

# Life Reflections

## ***To Be Absent from the body is to Be Present With The Lord!***

On January 13, 2025, the Master whispered into our beloved Annie's ear and summoned her into eternal rest. How can we thank God enough for you! Because of you we have great joy in the presence of God.

**Annie R. Patrick Cunningham** was born on August 3, 1935 in Olanta, South Carolina to the late Minnie (Fulton) and Henry Patrick their oldest child and only daughter. Annie had two brothers Charles and Henry, Jr. who preceded her in death. Annie (also referred to as Ann), attended elementary school in Olanta, Wilson High School in Florence SC and South Carolina State University in Orangeburg, SC.

On June 29, 1959, **Ann** was joined in holy matrimony to the love of her life Edd Cunningham, a true match made in heaven. The couple immediately went to Berlin, Germany where Edd served in the military. Added to this love story was a daughter, Baronese, that Ann affectionately called Moody (no explanation needed).

**Ann** started her Christian journey very early in the Baptist Church. She later converted to the United Methodist ideology where she served God, her church and her community faithfully at Mt. Seal United Methodist Church.

**Ann** worked at a bakery, department stores and was later employed as a mortgage loan processor at Howard Savings Bank in Newark, NJ. She retired from the bank and returned to South Carolina to live out her glory days.

**Ann** had a flair for fashion and loved to sew. At one point she made all her clothes. She would often say, *"you could always dress up your outfit but make sure you have a good pair of shoes and a handbag to match."* This was apparent by her jam-packed closet; a department store within itself.

God was first, and foremost in her life, followed by her family. She had a great memory and would often document life events in her multiple steno pads. She loved traveling, fine dining, eating ice cream and all things bread and muffins. She loved cooking, baking, shopping for jewelry, and maintaining a beauty regimen like no other. If she was your friend, she was loyal and always spoke her truth imparting wisdom and mother wit. Your secrets were always safe with her.

In 2018, **Ann** suffered a major loss when her infant great grandson, Bryce William Brown preceded her in death. Leaving to mourn their loss of cherished memories are her devoted and loving husband Edd, daughter Baronese (Moody), granddaughter and grandson-in-law Janan and Ronald, two great granddaughters; Brielle and Brooklyn, one great grandson Zachary. Her adopted children Parnell and Charlene, her adopted grandchildren Quiana, Kereema, Kamau, Tatiana and Tyquan and their children, one sister-in-law, Juanita Patrick, three nieces; Charlene, Amy and Regina, four nephews; Dexter, James, Jr., Derek and Bernard, a host of great nieces, nephews and cousins, her daily cousin phone call crew Rose Ellen, Dorothy, Vera, Ray and Jennifer, Pat, Harvey and Daisy. special friends Ann Bishop and Telsa and John Perry. There are so many who loved her and may not have been personally mentioned but that doesn't minimize your relationship and feelings for her. Last but certainly not least "Sunshine better known as Alpresia and her great niece, Tifah.

***To God be the glory!***

***Done on the 17th day of January in the year of our Lord 2025 A.D. by order of the family. Lovingly submitted by the family.***

# Order of Service

## **Presiding Rev. Cynthia Williams**

Processional	Clergy and Family
Words of Grace	Rev. Cynthia Williams
Greeting	Rev. Cynthia Williams
Selection	Coretha Grate <i>"Jesus, How I Love to Call Your Name"</i>
Prayer	Rev. Joe Wilson
Scripture Lessons:	<i>Old Testament</i> 2 Kings 20:1-10 <i>New Testament</i> Romans 8:35-38
Witnesses:	Church Julia McFadden Community George Pressley Family Baronese Taylor
Reading of the Obituary	Brielle Smith
Acknowledgements	Coretha Grate
Selection	Barbara Brown
Words of Comfort	Rev. Ernest Frierson
Selection	Rev. Ernest Frierson
Affirmation of Faith	No. 881
Prayer of Commendation	Rev. Cynthia Williams
Committal, Benediction & Interment	Rev. Cynthia Williams

***Mt. Seal United Methodist Church Cemetery  
Hemingway, SC 29554***

## **A Letter to My Mom...**

*How do you condense someone's life down to a page or two when they've filled all of your life with so much love, kindness and memories? This letter is not just to you but to God for blessing me with someone like you. You were just what the doctor ordered. Who else could have the wisdom and foresight to tell me what I needed to hear when I needed to hear it. You were my example of what a woman should be and how to be that woman. Everyone has not been as blessed as I've been to experience life's journey the way I have with you. As I write this Lord I thank you for giving me the best gift of the Holy Spirit to give me the comfort and peace to write this. It's not the words I need to say that are difficult but the strength I need to endure knowing this is the last time I will publicly write to you and going forward I will be transcribing them through the Master. I thank you for your spirit, for the love you gave to me, my dad (Sonny), your little girl Janan, Ronald (My kind of Guy), Brielle (My Sweetie pie) and that little one Brooklyn Brown and for receiving back the love we had for you. But you didn't just stop with us, you extended your heart out to your adopted kids and their kids and blessed them in ways they never imagined. That's who you were; taking care of God's business. I thank you and admired you for your compassion and your ability to speak your mind and not compromise your words; being forthright in your convictions and telling it like it is; the TRUTH; and that's the truth! You taught us all how to maneuver through this life trusting in the Master and putting him first. You had the ability to see things we couldn't or didn't want to see redirecting us with a gentle nudge and a hard push. Some called you bougee, but you just had high standards and I called that class; a radiance that poured out of you that made everyone you encountered love you that much more. You blessed us with your ability to cook and bake and now I'll have to learn how to make my chocolate coconut cookies that I never shared with anyone!! You never told me where you put that letter I wrote in elementary school where I was cursing at someone that you never let me forget but never returned to me. I guess I'm going to have to go on a scavenger hunt to find that now. Knowing one day the manifestation of God's word will come to pass I want to thank you Lord for being introduced to you and knowing that what I'm feeling right now I can endure but joy will return whole-heartedly. You've given me my instructions and I don't intend to ever let you down. You've been the calm to my storm, the drier of my tears and my biggest cheerleader. Lord I pray collectively and individually for my family. Let them seek you out first for guidance and direction that we may be stronger in you. You were a major part of our family who has changed her address to be with the Master. While your physical body has moved, your spirit will always remain within us. You pulled a fast one by leaving us. We weren't prepared but you've always been ready because you've always been obedient to the Master. I probably never would have been ready but I know that God is awesome and knows best and never makes a mistake and my mustard seed faith has never doubted his decisions. Oh, how I loved her but your love supersedes anything we can possibly imagine. Thanks again for the all the memories and you being you. I love you agape!*



***With a heavy heart,  
Moody***

*Thank You Lord*

*God's Gift*

*Edd & Ann Forever*



*Honorary Floral Bearers  
United Women in Faith*

*Floral Bearers  
Ladies of the Family*

*Pall Bearers  
Mt. Seal United Methodist Men*

*A Celebration of Life  
In Loving Memory of*

*Annie Ruth Cunningham*



### **Acknowledgements**

*With heartfelt love and gratitude, the family of Annie R. Cunningham wish to thank you for allowing the Holy Spirit to bring comfort and peace to our family during this time of bereavement. Your goodness shall linger in our hearts forever.*

*We are forever grateful to the staff and all other personnel at Honorage Nursing Home, Florence, SC for the care you provided to Annie R. Cunningham during her stay at your facility. God bless you for allowing her to run the place!*

*From Grace  
August 3, 1935*

*To Glory  
January 13, 2025*

### **Professional Services Entrusted To:**

*Bartell's Funeral Home  
Post Office Box 125  
2895 Hemingway Highway  
Hemingway, SC 29554  
(843) 558-3216 or 558-5849*

*"A Home of Distinctively Finer Service"*

*Friday, January 17, 2025  
12:00 Noon  
Mt. Seal United Methodist Church  
5134 Hemingway Highway  
Hemingway, South Carolina 29554*

*Reverend Cynthia Williams, Officiant*