

If Roses Grown in Heaven

If Roses grow in Heaven

Lord, please pick a bunch for me.

Place them in my Mother's arms

and tell her they're from me.

Tell her that I love her and miss her,

and when she turns to smile,

place a kiss upon her cheek

and hold her for a while.

Because remembering her is easy,

I do it every day,

but there's an ache within my heart

that will never go away.



Pallbearers

Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church Deacons

Floral Bearers

Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church Women



Acknowledgement

Mary's family extends heartfelt gratitude to the extraordinary individuals and organizations who provided unwavering support in her life. Special thanks to George and Ida Walters and family, Walter and Bernice Williams and family, Herbert and Loretta Johnson and family, Fred and Brenda White and family, Virginia Frazier and family, Dorothy Vaughn and family, Joyce Tolley, Nicole and Phoebe Weiskopf, the Mt. Pisgah Church family, Beverly Pendarvis, Jeannette Richardson, perpetual friend Charlotte "Dee" Williams, well-wisher Gwen Sweeney, helpful aides Shirley Brown and Susan Sherman, and the Pruitt Hospice Team. Your care, kindness, and compassion will never be forgotten.

Memorial Requests

In keeping with her loving and humble spirit, the family asks that memorial contributions be made in Mary's honor to Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church or a charity of your choice.

Mary Elizabeth Green Riley Williams will be remembered as a beacon of strength, a nurturer of family, and a faithful servant of her community. She leaves behind a legacy of love and devotion that will continue to inspire all who knew her. May she rest in peace.

-The Family

Arrangements Entrusted to:

Simmons Funeral Home and Crematory of Orangeburg

Simmons Funeral Home of Santee

Paul A. Simmons, Founder and President

2868 Columbia Road, Orangeburg, SC 29118

803-534-2646

8824 Old #6 Highway, Santee, SC 29142

(803) 854-2044

www.simmonsfuneralhome.com

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF *Mother Mary Elizabeth "Liz" Green Riley Williams*



Saturday, June 14, 2025, at 11:00am

Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church

310 Green Street

Orangeburg, SC 29115

Rev. Gregory A. Young, Pastor

Order of Service

Prelude..... *“Wake Up Jacob” – Harry Belafonte*

Processional/Final Viewing..... *Clergy, Family & Friends*

Scripture Reading

Old Testament: Psalm 91 *Minister Ernestine Bledso*

New Testament: John 14: 1-6 *Minister Virginia Baulderick*

Prayer of Comfort *Pastor Gregory A. Young*

Selection *“I Look to You”, Whitney Houston*

Reflections *Family & Friends*

Remarks *Deacon Walter Williams
Deacon Broadus Jameson*

Hymn of Praise.....*Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church Choir*

Words of Comfort *Pastor Gregory A. Young*

Committal, Prayer, & Benediction

Recessional *“Don’t Cry for Me”*



Interment

North Orangeburg United Methodist Church Cemetery
(Ridgewood Site)
Orangeburg, South Carolina



Obituary

Mary Elizabeth Green Riley Williams – affectionately known as “Liz,” beloved mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, and friend, peacefully transitioned to her eternal rest on June 1, 2025, at the age of 98. Born on June 24, 1926, to Willie Green and Lunette Young in Orangeburg County, Mary was a cornerstone of her family and community, leaving an enduring legacy of resilience, dedication, and love.

Mary’s formative years were shaped by her experiences in the segregated “separate but unequal” Jim Crow schools of Orangeburg County. Despite the challenges of her time, she cultivated a strong foundation of perseverance and a commitment to providing for her family.

Mary began working in her pre-teen years, taking on a variety of roles to support her loved ones; from picking cotton in the fields to babysitting, styling hair, and eventually dedicating herself to homemaking. Mary’s industrious spirit was evident in every chapter of her life.

A devoted member of Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church, Mary’s faith was a guiding light throughout her life. She found joy and solace in her church community, cherishing the friendships and bonds she built there. Mary was a member of several organizations within the church, including Ward 1, the Women’s Guild, the Senior Missionary ministry, the Senior Adult ministry, and the Floral ministry. Mary earned recognition as the Orangeburg Branch NAACP’s Distinguished Woman of the Year 2015-2016.

Mary was preceded in death by her beloved sons, Donald Green and Leonard Riley and her cherished mother, Lunette Young. She was also preceded by her biological parent, Willie Green and her doting dad, Steve Young. Her brother, Robert Fogle Jr. (Catherine), as well as her sister, Carrie Lee Young and nephews Bobby and Glen Young have also passed before her. Additionally, she was preceded in death by her sister-in-law, Mamie Felder and her daughter, Denise Felder.

Mary’s legacy lives on through her loving family. She is survived by her son, Harry D. Riley (Neechie), her brother, Tommy Felder (Martha), her grandchildren—Lorena Riley, Leonard Riley, Jr., Terrance Riley, April Riley, Servanti Riley, Nechari Riley, Chris Riley, and Dion Riley, and a host of great-grandchildren. She also leaves behind many dear nieces and nephews, including James Fogle (Marlene), Kenneth Fogle, Webb Fogle, Sam Felder, Lois Fogle, Carolyn Murray, Dorothy Newton, Harriet Felder, Teresa Felder, and Lynette Felder, as well as countless extended family members and friends.