



Mary Alice Williams

December 4, 1943 - April 7, 2020

On Tuesday, April 7, 2020, the Lord called another angel home. Mary Williams died peacefully at her residence in Columbia, South Carolina.

Born December 4, 1943, in Newberry, South Carolina, she was the second of seven children born to the late Frank and Mary Atchison. A 1962 graduate of Gallman High School, she went on to earn an Associate's Degree in Business. In 1970, she married the late Freddie Lee Williams, a US Army veteran and member of the US Postal System. Their union was blessed with two children.

Mary began working for the Department of Defense in the Directorate of Human Resources at Fort Jackson, giving dedicated service to her country for over thirty years. During her tenure there, she accumulated countless awards and recognitions. Her children remember her as a kind, gentle, patient mother who encouraged them to pursue their goals.

Mary was a generous and selfless individual who spent considerable time and energy caring for others. She was passionate about doing all she could to promote the well-being of all. She loved to cook and bake, even winning contests for her pies and pastries. Mary found joy in travel as well, visiting many faraway locations like Alaska, Mexico, Japan, Korea, and China as well as embarking on seven cruises in her lifetime. She also took up residence in many locations along the East Coast: Virginia, New York, and Florida among them; before returning to South Carolina to begin a family.

Upon her return to Columbia, she became an active and dedicated member of Bethlehem Baptist Church, serving for over thirty years on various ministries throughout the church including: Usher Board, Church Secretary, Bethlehem Food Pantry, and more. After her retirement, Mary continued to be a consistent member of the Usher Board and Seniors in Action ministries. She was recognized for her lifelong contributions in 2013, being honored as Bethlehem Baptist's Woman of the Year.

In addition to her parents and spouse; she was preceded in death by two siblings: John "JW" Atchison and Constance Atchison.

She leaves to cherish precious memories her two children: Cedric (Julie) Williams of Los Angeles, California, and Latasha (Nathan) McCoy of Okinawa, Japan; four grandchildren: August Williams, Ellis Williams, Ananda McCoy, and Ilana McCoy; four siblings: Brenda Cole, Frank Atchison Jr., Michael Atchison, and Shirley Atchison; an aunt, Pauline Fowler; other relatives and friends.

The family requests that in lieu of flowers, memorial donations be made to the Alzheimer's Association (<http://act.alz.org/donate>).

Events

APR **Public Viewing** 01:00PM - 03:00PM

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Palmer Memorial Chapel - Columbia

1200 Fontaine Place, Columbia, SC, US, 29223

APR **Graveside service** 11:00AM

11

Memorial Gardens of Columbia

Columbia, SC, US

Comments



“ I remember Mrs. Mary Williams from her time at the DHR. She worked in Trainee Branch and I was in Strength Management. She was always smiling and very friendly. I also got a chance to visit her at the Brookdale Adult Center in Columbia. The first time I saw her there she smiled and talked like old friends. She didn't remember my name but she remembered my face. We laughed and talked a while. She was the same Mary. God bless you family to have strength, comfort and peace from the Prince of Peace.



Loretta Hill - April 14, 2020 at 09:05 PM



“ Years have passed since I've seen you Mary Alice, but the Memories will Remain. The ole song Of Precious Memories and How they Linger.

Willie Reed (DUB)

WILLIE REED - April 12, 2020 at 12:06 PM



“ So sorry for your loss. Prayers for all of you in the difficult days ahead.

Stephanie Curry - April 11, 2020 at 08:41 PM



“ Elmira M Rutherford lit a candle in memory of Mary Alice Williams



Elmira M Rutherford - April 11, 2020 at 12:23 PM



“ Michael Atchison lit a candle in memory of Mary Alice Williams



Michael Atchison - April 10, 2020 at 11:43 AM



“ Sending prayers of comfort for your loss...To be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord..Mrs.Mary I will always remember your smile and hugs



Sandra - April 10, 2020 at 11:37 AM