board of Education - October 22, 2020 at 04:35 PM

PE

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with the family. My journey in education began in 2005 at Stevenson Elementary under Dr. Hentrel. She didn't accept anything but GREATNESS from our staff and students as she led our school. For Christmas every year, she would take the staff to PF Changs and let us order anything we would like. This was something she was not required to do, but she wanted to show how appreciative she was. Dr. Hentrel will be remembered for her strong integrity, kind heart, but FIRM personality. As I travel down this leadership path, I will always hold her methods, her firmness, and everything about her close to my heart. As long as I am at Stevenson, I will make sure her legacy lives on. May she rest in peace.*



*Love,
Ms. Porsha Eubanks*

Porsha Eubanks - October 22, 2020 at 04:20 PM

TH

My deepest condolences to the Hentrel family. I had the privilege of having Dr. Hentrel not only be my children's administrator but my mentor as well. I thank God that our paths crossed. You will always have a special place in my heart.

*Love you,
Tonya Hickman*

Tonya Hickman - October 22, 2020 at 05:50 PM

KR

I have lost a true friend. My deepest condolences goes out to the family you are in my prayers. Sincerely Keith Robertson

Keith Robertson - October 22, 2020 at 06:12 PM

KL

Dr. Hentrel was a rare gift to education. She knew what she wanted for her students and community and would not accept second best. She not only led by example but developed leaders amongst her staff, students and parents. Southfield Public Schools has lost a rare gem stone. Because of Bobbies fierce love of students and commitment to quality education, numerous lives have been changed. To know Dr. Hentrel was to love her and she will be deeply missed.

Kathy Lowenthal - October 22, 2020 at 06:56 PM

MC

“ To Percy, Michael, and family,

You are in my thoughts and prayers. I am so very sorry for your loss. Those of us who worked with Dr. Hentrel knew of her mission for excellence in terms of the education of the children we served. Full of energy and drive she led Stevenson School to Blue Ribbon status and tirelessly worked to make the building a beautiful place for all who entered Stevenson's doors. May Bobbie's memory be for blessings and may she rest in peace.

*Sincerely,
Marcy Chudnov*

Marcy Chudnov - October 22, 2020 at 02:53 PM

PB

“ Pamela Bard lit a candle in memory of Bobbie K Hentrel



Pamela Bard - October 22, 2020 at 10:20 AM