

# *Homegoing Celebration of*



## *Mother Mary Lee Gillens*

**Earthly Service Began**  
June 6, 1931

**Heavenly Reward**  
April 27, 2015

**Saturday, May 9, 2015 - 9:00 a.m.**

**Promised Land Baptist Church**  
592-94 Hunterdon Street • Newark, New Jersey  
*Rev. E. L. Chamblee, Pastor - Officiating*

## *Order of Service*

Processional.....The Family

Scripture Readings

Old Testament.....Rev. William Hammie

New Testament.....Rev. Raymond Singleton

Prayer of Comfort.....Mother Deloase Chamblee

Selection .....Promised Land Mass Choir

Expressions.....(two minute limit strictly adhered to)

Mother Ruth Jones - Promised Land Mother Bd

Nurses Viteria Harris - Promised Land Nurses

Trustee Patricia Moses - Trustee Board

Selection.....Mrs. Sadie Bridges

Acknowledgements.....David Armstrong

Resolution.....Trustee Rita Sutton

Obituary.....Mrs. Jaruth Armstrong

Selection.....Promised Land Mass Choir

Eulogy.....Pastor E. L. Chamblee

Final Viewing

Recessional

### **Interment**

Fairmount Cemetery

Newark, New Jersey

## Obituary

Born the seventh child of eight children to Mr. and Mrs. George and Anna Gillens. **Mary Lee** was born on June 6, 1931 in Eutawville, South Carolina. She attended the Belmont Elementary School in Eutawville, South Carolina from the first grade until the ninth grade. She accepted Christ as her personal savior at an early age.

With a great ambition to move north, **Mary** left South Carolina after her eighteenth birthday. She moved to New York City and then to New Jersey where she was employed as a live in domestic worker. Mary met and married the late James W. Sancho. She was employed with Ideal, Mattel & Deluxe Toy Manufacturers.

**Mary** had a love for children. She made time to be a Cub Scout Den Mother while raising her children. She was the personal care giver to Newark's Fire Department Director Caufield's mother. Mom never met a stranger, even when she was employed with Permanent Label on the production team.

While still raising her own children, **Mary** saw a need and began working as a foster mother and daycare provider for DYFS (New Jersey Division of Youth and Family Services). She worked for them for many years providing daycare and respite services for children in need of care, comfort, structure, direction and a little love.

**Mary** also worked as a supervisor in the City of Newark's SPEEDY (Summer Program for Economically Disadvantage Youth) for many years. She was dedicated to serving the neighborhood children and adults breakfast, lunch and even dinner.

Mom or Miss **Mary** as she was affectionately known was a sweet, loving yet a no nonsense person that every child and adult (no matter the nationality) respected and loved. Mom always had an encouraging word and a warm hug to share with everyone.

Mother Gillens united with the Promised Land Missionary Baptist Church under the leadership of Pastor E. L. Chamblee June 8, 1986, which she served as a devoted member and member of the Mothers board. Mother Gillens was an exclusive dresser. She took pride in wearing her hats, suits and accessories.

Mother **Mary Lee** Gillens leaves to cherish her memories; her children, Marvin (Annie), Barbara (Fred), Senora, MaryAnn (Walter), Doyle (Elizabeth), James (Donna), Jaruth (David), Michael, Sean and Dorian; two loving sisters, Catherine and Daisy; three sisters-in-law; Evelyn, Elouise and Avon. She also leaves behind a host of grandchildren; great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, The Promised Land family and many others whose life she touched in some way.

She was preceded in death by her son, Charles, sister, Annie Mae, four brothers, John, Moses, George, Elijah and Saul, grandchildren, Yvonne, Lannay, Michael and Marquet and sister-in-law, Bertha.

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# *Dedicated To Our Mom, Our Anchor*

Mom, You will always be in our hearts because in there you're still alive. Even though you are gone now, that burning passion will never grow old. Time will have to take its course now, for there is nothing left for us to do. Just always remember Mom that we still care and that we will, Forever Forever Love You!!!!

The Gillens & Sancho Family

## **Momma used to say...Mommas used to do...**

- ~When, I really was in trouble she would call me by my full name. It was time to run and hide
- ~She would meet me at the bus stop after school. I would tell her he called me "Fat Girl". She would say what's wrong with him? I would say he got big ears. She would say "Call him Big Ears"!!.....
- ~(with her sweet voice)...Come on Baby come on
- ~Riding in the car holding hands
- ~I would ask her for help with my probability homework and she would say "You got me rolling dice on a Sunday"
- ~I would spend the day at her house my Mom and Dad would pick me up to go home. She would cook chicken and send some home with me. My mom liked it so much she would try and eat it. I would holler and scream "Noooo mommy, that's my chicken Grandma made it for me".
- ~I brought you here and I'll take you away from here!!
- ~When she was mad she would say "Cot dang it the luck"!
- ~Come here I'll give you something to cry about!!
- ~You can mess with me and say want you want about me but leave my children out of it.
- If they hit you, you better hit them back!!
- ~Whatever you decide to be in life, be good at it.
- ~Baby you get to cry only once a month. The rest of the month you get up and do what you got to do!!
- ~My Granma made the best stewed chicken!!
- ~Who's that bigheaded boy walking you home?

Mom's greatest lesson taught ~ God's gonna ALWAYS take care of ME

## *Acknowledgement*

The Gillens & Sancho family acknowledges with deep appreciation all acts of kindness extended to them during this bereavement hour.

God bless you all for your thoughtfulness and concern.

### **Professional Services Provided By**

#### **COTTON FUNERAL SERVICE**

130 Main Street  
Orange, NJ  
973-675-6400

1025 Bergen Street  
Newark, NJ  
973-926-6400

#### **COTTON-PARKER FUNERAL HOME**

37 Clinton Avenue  
Jersey City, NJ  
201-433-1000