

*Celebration
of Life*



Mary Robinson White

October 10, 1922 ~ September 9, 2017

Monday, September 18, 2017- 12:00 Noon

Bethany Baptist Church

275 West Market Street

Newark, New Jersey

Reverend Timothy L. Jones, Pastor

A Life Well Lived

"If I can help somebody as I travel on, then my living shall not be in vain."

Mary Robinson White was born on October 10, 1922, in King William County, Virginia, to the late Florence Hill Robinson and John Edward Robinson. While still a toddler, she and her older brother, the late John W. Robinson, and parents moved to Newark, New Jersey.

Mary attended Robert Treat Elementary and Jr. High Schools and graduated from Barringer High School in 1940. That same year she entered Harlem Hospital School of Nursing. After graduating in 1944, Mary served as departmental instructor at Harlem Hospital School of Nursing and City Hospital in Newark. Her love of children compelled her to complete her school nurse's certification at New York and Seton Hall Universities in 1953.

In 1945, Mary married her childhood sweetheart, Clifford R. White. One week after their wedding, Mary joined Bethany Baptist Church, where her husband had been a lifelong member. They enjoyed many happy years together until his passing in 1987.

Mary was employed by the Newark Board of Education, working at Oliver Street School in Newark's Ironbound section for thirty-three years, from 1952 until her retirement in 1985. Upon her retirement, her supervisor stated, "I was always able to call upon Mary to train other nurses. She exemplified the best in school nursing, a perfect model who has done her job well." While employed, Mary was a member of the Newark Teachers' Association, the Newark School Nurses' Association, and the New Jersey Education Association.

Mary was a devoted member of the North Jersey Unit of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc., for 61 years. She received the North Jersey Unit's Professional Woman of the Year Award, the Sojourner Truth Award which is the organization's highest honor, the 50-Year Service Award, and in 2012 she received the National Volunteer Service Award (Retired) at the organization's national convention.

Mary's memberships also included being a life member of the N.A.A.C.P., a Subscribing Golden Heritage Member of the N.A.A.C.P., and a member of the Friends of the Newark School of the Arts, where she served as president for many years.

As we all know, Mary had a passion for dance. She was an active and enthusiastic member of the High Class Theater Group, a liturgical dance group whose members range in age from their early sixties to the mid-nineties.

During her 72 years of membership at Bethany Baptist Church, Mary was a member of the Young People's Choir, the Bethany Young Adults (of which she served as president and vice president), the Bowling League, The Welcome Committee, the Altar Guild (where she served as vice president), as well as many other committees.

Mary loved traveling. She had the opportunity to travel to many countries throughout Europe, Africa, and the Caribbean, as well as New Zealand, Australia and throughout the United States. She especially enjoyed road trips with her family. Even in her later years Mary was always on the go. Age did not slow her down, whether playing cards with friends - Connie, Muriel, and "T" - or watching her beloved Mets and Yankees, doing puzzles, sewing, reading or driving friends to and from various places. She lived a vibrant and engaging life.

Mary was a wonderful mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and friend. She leaves to mourn her passing two daughters, Patricia W. Fullilove and Sharon W. Graddy; two sons-in-law, Harold W. Fullilove and Rudolph Graddy; grandchildren Harold W. Fullilove, Jr. (Carolyn), Aaron W. Fullilove (Lucy), Gregory S. Fullilove (Yasmin), Rudolph Graddy, Jr., and Alexandra P. Graddy; great-grandchildren, Sydney, Harold III, Logan, Ava, Luke and Austin Fullilove; sister-in-law, Hettie Raines Robinson; two nieces, Cynthia White Saavedra and Cheryl R. Robinson; nephew, Lawrence E. Street; godchildren, Toy Ellen Banks Hicks, Pamela Banks, Pamela Byrd, Randy Smith and Trent Smith, as well as other relatives and friends.

Order of Service

- Musical Prelude.....Brother Phillip Bingham
- Processional (All stand, except the family)
- Congregational Hymn.....“Blessed Assurance” #249
- Prayer of Comfort Minister Antoinette Ellis-Williams
- Scripture Readings
 - Old Testament- Deacon Kevin Maynor.....*Psalm 91:1-4*
 - New Testament- Reverend Onaje Crawford.....*John 14: 1-6*
- Musical Selection..... Mr. Lawrence E. Street
- ResolutionsChurch Clerk, Marjorie Hunter
- Reflections *For Oliver Street School - Irene Cicalese & Rosalyn Jackson*
For Bethany - Deacon Brenda Brown
Family Members
- Obituary (Read Silently)
- Musical Selection.....Mr. Lawrence E. Street
- The Eulogy..... Reverend Timothy L. Jones
- Recessional

Interment
Rosedale Cemetery
Orange, New Jersey

Repast
Following the interment family and friends
are invited to return to Bethany’s Fellowship Hall
for refreshments and fellowship.



"Together Again"

*Grieve not...
nor speak of me
with tears...
but laugh
and talk of me
as though I were
beside you.
I loved you so...
'Twas heaven
here with you.*

Pallbearers

Aaron W. Fullilove	Gregory S. Fullilove
Harold W. Fullilove, Jr.	Rudolph Graddy, Jr.
Dimitri G. Smith	Jacob Smith
Lawrence E. Street	

Special Thank You

Words cannot express our deep and sincere gratitude for the love, companionship and care shown by Mom's housemates, LaVerne Spruill and Jacob Smith. She truly loved them and treasured their time together.

Acknowledgement

The family of Mary R. White wishes to express sincere appreciation for your many acts of kindness. Thank you for your loving care, comfort and support during this time. We would like to especially thank our beloved church family.

*In Mary's memory, please consider making a donation to either
Newark School of the Arts or Bethany Baptist Church.*

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