

A portrait of Shirley Marie Burruss, an elderly woman with short, wavy grey hair, wearing black-rimmed glasses and a bright pink V-neck top. She is smiling warmly. The background behind her is a soft-focus image of piano keys and musical notes floating in a blue sky with light clouds. The entire portrait is framed by an ornate, golden, Art Deco-style border.

Shirley Marie Burruss

DECEMBER 14, 1937 – DECEMBER 15, 2020

Homegoing Celebration

Saturday, January 02, 2021

Viewing 10AM • Service 11AM

Shiloh Temple Apostolic Cathedral

505 Madison Avenue, Atlantic City, NJ 08401

Bishop Billal Parrish, Pastor



Order of Service

Mistress of Ceremony
Sis. Cheryl Jenkins

Processional.....Clergy and Family

Prayer of Comfort.....Rev. Collins A. Days, Sr.

Scripture Reading.....

- Deacon Clifford Alston
- Deacon Milford Johnson

Selection....."His Eye Is On The Sparrow"
Sis. Robin Hopkins, Daughter & Shiloh Temple Apostolic Cathedral Choir

Acknowledgement of Cards & Condolences
Sis. Angela Chisholm

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF

Shirley Marie Burruss

Melanie Williams, Granddaughter

Solo.....Kris Williams, Son

Poem.....Tricie Williams, Daughter-in-law

Special Reading.....Sis. Linda Williams, Daughter-in-law

Selection....."Going Up Yonder"
Sis. Robin Hopkins, Daughter & Shiloh Temple Apostolic Cathedral Choir

Tribute.....(2 Minutes Please)

- Clergy, Family & Friends
- Sis. Robin Hopkins, Daughter
- Gayle Brown, Daughter
- Deacon Charles Burruss, Husband

Selection.....The Williams Family & Shiloh Temple Apostolic Cathedral Choir

The Eulogy.....Bishop Billal Parrish

Final Directives.....Greenidge Funeral Homes, Inc.

Final Farewell.....Family Only

Recessional

Interment

Atlantic City Cemetery
Pleasantville, NJ



Shirley Marie Burruss

Shirley Marie Burruss was born Shirley Marie Tardy on Dec 14, 1937, in Hurt County, VA to Elizabeth Tardy and Shade Payne. She was called home to the Lord on Dec 15, 2020 at 9:05am with her youngest daughter at her hospital bedside and her family on Zoom, at the age of 83.

Shirley, who accepted Christ in her youth, was blessed and anointed by the Holy Spirit with gifts to both sing and play piano by ear, and grew up singing and playing at home and in church.

In the 1960's she relocated to Atlantic City, NJ where she raised five of six wonderful children.

Shirley was well known in the gospel community, and was referred to as Sis. Shirley Marie, the "Gospel Voice" of radio stations WMID & WUSS on Sunday mornings with the late Sis. Betsy Faison.

She also founded her own singing group known as The Gospel Travelers. Sis. Shirley performed on TV as well as played for several youth groups from different churches in the area. In 1967 Shirley organized the Sunbeam youth choir for Mt. Zion Church and she was the pianist of the Rosebud Choir.

She was frequently requested to be the mistress of ceremony when celebrity artists came to town, to name a few, the Williams Brothers, Shirley Caesar and she was the opening act (singer) for the Late Reverend James Cleveland.

Sis. Shirley was a sought after Soloist. She was famous for singing and playing songs under the anointing and inspiration of the Holy Spirit that created an atmosphere for the presence of God.

In the late 1970's, Shirley Marie joined Shiloh Temple Church, she also joined the mass choir and became one of the church musicians. The late Bishop Waiters frequently requested that she sing her song, "One Day at a Time." Shirley was a former usher board president, she remained an usher, a choir member and directed the missionary choir.

In 2009, Sis. Shirley Marie married the love of her life, Deacon Charles Henry Burruss Jr. Deacon Burruss gleefully took his wife all around the world visiting places she had always dreamed to go. She spent her golden years well loved and blessed with an incredible husband. They resided in Absecon, NJ where they provided care for her mother in their home until they were no longer able. She visited her mother almost every day, sometimes multiple times until the Covid shutdown and when restrictions were lifted, continued her visits until Oct 2020 when her mother passed at age 101.

Sis. Shirley Marie Burruss is predeceased by her son Eric Williams, her brother the late Reverend James Drinks, her father Shade Payne, her loving stepfather, Nelson Hubbard and her beloved mother Deaconess Elizabeth Hubbard. She leaves to cherish her memories: her wonderful husband, Deacon Charles Burruss Jr., of Absecon, NJ; two sisters, Evangelist Esther Graves of Pleasantville, NJ, Katherine Chavis, of Warrenton, VA; one sister-in-law, Evangelist Juanita Drinks of Egg Harbor City, NJ; five children, Gayle Brown of Absecon, NJ, Howard Williams Sr., (Linda) of Atlanta GA, Douglass Williams Sr., (Helen) of Orlando FL, Robin Hopkins (Lloyd) of Mays Landing, NJ, and Kris Williams (Shirley) of Orlando FL; one step-son, Charles Burruss III (Robbin) of Ashland, VA; twelve grandchildren, Tyrone Brown Jr., Melanie, Howard Jr., and Korrey Williams, Douglass Williams Jr., Dairius Shanks, Dorrien Hopkins, Jione', Janna, JaCinta, Jalah and Jennise Williams; twenty-one great-grandchildren; a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, two goddaughters and friends.





Letter From Heaven

I sought the Lord and he delivered me from all my fears. Psalms 34:4

My Dearest Charles,

you came into my life when I didn't think love was possible. And though you had to pry open my heart, you eased your way in until I felt you were safe and I was ready to start. Now I may have given you a hard time at first. But I was so unsure and so afraid. Afraid to yet again be let down but gently you wiped away my frown.

Charles, oh how God shined on me when he put me in your path in that grocery store. You have been more than I could ever ask for, the loving caring husband who made my breakfast each morning and genuinely spoke and listened to me.

Charles my beloved, you are the husband I was meant to have. You were able to touch the real me that only God allowed your heart to see. My best friend, oh how I love you so.

You took time to acknowledge what really mattered to me and that is family. You accepted all my children and we became one big happy family. You even welcomed my mother into our home without a fuss, Now, I know it was hard at times living with two strong willed women, but God gave you just enough Grace to not let it show.

Thank you Charles for making sure we were able to travel all over the world, you took me to places I always dreamed of. We were able to visit family and friends and experience brand new things together. I absolutely love how much fun we had!

I could never thank God enough for having a man such as you, my knight in shining armor.

Charles this is not Good bye it's just farewell for now.

My beloved Charles!

Lovingly Your queen 🌹

Shirley!

PALLBEARERS

Douglass Williams, Sr. Malik Brown
Korrey Williams Colin Brown
Maxwell Brown Darryl Mobley
Howard Williams, Jr. Marcus Brown
Dorrien "Doby" Hopkins

FLOWER BEARERS

Jione' Elmore JaCinta Williams
Mikayla Brown Amira Price
Jennise Williams Jailynn Brown

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The family would like to thank everyone for their prayers and support during their time of bereavement. May God continue to Bless you.

SPECIAL THANKS

Bishop Billal Parrish
1st Lady Mary A. Parrish
Shiloh Temple Apostolic Cathedral Family

Funeral Arrangements Entrusted To:

GREENIDGE FUNERAL HOMES, INC.

Joseph F. Greenidge, Jr. Manager, NJ Lic. No. 4984
301 Absecon Boulevard, Atlantic City, NJ 08401
Telephone (609) 345-6305

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