

# Obituary

*Florence Charlton (March 31, 1921 July 20, 2025)*

## A Life of Grace, Service, and Quiet Strength

Florence Charlton, a beloved mother, grandmother, aunt, great-aunt, and friend, passed away peacefully on July 20, 2025, at the age of 104. Born in Barnwell, South Carolina, on March 31, 1921, she was the cherished daughter of the late Charlie and Anna Charlton and the second youngest of ten siblings. She was preceded in death by her brothers and sisters: Anabelle, Cora, Amy, Albert, Thomas, George, Alexander, Norman, and Willie.

In 1922, the Charlton family relocated from South Carolina and made Fort Lauderdale, Florida, their home. Florence remained rooted in her community, first living on 4th Avenue for 73 years before moving into her current home, where she spent the last 38 years of her life — a remarkable testament to her deep appreciation for stability, home, and family.

At the age of 14, Florence joined First Baptist Church Piney Grove, where she held a membership for an extraordinary 90 years. As a proud pioneer of the church, she faithfully served in the choir and volunteered her time with the Cub Scouts. Florence lived her faith quietly and consistently — not with grand declarations, but through acts of kindness, humility, and unwavering grace.

Florence completed her formal education through the sixth grade and spent her working years as a housekeeper and nanny — one of her most cherished roles. She lovingly helped raise the family who would go on to create City Furniture, leaving an indelible legacy in their hearts. She also contributed to the early success of one of the first African American-owned nightclubs in the area, run by her brother, and later co-owned a restaurant with her niece. Whether caring for others or cooking for loved ones, Florence approached every task with dignity and devotion.

She was known for her gentle spirit. Florence never spoke ill of others, never used a harsh word, and always exuded warmth and kindness. She was truly a “nice lady” in every sense of the word — a steady and loving presence in the lives of all who knew her.

Florence’s greatest joy was her family. She is survived by her devoted son, Kevin Charlton; her loving granddaughters, Brittany Charlton and Jordahn Charlton — with special recognition to Jordahn, who lovingly cared for her grandmother with devotion and compassion throughout her final years. She also leaves behind two cherished great-grandchildren, Genesis Phillips and Grayson Butler who brought her immense pride and joy in her later years.

Florence also leaves behind her cherished great-niece Michelle Scott and great-great-niece Ashley Scott, who filled her days with home-cooked meals, homemade cakes, decaf coffee, and unconditional love. She affectionately called Ashley “her girl.”

She also leaves to mourn her nieces Evelyn Cummings, Shannon Charlton, Judy Charlton, Phyllis Cross and Elouise Simmons; her nephews George Charlton, Norman Charlton, Elijah Charlton, and Warren Gene Charlton; and a host of great-nieces, great-nephews, and extended family.

Special acknowledgments are extended to Keith Koenig and family, and Dorothy Sindicich and family, both whose love and support meant so much throughout the years.

Special thanks and heartfelt appreciation to Deidre Robinson Wiggins and Treva Burton for lovingly doing her hair during her illness, and to Deidre for her faithful presence and care.

Florence Charlton lived a life rooted in faith, family, and kindness — a quiet matriarch whose legacy will endure through the lives she touched. Her voice may now be silent, but the example she set speaks volumes and will echo for generations to come.



# Order Of Service

*Rev. Dr. Ezra L. Tillman, Jr., Presiding  
August 2, 2025*

- The Processional.....Clergy
- The Scripture Reading.....Michael Lockett  
Old Testament  
New Testament
- The Prayer.....Rev. Dr. Ezra L. Tillman, Jr., Pastor
- Reading of the Proclamation .....Mayor Denise D.Grant  
(City of Lauderhill)
- The Musical Tribute .....The Divine “D’s”  
  
The Reflections: (2 min.)
- As a Deacon .....Deacon Malcolm Black
- As a Long time Family Friend.....Deacon William Harris
- As a Long time Family Friend.....Deacon Tyrone Abrams
- The Solo.....Richard Burton
- As a Dear Friend..... Deidre Robinson Wiggins
- As a Son.....Kevin Charlton
- As a Family Member.....Keith Koenig
- The Solo.....Sister Hattie “Dee” Harden
- The Obituary.....Read Silently
- The Acknowledgements.....McWhite Funeral Home
- The Hymn of Comfort.....First Baptist Church Piney Grove Choir
- The Words of Comfort.....Rev. Dr. Ezra L. Tillman, Jr.
- The Recessional.....First Baptist Church Piney Grove Choir



*Homegoing Celebration For*

*I'm Free*

Don't grieve for me for now I'm free,  
I'm following the path God laid for me  
I took his hand when I heard him call,  
I turned my back and left it all  
I could not stay another day,  
To laugh, to love, to work or play  
Tasks left undone must stay that way,  
I've found that peace at the close of day  
If my parting has left a void,  
Then fill it with remembered joy  
A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,  
Ah yes, these things I too will miss  
Be not burdened with times of sorrow,  
I wish for you the sunshine of tomorrow  
My life's been full, I've savored much,  
Good friends, good times, my loved one's touch  
If my time seemed all too brief,  
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief  
Lift up your heart, rejoice with me,  
God wanted me now, He set me free.



*Acknowledgement*

The Family of Florence Charlton wishes to express our sincere gratitude for all of your heartfelt prayers and acts of love rendered to us during our time of bereavement.

*Repast*

Will be announced

*Sunrise*

March 31, 1921

*Sunset*

July 19, 2025

*Florence Charlton*

Saturday, August 2, 2025  
12:00 PM

*First Baptist Church Piney Grove*

4699 West Oakland Park Boulevard  
Lauderdale Lakes, FL 33312

The Lord is my light and my salvation;  
whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength  
of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

*Psalm 27*



Professional Services Entrusted to:

**McWHITE'S FUNERAL HOME**  
3501 West Broward Blvd | Lauderdale, FL 33312  
(954) 584-0047

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