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Peggy Olivia Davis, A Royal Centurion

On October 3, 1913, Mitchell D. and Ida Mae Steele was overjoyed that their third child was a cute little girl. They named her Peggy Olivia Steele; she was the apple of their eye because her two (2) older siblings were boys. After the birth of this one girl, six (6) more children were born and they were all girls, as well. The boys preceded Peggy in death and the six girls: Annie Steele Wilson, 97, Flossie Steele Lewis Sesler, 91, Doretha Steele Graham, 89, Catherine Steele Latimer, 87, Susie Steele, 83 and Louise Steele Solomon, 80 helped her celebrate her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Davis turned 100 years old on Thursday, October 3, 2013 and on Friday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, her siblings, family and friends gathered to celebrate Peggy Olivia 'Auntie' Davis. Ms. Davis was born in Citra, FL and the entire family later moved to Community Of Royal, 5 miles west of Wildwood, FL, Sumter County. Citra was the birthplace of her father and Community Of Royal was the birthplace of her mother. Formed in 1865 by former slaves from the Old Green Plantation, Royal is one of Florida's oldest African American communities and has a state issued historic marker. As per Florida state archives, her mother's family, the Andersons, were one of the founding families of the Community Of Royal.

Ms. Davis attended and completed school at the segregated Royal School. In her early 20's, she moved to Winter Garden, FL and traveled back and forth to Wilton, CT to work for a Lawyer and his family. In January 26, 1948, she married Mr. Ernest A. Davis and unfortunately, he died some three years later; they never had any children. She was a faithful member of St. Paul African Methodist Episcopal Church, Winter Garden, FL. After retiring, she returned to her roots, the Community Of Royal, and rejoined her childhood church, Ebenezer African Methodist Episcopal Church of Royal where she was just as faithful until she took residence at Avante of Inverness.

Ms. Davis worked professionally well into her early 80's and for her church well into her 90's. She attributes working as the key to living a long life. 100 years of life is a true testament. For more information, visit [www.communityofroyal.org](http://www.communityofroyal.org)

Happy 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday to Ms. Peggy Olivia Steele Davis; God bless you!

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