

- *Pallbearers* -
Grandsons

- *Flower Bearers* -
Granddaughters

- *Interment* -
Memory Hill Cemetery
US Highway 280 East
Opelika, AL 36804

- *Acknowledgment* -

In times of sorrow and despair, it is comforting to know that so many care. The family of Mary Ellen Hughley Pitts would like to acknowledge the many acts of kindness that have been bestowed upon our family during the passing of our beloved mother. We thank you in advance for your continued prayers in the days and weeks ahead, as we adjust to our new normal that contains a void unable to be filled or replaced, only to be soothed by God's grace.

With Love and Appreciation, The Family

- *Requies* -
Ferguson Chapel

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:

Harris Funeral Home
Sympathetic, Courteous & Professional Service
515 South Sixth Street
Opelika, Alabama 36801
(334) 749-6583 Fax (334) 759-7018
www.harrisfuneralhomeinc.com



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Mary Ellen Hughley Pitts

MOTHER
AMAZING, AUTHENTIC, ANGELIC
RESILIENT, RIGHTEOUS
YOUNG AT HEART

- Our Mary -

Mary's remarkable life began on February 1, 1939, in the heart of Lee County, Alabama, when her loving parents, the late Mr. Dan Thomas and Mrs. Hazel Lee Jones, welcomed a beautiful baby girl into the world. With great joy and pride, they named her Mary—a name that would come to represent kindness, strength, and unwavering faith.

From an early age, Mary embraced her Christian faith, beginning her spiritual journey at St. Stephens Christian Methodist Episcopal Church in Valley, Alabama. There, she developed a deep and lasting connection to her community and her faith, laying the foundation for the compassionate person she would become.

Mary's educational path included attending Flint Hill School, Halawaka School, and Riverview School. Each step of her academic journey helped shape her into a woman of determination and resilience. Upon completing her grade school education, Mary chose to dedicate herself to a vocation that would touch many lives—becoming a midwife. Throughout her years of service, she brought countless healthy babies into the world, earning the trust and gratitude of families across Lee County. While being a midwife, Mary gave countless years to the textile mill.

Driven by a desire to deepen her knowledge and skill as a midwife, Mary pursued further education by attending Southern Union, where she worked toward obtaining her Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) license. Her commitment to expanding her expertise was a testament to her lifelong dedication to helping others and making a difference in her community.

Mary united in marriage to Mr. James Hughley, Sr. in Lee County Alabama. They raised a family and worked hard to provide for them. As a couple, Mary and James not only raised a family, but also made significant strides in building a future. Together, they became owners of several properties, showcasing their entrepreneurial spirit and determination. They also owned and operated a club, The Ballerina Inn, which was no surprise, because Mary loved to get down on the dance floor. One of Mary's greatest joys came from her love of gardening, a passion that grew from the time spent outside with James.

Decades later, Mary found love again and married Mr. Anthie Lee Pitts.

Mary was preceded in death by: her husband, Anthie Lee Pitts, her parents, Dan Thomas and Hazel Lee Finch; four kids, Diane Allen, Ladell Davis, Sr, Lena Mae Davis, and James Hughley Jr.; two brothers, Wyatt Finch, Jr., and Thomas Finch.

She leaves behind those who will celebrate her as a powerful ancestor: her children, Melanie (Willie) Williams, Reverend Mildred Watson, Ivan (Nicole) Hughley, Akemi (Karelton) Dunovant and Alexious (Nakia) Hughley; stepchildren, Susan Hughley, Elaine (Tony) Edwards, Eldred Hughley, Margaret (Larry)Threatts, Eugene (Veronica) Pitts, Jefferey Pitts, Lisa Pitts, and Ronald (Eusherla) Pitts; godchildren, Mark Harrison, Gloria Miles and Evangeline Miles; brothers, Jeffery (Mae Lee) Finch and Steve (Patricia) Finch; sisters, Artancy Davis, Elizabeth (Daniel) Sherrell, Sharon (Jessie) Stephens; son-in-law, Herman Allen; sisters-in-law, Mattie Hughley, Juanita Finch, Sandra Finch, Emma Jane (William) Madden, and Stella Pitts; brothers-in-law, Walter (Helen) Hughley, Willie Joe (Doris) Hughley, Norman Pitts, John Pitts, Elisha (Debra) Pitts, and Allen Pitts; along with thirty-nine grandchildren; eighty-one great grandchildren; twenty-five great-great grandchildren, an array of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.





The Celebration

SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 2025 | 11:00 A.M.

FERGUSON CHAPEL C.M.E. CHURCH
310 South 4th Street • Opelika, Alabama 36801

REVEREND ORLANDO SIMS, JR., PASTOR AND OFFICIANT

PASTOR LARRY THREATTS, EULOGIST

Musical Prelude

The Processional and Final Glance

Musical Selection St. Stephens C.M.E. Choir

Prayer of Comfort Reverend Bradley Gibson, Sr.

Comfort from the Scriptures:

Old Testament Reverend Willie Whack

New Testament..... Presiding Elder Smith

Solo Reverend Willie Wimberly

Acknowledgements Sister Edith Coleman

Family Reflections..... Sajason Finley
Amber Holloway

Musical Selection St. Stephens C.M.E. Choir

Words of Comfort..... Reverend Corey Huguley

Solo Reverend Sharrod Coleman

Eulogy..... Reverend Larry Threatts

Recessional

- The Party Ain't Over - IT HAS JUST BEGUN

A TRIBUTE TO GRANNY

The party ain't over—it has just begun,
Just like God went back to heaven and left us His Son.
God blessed us with the best Granny,
And He was particular with His pick.
You were the cornerstone—our matriarch, our queen,
The one He chose to lead our team.
He placed you here to care for us,
To teach us life is not a game.
And no matter if we didn't get it right,
You never made us feel ashamed.
You taught us early about Jesus
And how we should believe.
You even saved my life that time—
The first time I got stung by the bees!
You taught me to love everyone,
Even the wacky people too.
You taught me how to cook,
But I will never be as good as you.
I watched you talk to your dogs, cats, and plants—
Something I never could understand.
But God gave us dominion
Over everything that walks on this land.
I have more laughs than cries,
And the party has just begun.
I take what you have shared
And pass it on to everyone.
I know the streets of heaven are tired—
You and Dancing David are wearing them out!
But get some rest, Granny,
Because when I get there,
We're going to turn heaven out!
All those trips down 85,
And I never won a thing.
Yet today, I hit the jackpot—
And that's in Jesus' name!
Your kids will be alright,
And your grandkids will be straight.
You introduced us all to Jesus
And taught us what it takes.
Hands down, you will be missed.
I'll look up to heaven for your special kiss.
See you later, alligator.
In a while, crocodile.
Love you, and I know you love me back.

Your baby girl, Shamise



Fisherman's Joy

Momma loved fishing, with joy in her heart, Casting
her line with the best from the start. With some of
her favorite guys by her side,
Her love for the water will forever reside.



Queen of the Garden

Momma truly had a love for gardening.
She grew things that others couldn't.
Her specialty was greens and peas.
She made the best pear preserves, apple
preserves, pepper sauce, pepper jelly,
and cha cha in the county.



Bionic Woman

Mary was a breast cancer survivor. She kicked
cancers butt at the age of 83 years young. Mary truly
had strength from God! She was our very own
"Bionic Woman."