



# Love You MOMA

*Moma...Moma  
Whenever I called out  
you were always there  
the same way you're always there for me now*

*If ever a word of encouragement is needed  
you have the word  
placed in your heart  
ready to extend it without any hesitation.*

*For every single phrase of negativity my ears hear;  
I hear your voice...  
singing with phrases of positivity*

*Reminiscing on the unconditional love you gave in many ways  
puts a smile on my face and joy in my heart.*

*The strength and beauty that surrounds you passes on through  
several generations.  
Know that the prayers of your heart have carried me through trials  
and tribulations.*

*Thank you for every lesson...  
every smile...  
every hug  
every precious word!*

*I now know that everything was done or said... out of love.*

*With All My Love,  
Bill  
08/06/1994*



**Professional Services Entrusted To:**



**M.F. Riley's Funeral Home**

**Motto: "Service Above Self"**

*"We express our deepest appreciation of your faith  
and complete confidence in our services. We sincerely hope that every aspect of  
the SERVICE has been SATISFACTORY for you." The Director and Staff*

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Mrs. Renique Yvette Riley-Spiller, Owner and Operator

# A SERVICE OF LOVE

*Celebrating*  
**THE LIFE OF**

*Maerean Busby*  
**BOHANNON-EVANS**

*April 18, 1940 — June 10, 2025*

~ Celebration ~  
Saturday, June 21, 2025  
2 O'clock Post Meridian

~ Held At ~  
M.F. Riley's Memorial Chapel  
Fairfax, South Carolina

~ Officiates ~  
Elder Coy Brantley, Officiating





# SERVICE OF Celebration

- Musical Prelude ..... Soft Music
- Processional ..... Clergy, Family, Friends
- Opening Selection .....
- Blessed Scripture Readings:
  - Old Testament ..... **Psalm 23** ..... Ms. Shay Dunbar
  - New Testament .... **John 14:1-6** ... Mrs. Ruth Lovet Taylor
- Prayer of Comfort ..... Evangelist Francenia Busby
- Selection .....
- Remembering Our Beloved Maerean: (2 Minutes, Please)
  - Mother Doretha Beckett
  - Mr Kevin Rose
  - Mrs Deborah Busby Hamilton
- Obituary ..... Ms Tonya Beckett, Phd
- Selection .....
- Eulogy ..... Elder Coy Bryant
- Director’s Memorial..... M.F. Riley’s Staff
- Benediction
- Recessional
- Postlude

## Memorial Repository

Good Hope Missionary Baptist Church Cemetery  
Committal ~ Prayer ~ Benediction

# A Heartful Thank You

*Thank you so very much for your kindness, sympathy, and unwavering support during this challenging time. It is sincerely appreciated and will never be forgotten. The family extends heartfelt gratitude to Ms. Jackie Knox Harris for her unrelenting support and presence throughout this period.*

The family of  
Maerean Busby Bohannon - Evans

# Maerean Busby Bohannon – Evans

## A Celebration of a Life Well Lived and a Woman Well Loved

*“I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me crown of righteousness, which the Lord the righteousness judge, shall give me at that day; and not to me, but unto all them also that love his appearing.” II Timothy 4: 7 – 8*

**Maerean Busby Bohannon–Evans** was born on April 18, 1940, in Estill, South Carolina. She was the daughter of the late John H. Busby and Irene Beckett Busby-Foster. She was the only girl of the family, which was comprised of four kids. She was raised in Estill, and lived in several locations including Valdosta, Georgia; Peoria, Illinois; Houston, Texas; and San Diego, California. Finally, settling in Decatur, Georgia, in 1984, to be near her son and granddaughter. Maerean entered heaven’s gates on June 10, 2025. Maerean is preceded in death by her husband of 27 years Wendell A. Evans, her parents, and her three siblings.

Maerean graduated from high school in 1963 becoming the first high school graduate in her family since the start of the Jim Crow era. Upon graduation, she attended Savannah State University, Savannah, Georgia, earning a Bachelor of Science Degree in Chemistry. While at Savannah State, Maerean became a member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. Maerean was allotted this education opportunity as a scholarship recipient through the National Science Foundation. She also earned a Master’s Degree in Biochemistry from Illinois State University, Normal, Illinois.

During her illustrious career, Maerean had many accomplishments. For instance, as a Chemist for the United States Department of Agriculture, at the Northern Regional Research Center, Peoria, Illinois, she authored six professional papers and earned patents for four vegetable varieties. She also achieved an advanced rank of Senior Research Chemist. In 1978, she was recruited by Caterpillar Tractor Company, Peoria, Illinois, to its metallurgy laboratory. In 1980, she relocated to Houston, Texas, to accept a position with the ENRON Corporation, focusing on minorities in science. The following year, she relocated to California working with the California Speaker’s Bureau and schools across the state of California.

In 1984, Maerean moved to Atlanta, Georgia, to be closer to her son William and granddaughter Brittany. After relocating, she accepted the position of Director for Science, Engineering and Technical Careers, managing the dual-degree program between Spelman College, Atlanta, Georgia, and Georgia Technical University, Atlanta, Georgia. She served

in this position until retirement in 1997. She returned to work a few years later missing the comradery that comes with a professional career. She started her second act, as an academic advisor and testing manager for Georgia State University, Atlanta, Georgia, where she remained until permanent retirement in 2012.

Maerean had a deep passion tied to uplifting and educating young black youth. Since science had been her opportunity and lifeline she always wanted to expose others to those possibilities. Therefore, she dedicated her life to uplifting and exposing young black youth to the opportunities of science. In 1972, she and 12 other Black scientists created the National Organization for the Professional Advancement of Black Chemists and Chemical Engineers (NOBCChe). She served four years as Secretary and ten years as a member of the Board of Directors. The organization partnered with industry and educational institutions to promote minority inclusion. NOBCChe continues to lead the way for minority advancement in professional chemistry and will hold its 52 year annual conference this year in September. In 1974, she co-founded Tomorrow’s Scientists, Technicians and Managers (TSTM), a program dedicated to motivating at risk youth to explore careers in the sciences. It continues today as part of the National Urban Leagues’ youth programing. Further, in her effort to help young people, Maerean also served as the Community Liaison Program Manager for Caterpillar.

Maerean’s passion for service was not just limited to science. She was very involved in numerous church and community organizations. She was a longtime member of Saint Philip AME Church, Atlanta, Georgia, serving as a Greeter, Missionary, Vacation Bible School Instructor, and Stewardess. She was especially encouraged and strengthened by her decades long prayer group membership.

Left to cherish her memory are her Son, William Bohannon, Decatur, Georgia; Granddaughter, Brittany N. Truitt (Willie), Conyers, Georgia; (2) Great-Grandchildren, Chase and Carsen Truitt, Conyers, Georgia; Beloved Stepchildren; Bonus Daughter, Chae` (David) Glover, Manassas, Virginia; (2) Bonus Grandchildren, Brandon Glover and Gabe` Glover; both of Manassas, Virginia. A host of nieces, nephews, other relatives, and friends.

