



Dr. Emily England Clyburn

November 2, 1938 - September 19, 2019

Dr. Emily England Clyburn transitioned from this earthly life on Thursday, September 19, 2019, in Columbia, South Carolina. Born in the Whitesville section of Berkeley County near Moncks Corner, South Carolina, she was preceded in death by her parents, Peter and Mattie England, and siblings, Arthur England and Mattie Mae England Wadley.

Known affectionately as “Ms. Emily” by many and “Dr. Em” by some, she graduated from Berkeley Training High School in Moncks Corner and earned a bachelor’s degree in Library Science from South Carolina State College (SCSU) in 1961. She furthered her studies at Atlanta University and University of South Carolina, where in 1977 she earned a Masters in Librarianship. SCSU awarded her an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters at its 2010 Spring Commencement. Dr. Em was a public school librarian in Columbia and Charleston before spending twenty-nine years as medical librarian at the Charleston Naval Base and Dorn VA Medical Center in Columbia.

Ms. Emily was extraordinarily dedicated to her alma mater. She and her husband Congressman Jim Clyburn, also a member of SCSU Class of 1961, were married for fifty-eight years after meeting in jail during one of his incarcerations for campus activism.

They have been steadfast supporters of South Carolina State. A significant

financial contribution from the couple allowed SCSU to re-establish its Honors College. Earlier this year, Jim and Em re-designated the \$1.7 million in endowed funds they raised and contributed to SCSU over several decades to establish the Dr. Emily England Clyburn Honors College Scholarship Endowment.

Dr. Em was featured in *Notable African-American Women: In Their Own Voices*, a documentary produced in 2007 by the I. DeQuincey Newman Institute for Peace and Social Justice at the University of South Carolina College of Social Work. She was a recipient of the Woman of Faith Award given by the Columbia Chapter of the National Council of Negro Women, and received the Distinguished Service Award by several chapters of South Carolina State University National Alumni Association. She was also honored as a Woman of Distinction by the Girl Scouts of South Carolina – Mountains to Midlands.

Dr. Em was the naming sponsor of a cargo ship, the RO/RO Liberty Promise, which she christened when it was launched at the Naval Weapons Station, Charleston, South Carolina, in 2015. In 2018, the pedestrian bridge which spans Chestnut Street (US Highway 21) at the SCSU campus was renamed the Dr. Emily England Clyburn Pedestrian Bridge, an effort spearheaded by South Carolina State Senator John Matthews.

Ms. Emily was a member of Morris Brown AME Church in Charleston, a life member of the NAACP, a life member of the SCSU National Alumni Association, and an active, highly regarded member of the Congressional Black Caucus Spouses Association.

Precious memories will be cherished by her husband, Jim; three daughters: Mignon L. Clyburn, Jennifer Clyburn (Walter) Reed, and Angela Clyburn Hannibal; four grandchildren: Walter A. Clyburn Reed, Sydney Alexis Reed,

Layla Joann Clyburn Hannibal, and Carter James Clyburn Hannibal. She leaves to mourn her loss a host of family members and friends.

The family requests that, in lieu of flowers, contributions be made to the Emily England Clyburn Honors College Endowment at South Carolina State University and the Emily E. Clyburn Huddle Room at the Cathy Novinger Girl Scout Leadership Center in Columbia, South Carolina.

Previous Events

Public Viewing

SEP **22.** 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Brookland Baptist Church
1066 Sunset Blvd
West Columbia, SC 29169
(803) 796-7525

Kibler Cemetery, Sumter, SC

SEP **22.** 5:00 PM (ET)

Brookland Baptist Church
1066 Sunset Blvd
West Columbia, SC 29169
(803) 796-7525

Public Viewing

SEP **23.** 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Morris Brown AME Church
13 Morris Street
Charleston, SC 29403

Celebration of Life

SEP **23.** 11:00 AM (ET)

Morris Brown AME Church
13 Morris Street
Charleston, SC 29403

Tribute Wall



“ *Dr. Emily England Clyburn*

October 04, 2023 at 11:33 AM



“ *William and Anthonette Robertson*



William and Anthonette Robertson - September 27, 2019 at 04:27 PM



“ *Such a sharp, elegant and wise lady with the brightest smile. Ms. Emily had that quiet serenity about her. A certain kind of peace or self assuredness. I will miss walking into Trinity Baptist Church on Wednesdays and not seeing her face. She was always there when she was feeling well, always there holding court with a table full of her friends and others who often came up to her just to say hello. Like her husband and three girls, she was down to earth and never carried herself with a loftier than thou attitude. It is sad that she is gone now, but it would have been truly sad if she never had been on this earth for these 80 years. The congressman and Mignon, Angela and Jennifer should be proud that Ms. Emily left us with an enduring legacy. A legacy which says to us that we should always do those things that are wise and kind while seeking to uplift those who come behind us. She did those things and more. Ms. Emily was a truly remarkable woman.*

Don Frierson - September 24, 2019 at 10:54 PM

KF

“ Karyn Fain-Johnson lit a candle in memory of Dr. Emily England Clyburn



Karyn Fain-Johnson - September 23, 2019 at 07:06 PM

DD

“ Denise Douglas lit a candle in memory of Dr. Emily England Clyburn



Denise Douglas - September 23, 2019 at 02:16 PM

DD

“ Sorry for your loss

Denise Douglas - September 23, 2019 at 02:15 PM

AC

“ My sincere condolences to the family of Dr. Emily Clyburn

Alethia Porter (Mather Connection) - September 23, 2019 at 12:17 PM

CJ

“ Calvin “Chip” And Pat Jackson lit a candle in memory of Dr. Emily England Clyburn



Calvin “Chip” and Pat Jackson - September 23, 2019 at 10:59 AM

GT

“ Gregg Tolliver lit a candle in memory of Dr. Emily England Clyburn



Gregg Tolliver - September 23, 2019 at 08:22 AM

GS

“ Geraldine Scott lit a candle in memory of Dr. Emily England Clyburn



geraldine scott - September 23, 2019 at 07:53 AM

FS

“ On behalf of the management and staff of Smith Funeral Home of Florence, we want to offer our deepest condolences. May God bless you and keep you in his Grace during this time.

Felicia Smith-Charles - September 23, 2019 at 04:37 AM



“ I am praying for the family of Dr. Emily Clyburn's family. May all the precious memories of Sister Clyburn be remembered for years to come. Praying for Mr. Clyburn, children, grands, and family that God keep you strong during this trying time. I love you all! Queen Wallace, BOOKWORLD INC. , Lake City, SC.

Liz Wallace - September 22, 2019 at 10:41 PM

YS

“ Mignon,

I'm thinking of you and your family during this difficult time. I truly know what is it to lose a dear sweet Mother because my Mother passed away in 2012. Remember to lean on God for understanding and guidance as you grieve because He is the only one who can comfort you. I will keep you and your family in my thoughts and prayers.



Yvonne Jones Smalls

Yvonne Jones Smalls - September 22, 2019 at 10:32 PM

BT

“ So sadden by the death of sweet Emily. Rest in Peace my dear. We love you so much James and family.

Barbara Jean Sanders Troy from the Mather Academy Class of 1957.

Barbar Troy - September 22, 2019 at 09:47 PM

WR

“ We send our deepest heart felt sympathy.

Sincerely, Rose Marie Nedd, Deloris Warren, Wanda Rupert & Family.

Wanda Rupert - September 22, 2019 at 08:44 PM

EH

“ My deepest sympathies to Congressman Clyburn and his family. I have wonderful memories of the time spent at the Harleston homestead and what a kind and caring person Mrs. Clyburn was. Please know that you are in my prayers.

Elaine Harleston-Martin

Elaine Harleson-Martin - September 22, 2019 at 07:53 PM

EA

“ With deepest sympathy for the loss of your dear love one. May God's blessings and grace be yours and for all family members. Sincerely with love,
E. Lavonia Allison, Durham, NC

E. Lavonia Allison - September 22, 2019 at 05:10 PM

MM

“ Condolences to the Clyburn family. May you find solace in knowing others are prayerful for your family.
*Leroy & Ruby McKenzie
Sumter, S.C.
Dr. Jackie McKenzie and Marsha McKenzie
Matthews, N.C.*

Marsha mckenzie - September 22, 2019 at 02:51 PM

MR

“ May God keep his hands of grace upon you during this most difficult time. I didn't know Dr. Emily personally, but I love the spirit that she presented during her lifetime. May she Rest in heaven. Your family is in our prayers.



Mary Reed - September 22, 2019 at 10:43 AM

BR

“ We thank the Clyburn Family for all the fond memories you allowed us to share with you all. MEETING Mrs. Emily will always remain one of our fondest memories. Emily was special, kind, calm, spiritual, loveable, and we will miss her for the rest of our days. Be strong and know if we live according to the Lord's law, we shall see her again. Our hearts and prayers are with you. Isaac & Betty Rucker, Aiken, SC.

BETTY C Rucker - September 22, 2019 at 08:51 AM

MJ

“ Michael And Ethel Johnson lit a candle in memory of Dr. Emily England Clyburn



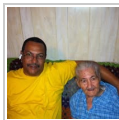
Michael and Ethel Johnson - September 21, 2019 at 10:04 PM

JG

“ May God strengthen you and give you his peace that surpasses all understanding. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.
The Management and Staff of Greene's Funeral Home
Dillon, South Carolina



JB Greene-Richardson - September 21, 2019 at 09:10 AM



Our prayers are with you and your family. May God continue to bless you in a special way. LaRue & Beverly Alford

C Larue Alford - September 23, 2019 at 01:17 AM

CC

“ Cheryl Caution-Parker lit a candle in memory of Dr. Emily England Clyburn



Cheryl Caution-Parker - September 21, 2019 at 07:00 AM

GE

“ Gloria Dreher Eaddy lit a candle in memory of Dr. Emily England Clyburn



Gloria Dreher Eaddy - September 21, 2019 at 06:58 AM

MJ

Condolences to the Clyburn Family.


Marilyn Rowe Jeffcoat - September 22, 2019 at 01:46 PM

MB

“ Margaret E Berry lit a candle in memory of Dr. Emily England Clyburn



Margaret E Berry - September 20, 2019 at 10:03 PM


Yvonne
Mebane

“ Yvonne Mebane lit a candle in memory of Dr.
Emily England Clyburn



Yvonne Mebane - September 20, 2019 at 09:46 PM

RJ

“ Rosa L. James-Alston lit a candle in memory
of Dr. Emily England Clyburn



Rosa L. James-Alston - September 20, 2019 at 09:09 PM

MF

“ On behalf of Fleming & DeLaine Funeral
Home and Chapel, I want to offer my deepest
condolences. May you find comfort in loving
memories.



Marjorie Fleming-Saunders - September 20, 2019 at 07:19 PM

TF

“ Tom Felder lit a candle in memory of Dr. Emily
England Clyburn



Tom Felder - September 20, 2019 at 05:46 PM



“ *Beautiful Whisper was purchased for the family of Dr. Emily England Clyburn.*



September 20, 2019 at 04:27 PM



“ *Linda Seibles lit a candle in memory of Dr. Emily England Clyburn*



Linda Seibles - September 20, 2019 at 02:14 PM



“ *Enduring Grace was purchased for the family of Dr. Emily England Clyburn.*



September 20, 2019 at 10:12 AM



“ *DON JENNINGS lit a candle in memory of Dr. Emily England Clyburn*



DON JENNINGS - September 20, 2019 at 03:56 AM

HS

“ *Helen Dowdy Spearman lit a candle in memory of Dr. Emily England Clyburn*



Helen Dowdy Spearman - September 19, 2019 at 08:25 PM



Thank you Congressman Clyburn and your Family for sharing this Precious Jewel, Dr Emily with us. My Love, Prayers and Condolences are with each of you.

Linda Green-Jenkins - September 21, 2019 at 12:29 PM