

Mount Pleasant Baptist Church 505 Hickory Nut Road Inman, South Carolina 29349 Dr. Bobby R. Caldwell, Senior Pastor



Deacon Arthur Phillips, Jr., Presiding (nephew)

Congressional Hymn	"At the Cross"
	Reverend Frankie Stokes Deacon Robert Sims
Prayer of Comfort	Audio of Gettys Byrd
Musical Selection	Kelvin Jenkins (Nephew)
Reflections	ny Abram and Theresa Byrd (Grandchildren) Wilbert Holcomb (Brother)
Acknowledgement of Condolences	Shanna Abram (Great-Granddaughter)
Obituary Reading	Nadine Abram (Granddaughter)
Musical Selection	Kelvin Jenkins (Nephew)
Eulogy	Reverend Marvin Abram (Grandson) Pastor, United Missionary Baptist Church
Recessional	
South Carolina Service:	
South Ed	vrolina Service:
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Reverend Dr. Cly	
Reverend Dr. Cly Congressional Hymn Scriptures: Old Testament: Proverbs 31:10-30	de Lindsay, Officiating
Reverend Dr. Cly Congressional Hymn Scriptures: Old Testament: Proverbs 31:10-30 New Testament: I John 14:1-6	wde Lindsay, Officiating
Reverend Dr. Cly Congressional Hymn Scriptures: Old Testament: Proverbs 31:10-30 New Testament: I John 14:1-6 Prayer of Comfort	
Reverend Dr. Cly Congressional Hymn	
Reverend Dr. Cly Congressional Hymn	Deacon Charlie Landrum (Nephew) Reverend Zane McMillian Audio of Gettys Byrd Gerri Abram, Shareen Byrd, Winston Abram
Reverend Dr. Cly Congressional Hymn	whee Lindsay, Officiating "At the Cross" "Deacon Charlie Landrum (Nephew) Reverend Zane McMillian "Audio of Gettys Byrd "Gloria Crocker (Niece) Gerri Abram, Shareen Byrd, Winston Abram and Lori Shepard (Grandchildren)
Reverend Dr. Cly Congressional Hymn	whee Lindsay, Officiating "At the Cross" "Deacon Charlie Landrum (Nephew) Reverend Zane McMillian Audio of Gettys Byrd Gloria Crocker (Niece) Gerri Abram, Shareen Byrd, Winston Abram and Lori Shepard (Grandchildren) Deana Ervin (Niece)
Reverend Dr. Cly Congressional Hymn	che Lindsay, Officiating

Immediately after the Service, Family and Friends are invited to a Repast in the Church's dining hall.

Interment

Mount Pleasant Baptist Church Cemetery Inman, South Carolina

Precious Memories



Reflections of Life

Mrs. Gettys Gertrude Holcombe-Byrd was born on May 11, 1920 at the family home in Inman, South Carolina. She was the eighth of fifteen children born to the late Hollis and Gladys Jenkins-Holcombe. Gettys, or "Aunt Gett" as she was also fondly called, was baptized at the Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, formerly known as Crossroads. Gettys completed her schooling in a one room schoolhouse in Spartanburg County. Education was an early foundational principle that, along with a bedrock faith in God and a strong nurturing family, guided the Holcombe family unit. Like her brothers and sisters that preceded her, Gettys excelled academically. She also displayed a special knack for spelling earning her first-place honors in the local spelling bee.

Throughout her long life, in addition to her intellect, Gettys was well-known for her wisdom and astonishingly quick wit. It was also believed that Gettys (and her brother, Caleb) inherited the extraordinary gift of humor from their father Hollis. With little effort, Gettys' down-to-earth delivery of short but humorously packed quips could easily shake down an entire room with laughter. Even in recent weeks, Gettys slipped in a few sassy retorts while engaging with family. Gettys' natural ability to make people laugh was attributed to her immense love for people.

On December 17, 1938, Gettys was joined in marriage to Clad Preston Byrd. The tall, light and handy Clad was the love of her life and Gettys certainly didn't let anyone forget. If you called to speak with Gettys, she'd have you "holler" at Clad. If Gettys came for a visit, she'd always bring Clad along too. During this union, Clad and Gettys blessed the world with five children: Clad Jr., Janie Mae, Marvin, Winston and Gelila. Gettys so loved her husband, children and her in-laws, the Byrd family, who embraced her with unconditional love and appreciation. While raising her family, Gettys also had the added pleasure of helping to rear a number of her nieces and nephews. Over the years, "Aunt Gett" was known to have loved (and spoiled) her many nieces and nephews on both the Holcombe and Byrd sides of her family.

Along with family, faith was central in Gettys' life. While living in Inman, Gettys attended Mount Pleasant Baptist Church where she was an active member of the Usher and Missionary Ministries. As a faithful servant of the Lord, Gettys was devoted to the church and also engaged in civic and charitable activities. After the death of her son Marvin in 1959, Gettys volunteered with the Leukemia Association in his remembrance. Later that year Clad and Gettys, like many Black families in the South, migrated to New York City where Gettys first worked for Paulist Father's. Gettys quickly joined the membership roll of the Antioch Baptist Church in Brooklyn where she obediently served the Lord on the Missionary board and held other important leadership positions in the church.

It was also during this time that Gettys and Clad first became grandparents. Gettys' children eventually blessed their parents with thirteen grandchildren and Gettys shared a unique and special relationship with each grandchild. Gettys' role as a grandmother was the blessing that she treasured more than anything else. Gettys doted on her grandchildren and proudly shared all of their accomplishments. She would never miss an opportunity to tell her grandchildren stories of her upbringing and experiences growing up in South Carolina. Gettys had a keen memory and would reminisce about her parents, siblings, cotton-fields, and peach orchards imparting invaluable life lessons. Gettys was subtle with discipline, but rich in love, patience and wisdom.

Gettys was the epitome of a praying grandmother and never let her grandchildren forget that she kept them covered in His word. Church was a central feature of

Holcombe life and Gettys always reminded her grandchildren that while work was important to sustain a family, Hollis and Gladys rendered faith and education non-negotiable; and Gettys expected that these virtues continue to be passed down through coming generations.

Gettys was a genuinely kind and loving person who showed her nurturing ways. She found joy in cooking everyone's favorite dish. Gettys' chicken and dumplings were delectable. She also baked the most delicious cakes (coconut pineapple and pound) and a scrumptious peach cobbler. As delicacies, Gettys blended a gourmet cranberry salad and unique relish called "Cha-Cha" which was a required dinner staple at Thanksgiving, Christmas, family gatherings (and just about any time a form of "greens" were being served).

Upon retirement in 1989, Clad and Gettys relocated back to South Carolina where she was able to again immerse herself in her home, church and family; and also commenced her masterpiece- Spartanburg County's most exquisite garden. Gardening was Gettys' passion and the bounty from her garden provided sustenance and nourishment for family and friends near and afar. She was a gifted gardener and grew an expansive array of vegetables and crops such as corn, string beans, sweet potatoes, a variety of squash, okra, field peas, collard greens, cabbage, and tomatoes, just to name a few. The sight of Gettys' garden was equally as beautiful as the vision of her tending the land with her nurturing and patient hands. Gettys was living confirmation that those who sow abundantly, reap abundantly as she did in her bountiful garden and her abundant life.

After Clad's passing in 2000, Gettys moved back to the northeast area where she resided with her children until her passing. Gettys' later years were spent amongst her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren infused with an abundance of love and laughter. When saying good-byes Gettys would often say, "Be good- and if you can't be good, be careful".

Gettys was raised by the "Golden Rule", lived a virtuous life and truly touched the lives of so many people. Her loving and tender spirit has been passed down through generations and while she is no longer here in physical form, Gettys is ever present in the hearts, minds and souls of all who were fortunate to be a part of her life. On Sunday, October 13, 2019, she answered the Master's call to be with the Lord.

Gettys Gertrude Holcombe-Byrd was preceded in death by her husband, Clad; children: Marvin, Clad Jr. and Gelila "Blondie"; brothers, Curley (Annette), Cladie (Micahlee), Hilton (Virginia), William, Caleb (Fannie) and Rufus; sisters: Zadie (Willie), Della (Sid), Rowena (Arthur), and Ollie Mae (Slim); sons-inlaw: Bernard and Charles; and sister-in-law, Minnie.

Gettys leaves to cherish precious memories, her children: Janie Mae Abram of DE and Winston James Byrd (Diane) of NY; four siblings: Gelila McCullers of NY, Wilbert Holcomb of MD, Frances "Frank" Robinson of SC and Hurley Holcombe (Dorothy "Dot") of NY; 13 grandchildren; 28 great-grandchildren; 16 great-great-grandchildren; daughter-in-law, Nan Byrd of North Carolina; sisters-in-law: Ruth "Boopie" Holcombe of NY and Annette Holcomb of FL; and a host of nieces, nephews and dear relatives.

Lovingly submitted, The Family

Flower Bearers

Granddaughters of Gettys Gertrude Holcombe-Byrd

"Gettys and Clad Together Again"



Herglow

We'd like the memory of us to be a happy one
We'd like to leave an afterglow of smiles when the life is done.
We'd like to leave an echo whispering softly down the ways
of happy times and laughing times and bright and sunny days.
We'd like the tears of those who grieve to dry before the sun
of happy memories that we leave behind when the day is done.

~ Helen Lowrie Marshall

Heknowledgement

The family of **Gettys Gertrude Holcombe-Byrd** acknowledges with the deepest appreciation, every expression of love, support and prayers expressed to us during our time of bereavement.

May God continue to bless you.

Services Entrusted to:

G. G. Woody Funeral Home, LLC

206 East Eighth Avenue
Roselle, New Jersey 07203
www.ggwoodyfuneralhome.com
Mrs. Beulah McClinton Woody, Funeral Director

Canon & Sons Funeral Chapel

24 Blackstock Road
Inman, South Carolina 29349
www.canonsons@windstream.net
Mr. Franklin P. Canon III, Funeral Director



