

Thomas surrounded by love as she marks 102nd birthday

BY MUSHAYA CARTER
SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Blanche Thomas has accomplished everything that she wanted to in life. Now, she's just enjoying living.

Friends, neighbors and family members gathered at her home in Town View Apartments on July 28 to celebrate her 102nd birthday. The party took place two days before her actual birthday.

A mother of four and the matriarch of a large family that includes grand, great and great-great grandchildren, Thomas says that her faith in the Lord has kept her strong. Charles Thomas, her eldest son, says that it is God's grace that has kept his mother here for so long.

"She's just making it through," he said.

Another key to her long life, according to daughter Margi Thomas, is that her mother takes life one day at a time. Blanche Thomas also took great care of her temple. Family members say she never ate unhealthy foods, smoked or drank alcohol. Longevity seems to be a family trait. Many in the Thomas clan have lived to see 90 and even 100.

At 102, Thomas does require assistance to perform everyday tasks, but she doesn't



Photos by Ron Wynn

Members of Blanche Thomas' family (above) attended her recent birthday celebration.

on behalf of UL President and CEO Keith Grandberry.



have to look far. A host of family members are gladly at her beck and call.

"Taking care of her helped to contribute to her longevity," said her great-grandson Tobias Johnson, a Carter G. Woodson

student who helps take care of Thomas.

During the birthday celebration, Thomas was presented with an honorary plaque by the Winston-Salem Urban League's Nathaniel Peterson

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Submitted Photo

The Senior Mentoring Committee of Sethos Court #105 recently teamed with the Isiserettes Club to cook blueberry muffins for the residents of the new Trinity Glenn nursing home on Waterworks Road. As the aroma of the muffins filled the halls of the facility, residents began to gather in the kitchen/dining area to sample and help prepare the muffins and enjoy fellowship and conversation. The Committee Chairpersons are Daughters Rosalyn Joyner and Frances Campbell. Daughter Eva McWillis is the Illustrious Commandress and Daughter Ruby Charles is the Deputy of the Oasis of Sethos Court #105.

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