

*In Loving Memory*  
of  
**Etta G. Drake Robinson**

*Sunrise*  
*December 12, 1920*

*Sunset*  
*May 29, 2014*

*Services*

*Monday, June 2, 2014 - 11:00 a.m.*  
**Corpus Christi Catholic Church**  
*1616 North Kelley Avenue*  
*Oklahoma City, Oklahoma*

*Father Brian Buettner - Officiating*

## *Obituary*

Etta Drake was born December 12, 1920 to Sam and Mendie Drake. She was the sixth of ten children. Etta grew up in Clearview, Oklahoma where she attended elementary and high school. After graduating from high school, she attended Lincoln Junior College in Kansas City, Missouri where she graduated from Kansas City General #2 as a Registered Nurse in 1945.

Etta's nursing career spanned more than three decades which led her to many accomplishments in the Oklahoma City area. Etta was instrumental in setting up the Mary Mahoney Health Center. She was the first Black R.N. in the Surgical unit at many hospitals in the Oklahoma City area and was a pioneer for Black nurses at Presbyterian, Mercy and Midwest City Hospitals. Etta also worked at Edwards Hospital and was a supervisor at Grandway General Hospital. She was an Assistant Supervisor at Baptist Hospital in the Coronary Care Unit at the time of her retirement in 1983.

In 1947, Etta was married to Garland Robinson, Sr. and to this union two children were born, Deborah and Garland Jr.

Etta Robinson converted to Catholicism in 1960 at St. Peter Claver Church and upon the closing of that parish moved to Corpus Christi Catholic Church. As an active participant in both parishes, Etta was a member of the Altar Society, the Legion of Mary, the Corpus Christi Quilter's Guild, the St. Vincent DePaul Society, and a charter member of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Knights of St. Peter Claver where she attained the rank of Lady of Grace. She also served on the bereavement dinner committee and as a Eucharistic Minister and Lector. Etta coordinated the daily masses, led Bible study groups and was also an associate member of the Adorers of the Blood of Christ.

Etta's community involvement has included member and participation in the Black Nurses Association, the Oklahoma State Nurses Association and the NAACP.

Etta leaves to mourn her passing one daughter, Deborah Tennyson, and one son, Garland Robinson, Jr. (Ruth Robinson); three grandchildren: Gregory Tennyson, Jr., Ashley Robinson and Garland Robinson, III; one great grandson, Gregory Tennyson, III; one sister, Willie B. Williams; one brother, W.G. Thornton (Mildred Thornton); and a host of relatives and friends.