



Celebration of Life for

Sister
Sarah Louise Banks Oliver

Sunrise: March 6, 1928

Sunset: June 15, 2023

***Tuesday, June 20, 2023
11:00 a.m.***

Greater Peace Missionary Baptist
**650 Jeter Avenue
Opelika, Alabama 36801**

Reverend Clifford E. Jones, Officiating

***“I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course. I have kept the faith:
Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the
righteous judge, shall give me at that day.”
2 Timothy 4:7-8***

Obituary

Sister Sarah Louise Banks Oliver, daughter of the late Mr. Clarence and Mrs. Willie Lee Slidell Banks, was born on March 6, 1928 in Chambers County, Alabama.

At an early age, she accepted Christ and united with Saint Luke C.M.E. Church in the Oak Bowery Community.

She was educated in the Chambers County School System in Lafayette, Alabama. She graduated from Chambers County Training School in 1950. In 1951, Sister Sarah Banks Oliver relocated from Five Points, Alabama to Opelika, Alabama and united in holy matrimony with Brother later Deacon, PJ Oliver. This union was blessed with three children. PJ and Sarah along with her mother, joined the Greater Peace Missionary Baptist Church and each served faithfully until they were called home to be with the Lord. At Greater Peace Baptist Church, she served as a member of the Matrons, Missionary Board, and Deacon Wives. She served as a Den Mother of the Cub Scouts for the neighborhood. She raised her three children as active members of the church and organizations within the church and neighborhood. She served actively as long as her health allowed.

Sarah was a strong home economic student and worked as a domestic worker around Opelika for many years. She was a Cafeteria Worker at Jeter Street Elementary School where her children attended. She also served as a Substitute Teacher in the Lee County School System for many years. She was a dedicated church, home, and family life provider. She loved people, the church, and was a friend to many.

On Thursday, June 15, 2023, she departed this life at Emory University Hospital in Atlanta, Georgia. She was preceded in death by: her husband, PJ Oliver; a son, Phillip James Oliver; four brothers, JC Banks, Raymond Banks, Deacon Bobby Lee Banks and OD Banks; two sisters, Sister Mary Jimmie Story (Jack) and Sister Margaret Vines.

Sister Sarah leaves to cherish her precious memory: two daughters, Sandra Oliver and Priscilla Oliver, PhD, both of Atlanta, Georgia; one daughter-in-law, Barbara Moore Oliver of Atlanta, Georgia; three grandsons, Brian Timothy Oliver, MD of Clear Lake, Texas, Phillip James Oliver III and Angelo A. "Tony" Andrews both Atlanta, Georgia; three special neighbors, Sylvester "Boogie" Brooks, Hattie Mae Edwards, and Mittie Carlisle all of Opelika, Alabama; a special friend, Sister Bedell Weathers of Opelika, Alabama; a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and sisters and brothers in the Lord.

Order of Service

Musical Prelude

Processional.....Clergy and Family

Scripture Readings:
Old Testament
New Testament

Prayer of Comfort.....Reverend JArthur Grubb, Jr.

Musical Selection.....Altwone Littleton

Reflections:
Deacon and Trustee.....Herbert Slaughter
Friend.....Sister Bedell Weathers

Musical Selection.....Ramon Harris

Eulogy.....Reverend Clifford E. Jones

Recessional

Interment

Evergreen Cemetery
1409 Monroe Avenue
Opelika, Alabama 36801

Pallbearers

Deacons of Greater Peace Church

Floral Attendants

Greater Peace Church Family

Repast

Greater Peace Baptist Church
Opelika, Alabama





A portrait of an elderly African American woman with short, dark, curly hair. She is smiling warmly at the camera. She is wearing a dark blue or black jacket over a light-colored, possibly pink or white, collared shirt. The background is a soft, out-of-focus light brown or beige.

God Saw the Road Was Getting Rough

God saw the road was getting rough, the hills were hard to climb.
He gently closed those loving eyes and whispered, "Peace be thine".
The weary hours, the days of pain, the sleepless nights are past.
The ever-patient worn-out frame has found sweet rest at last.
God saw that you were getting weary, so He did what He knew best.
He came and stood beside you and whispered, "Come and rest."
You bid no one a last farewell, not even a good-bye.
You were gone before we knew it, And only God knows why.

As beautiful as a rose to see,
Was her life she lived

^{so} *Gracefully*

She made things
precious by her *Touch,*
Her selfless love lives on in each of us.

The petals of her life fell one by one,
Each a *gift of her heart*

Yet her radiance blooms once again

In **Fields of Glory**
with no end.



Acknowledgements

The family of Sister Sarah Louise Banks Oliver would like to express profound gratitude for the many expressions of kindness, love, and thoughtfulness extended to us during our bereavement. Your kind thoughts, prayers, and deeds of love have served to sustain us. Special thanks to Reverend Clifford Jones and the Greater Peace Missionary Baptist Church Family. God bless and keep you.

In Memoriam

May we take this opportunity to express sincere and deep appreciation for allowing us to serve you during this most difficult period. It is our constant aim to afford to the people of this community a service completed in all details and faultlessly executed with sympathy and understanding.

Final Arrangements Entrusted to:



515 South 6th Street
Opelika, Alabama 36801
(334) 749-6583 Fax (334) 759-7018
www.harrisfuneralhomeinc.com