

*If I knew it would be the last time I'd see you fall asleep
I would tuck you in more tightly and pray the Lord your soul to keep
If I knew it would be the last time I'd see you walk out the door
I would give you a hug and call you back for one more
If I knew it would be the last time I could spare a minute or two
To stop and say "I care about you"
Instead of assuming you would KNOW I do....
If I knew it would be the last time I would be there to share your day,
Well, I'm sure you'll have so many more,
So I can let just this one slip away
For surely there's always tomorrow to make up for an oversight
And we always get a second chance to make everything right
There will always be another day to say our "I love you's."
And, certainly there's another chance to say "Anything I can do?"
But, just in case I might be wrong, and today is all I get,
I'd like to say how much I care about you and I hope we never forget....
Tomorrow is not promised to anyone, young or old alike.
And, today may be the last chance you get to hold your loved one tight
So, if you're waiting for tomorrow, why not do it today? For if tomorrow
Never comes you'll surely regret the day that you didn't take that extra
Time for a smile, a hug, or a kiss - And you were too busy to grant
Someone, what turned out to be their one last wish.
So, hold your loved ones close today and whisper in their ear.
Tell them that you love them and will always hold them dear.
Take time to say "I'm sorry, Please forgive me, Thank you," or "It's ok."
And if tomorrow never comes... You'll have no regrets about today*

- Unknown

*Flower Bearers
Nieces*

*Pall Bearers
Nephews*

*Honorary Flower Bearers
Missionaries of Ellis Chapel Baptist Church*

*Honorary Pall Bearers
Deacons of Ellis Chapel Baptist Church*

Acknowledgement

The family of Mrs. Willie Mae Miller wishes to express our sincere thanks and gratitude for the many comforting acts of kindness and sympathy shown during the passing of our loved one.



"Sympathetic and Efficient Service Since 1922"
231 North Lafayette Street | Shelby, NC 28150
Telephone: 704-487-9598 | Fax 704-487-1504 | www.enloemortuary.com

*Celebrating
the Cherished Life of
Mrs. Willie Mae Smith*

Miller



*Wednesday, February 26, 2025
1:00 p.m.
Ellis Chapel Baptist Church
Shelby, North Carolina
Rev. Ray Lockhart, Pastor*





Order Of Service

Prelude

Processional

Officiating Minister.....Rev. Ray Lockhart

Receiving of Friends.....Noon until 1 p.m.

Congregational Hymn..... Ellis Chapel Baptist Church Choir

Scripture Reading

Old Testament.....Psalms 23.....Rev. Freddie Davidson

New Testament..... Romans 8:18Rev. Simon McClain

Prayer of Comfort.....Rev. Les Howard

Selection Ellis Chapel Baptist Church Choir

**Remarks.....2 Minutes.....Mrs. Rose Corry
Mr. John Smith
Mrs. Gwen Campbell
Mrs. Etta Jones**

Acknowledgements

Reading of Obituary.....Silently

Selection Ellis Chapel Baptist Church Choir

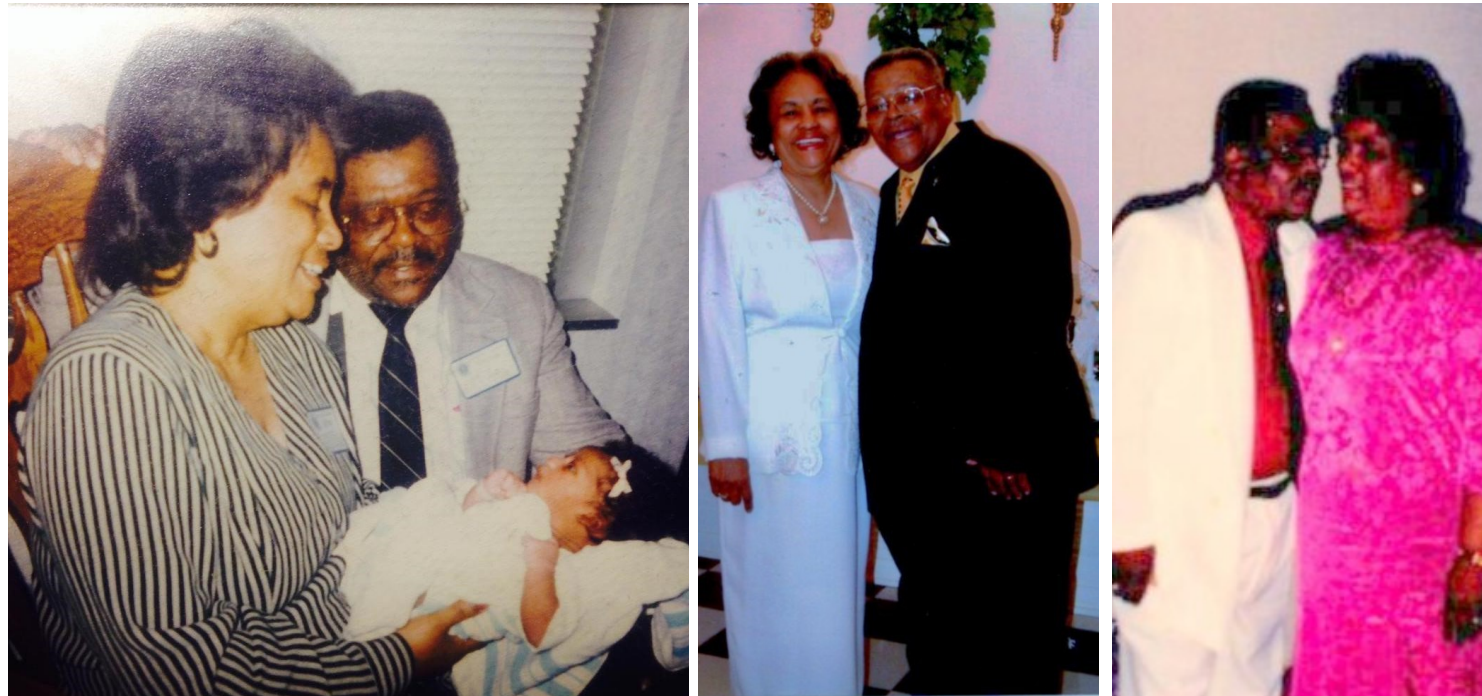
Words of Comfort.....Rev. Ray Lockhart

Recessional SelectionRev. Bobby Houze

Interment

Ellis Chapel Baptist Church Cemetery
Shelby, North Carolina





THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF

Mrs. Willie Mae Smith Miller

Mrs. Willie Mae Smith Miller, 86, departed this life on Tuesday, February 18, 2025, at Atrium Health in Charlotte, NC, surrounded by her loving family.

Born on December 5, 1938, in Cleveland County, NC, Willie Mae was the cherished daughter of the late Levi E. Smith and Fleeta Camp Smith. She was a woman of deep faith, joining Shoal Creek Baptist Church at an early age, where she remained active until she met the love of her life, the late Rev. Eula Miller, Jr. The two were united in marriage for 60 beautiful years, and together, they served faithfully in ministry.

Willie Mae became the beloved First Lady of Ebenezer Baptist Church, where she supported and uplifted the congregation for 31 years. During her time there, she spread her love of Jesus Christ through her leadership in the Senior Missionaries, playing the organ, and spearheading the Summer Youth Camp ministry, Sunday school, choir, and various other church committees.

After leaving Ebenezer, Willie Mae became a devoted member of Ellis Chapel Baptist Church under the leadership of Pastor Ray Lockhart. There, she continued to serve the Lord with joy, playing the piano for numerous choirs, singing in the Senior Hymn Choir, and actively attending Bible study and Sunday school.

Willie Mae was a proud graduate of Camp High School and went on to further her education at Cleveland County Technical College, where she earned her nursing degree. With a compassionate heart and a dedicated spirit, she pursued a lifelong career in nursing, touching countless lives with her kindness, care, and unwavering commitment to serving others. She began her career working at J.C. Penney before breaking barriers as one of the first African American ER nurses. She later worked for Cleveland Home Health, dedicating herself to providing compassionate care to those in need. Eventually, she and her husband became co-owners of Genesis Gospel Music and Christian Sales in Shelby, a business they faithfully operated for over 20 years, spreading the message of faith through music and literature.

Beyond her career and ministry, Willie Mae had many passions. She found joy in singing, playing the piano, gardening, tending to her beautiful flowers, and baking. She was well known for her famous five-flavored pound cake and honey bun cake, which brought joy to family, friends, and her church community.

In addition to her parents and beloved husband, she was preceded in death by her children, daughter, Wyshena Miller Hurt and son, Maurice A. Miller; four sisters, Ruby Moses, Elizabeth Willis, Frances Seary, and Alberta Short; and two brothers, William "Ed" Smith and Joseph Smith.

She leaves to cherish her loving memory and uphold her legacy, her three beloved granddaughters, Maya A. Miller, Ericka L. Hurt, and Kayla M. Hurt; her son-in-law, Richard Hurt; daughter-in-law, Oveda C. Miller; her siblings, Versia Gilmore, Levi B. Smith, John Smith (Merlene), Waymon "Gene" Smith, and Gwen Campbell (Marsh); and a host of nieces, nephews, extended family members, and dear friends.

May her memory be a blessing, and may her legacy of faith, love, and service continue to inspire all who knew her.

