

In Loving Memory of
Martha L Riggins

October 30, 1937 - January 7, 2013



Service

Friday, January 11, 2013 - 9:00 a.m.

Ivy Hill Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses

115-121 Lindsley Avenue - Newark, NJ 07106

Brother Keith Friarson, Officiating

Obituary

Martha L. Riggins

Martha L. Riggins was born on October 30, 1937, to the late Gertrude and Floyd Thompson in Tuskegee, Alabama. She departed this life on January 7, 2013. She attended the Dothan Alabama School System and graduated from Carver High School, where she played basketball as a rolling guard.

In 1955, Martha met Willie H. Riggins. Willie and Martha were married on May 12, 1956. They became the proud parents of six children.

On January 23, 1970, Martha symbolized her dedication to Jehovah. Martha served as a faithful servant of God for 43 years. During those years she was able to serve as an auxiliary pioneer and in 2007, she was able to fulfill her dream of becoming a full time pioneer. Martha was a faithful and dedicated witness of Jehovah until the time of her passing, faithfully preaching to others the same hope that she maintained (the hope of enjoying the benefits of God's Kingdom).

Martha will always be remembered as a kind, sassy and gentle woman who found great pleasure in spending quality time with her family and close friends.

On January 7, 2013, Martha lost her battle with cancer. She was preceded in death by her parents Floyd and Gertrude Thompson, her twin sister, Mary Lee Riggins, her brother, Moses Thompson, her daughter, Mary Riggins Pegues, her two grandsons, James and Shaheem Riggins Pegues, sister-in-law, Linda Thompson and brother-in-law, Freeman Glover.

Martha is survived by her Husband, Willie H. Riggins; Son, Willie Riggins, Jr. (Tonya); Daughters, Martha Jones, Regina Rhodes (Tarris), Elizabeth Riggins and Jennifer Riggins-Cherry; son-in-law, James Pegues; two adoptive daughters, Pamela and Tamiko Rhodes; Siblings, Willie Thompson (Mary Dean), Pearlie Jackson, Lizzie Thompson-Murray, Jeremiah Thompson (Shirley), Joseph Thompson, Gertha Glover, Rose Nix, and Floyd Thompson; Fourteen Grandchildren, Twenty-Six Great Grandchildren; Eight Sisters-in-law; Six Brothers-in-law; and a host of Nieces, Nephews, Other Relatives and Friends.

Order of Service

Processional *Family*

Prayer..... *Brother James Lowery*

Opening Song #14 “*All Things Made New*”
(*Revelation 21:1-5*)

Obituary..... *Brother James McNair*

Funeral Discourse*Brother Keith Friarson*

Closing..... *Song #111 He Will Call*
(*Job 14:113-15*)

Interment

Evergreen Cemetery
Hillside, NJ

From Mommy

*I keep hearing a voice that says “grieve not for me”
Remember the best times, the laughter, the song. The
Good life I lived while I was strong. Keep smiling and
surely the sun will shine through. My mind is at ease,
my soul is at rest. Remember how I was truly blessed.
Go on with your life, don’t worry about falls. I will
miss you all dearly, so keep up your chin, until the day
comes when we will be together again.*

A POEM FOR BIG MA

*Big Ma was one of the sweetest people you could ever meet.
From the crown of her head to the tip of her feet.
If you needed help, to Big Ma you could always turn.
That was one of her specialties, for that I will yearn.
She was tough when need be, but still gentle at heart
Big Ma was such a lovely woman it's going to be hard to part
ways, with some one so precious and unique.
With a gentle touch and always knew the right words to speak,
Big Ma was a protector right down to the end.
It was a privilege to have her as a grandmother and friend.
For decades she stayed strong and held on to the truth.
A faithful servant of JEHOVAH she ran the race till the end.
And for this loyal act it is a fact I'll see you again.*

*By Quameer Riggins
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Revelations 21:4

*"And he will wipe out every tear from their eyes, and death will be no more,
neither will mourning nor outcry nor pain be any more. The former things
have passed away."*

*Send condolences to the family at:
124 Montrose Street
Newark, New Jersey 07106*

EXPRESSIONS OF THANKS

*The family of Martha L. Riggins would like to extend our heartfelt
thanks to our family and friends for your prayers, kind words of
encouragement, visits, and support.*

Professional Services by:

Whigham Funeral Home

580 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Newark, New Jersey 07102
973-622-6872

Carolyn Whigham, Director

