



IDA MERCIEL WILLIAMS

August 26, 1936 - December 2, 2020

Mrs. Ida M. Stewart Williams, wife of Mr. James L. Williams, was the daughter of the late Pearl Sallie (Stewart) Bonner and the late Wilbert Stewart Sr. She passed away after a brief period under hospice care at home on Wednesday December 2, 2020 cared for by her husband, daughters, grandchildren, and siblings.

Ida Merciel Stewart was born on August 26, 1936 in Petersburg, VA. She graduated from Peabody High School in 1953, and from Virginia State University in 1959. She married James Lee Williams of Peterburg in May 13, 1959, and they moved to the Washington, DC Metropolitan Area in the early 1960s. They moved to Landover, Maryland in 1967 and permanently resided there.

She is survived by her husband of 61 years Mr. James Lee Williams of Springdale (Landover) MD and their three daughters Sabrina (Alonzo) Wiggins of Durham, NC; Jamel (William) Coates of Indian Head, MD, and Cielia (David) Russell of Brandywine, MD, seven grandchildren: Charis (Anthony) Martin; Jordan (Krista) Morgan, David Bristo, Joshua Coates, Jahrod Coates, Jairus (Tijhana) Coates, and Nathaniel Russell, and eleven great-grandchildren. Two of her siblings Mr. Wilbert Stewart Jr. and Dr. Jewel Hope Stewart preceded her in death. Her remaining siblings are Dr. Germaine Stewart Fauntleroy, Mrs. Deborah (William) Gonzales Sr., Mr. Vincent (Susan) Stewart, Mrs. Carmencita Stewart and their children and grandchildren.

Ida also leaves behind a wide circle of extended family members, friends and

beloved church members. She was a member of Mt. Moriah Baptist Church of Washington DC for over 50 years and served in a variety of roles: Sunday School and Vacation Bible School teacher, member of the Senior Choir, member and former chairperson of the Deaconess Board for 28 years, leader of noonday prayer and the daily prayer line, member of the evangelism team, member of the homeless outreach ministry, as well as, serving as unofficial church nutritionist assisting in planning and preparing healthy and delicious meals for church events.

Everyone that knew Ida was impressed by her love for God, her family, and for others. She was a faithful prayer warrior that stood in the gap for many during times of need and also gave practical, material assistance whenever needed. She was a creative person who loved flowers, gardening, and crafting, and would create beautiful embellished all occasional cards, bulletin boards and craft projects for her Sunday School and Vacation Bible School students. She was renowned for her wonderful cooking: as a professional dietician and nutritionist, she had the knack of preparing health-conscious yet flavorful and delicious meals that everyone loved. Those family friends and acquaintances fortunate enough to attend any of the monthly family prayer gatherings always came away deeply touched by the love and closeness of her family and the warm, inviting atmosphere of her home. Ida was never happier than when creating marvelous meals and physically and spiritually feeding people. Her kind, gracious, and giving spirit will be deeply missed by her family, loved ones and friends.

Ida was the epitome of the Proverbs 31 Woman: “A wife of noble character, who can find? She is worth far more than rubies Her husband has full confidence in her...she sets about her tasks vigorously; her arms are strong for her tasks...she opens her arms to the poor and extends her hands to the needy...she is clothed with strength and dignity...wisdom and faithful instruction is on her tongue...her children arise and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her: “Many women do noble things but you surpass them all”...Honor her for all that her hands have done, and let her

works bring her praise” excerpted from Psalms 31, NKJ version

In lieu of flowers, and in honor of her life and ministry, the family of Ida S. Williams ask for your contributions to Community Creative for Non-Violence Shelter of Washington, DC.

Donations can be made through the Facebook page of Ida S. Williams or by contacting her daughter, Cielia J. Russell at cjrussell1@verizon.net

Previous Events

Viewing

DEC **23**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Mt. Moriah Baptist Church
1636 East Capitol Street NE
Washington
Washington, DC 20003

Funeral Service

DEC **23**. 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM (ET)

Mt. Moriah Baptist Church
1636 East Capitol Street NE
Washington
Washington, DC 20003

Tribute Wall



“ IDA MERCIEL WILLIAMS

October 07, 2023 at 10:54 AM



“ *It seems just like yesterday that I was talking with my best friend.. Today I am reflecting on memories of the days we laughed, prayed , and traveled together to so many conferences here in the city and out of town...Sister Ida as I affectionately called her was truly a sister to me. I loved being with her because she was genuine, honest loving and kind... Sister Ida will truly be missed in my life and I know she will be missed in many other's life... To the Williams Family (Bro. James) as I called her husband, daughters, host of relatives, I send my condolences to you.. I hope you feel surrounded by much love, peace, and comfort from Our Father God Almighty... Sending healing prayers with deepest sympathy as you remember your love one Ida M Williams.. May The God of Peace be with you .May his unfailing Love surround you... The Lord bless you and keep you;the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; and the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace..*

*Blessings & Shalom
Beverly Gross*

Beverly Gross - January 13, 2021 at 02:27 PM

NV

“ *The Smile That I Wear, The World Didn't Give It To Me. The world didn't give it and the world can't take it away. It was Ida's smile of love that was always so inviting and a smile that made people feel welcome and comfortable in her presence. I will remember Ida as a meek and mild aunt who kept her promise to stay married to my uncle James "til death do us part." She kept him trim and fit for all of the 61 years they were together. I will remember her love also for the extended family and for the church. I will remember the work she and others [including husband, James] did with the food pantry at the church allowing many to get nutritious food at a very moderate cost. I will remember how she welcomed me to their home and to the church when I visited the D.C. area. I will remember how I never heard her yell, or disrespect anyone, or say an unkind word. I remember when she saw me & husband arrive at the Peabody High School 100 year Anniversary late and made a seat for us where there appeared to be "no space". I will remember her positive encouragement. So where is this Virtuous Woman? I can't really say but I Can Only Imagine that she's roaming around God's garden or that she has become a lily of the valley and that she is preparing a place for us.*

Niece Valerie [Waters] Wright/Las Vegas NV



Niece Valerie - December 23, 2020 at 05:14 AM

NB

“*Ida, I miss you already-your twinkling eyes and infectious laugh; but I know God does not bring anyone home before HE prepares a place for them. Thank you for the cross you sent me at just the right time. I will cherish it always. Thank you for giving me tips on making patterns. Your advice paid off great during Covid-19 and I will pay it forward. Thank you for birthday cards over the years that were embellished with awesome stickers and sent with so much love. I will miss your thoughtfulness. Most of all though, I will miss your willingness to listen to me and to pray with me. Your strong faith was a source of inspiration to me and I know having received your angel wings, you are now free. Tell Mama Pearl, Daddy, Hopey and Desi hello. I am so blessed to have been able to spend this time with you. I love you, Nickie.*

Nickie Brewington - December 22, 2020 at 09:40 AM

RG

“*Roenia Grimes lit a candle in memory of IDA
MERCIEL WILLIAMS*



Roenia Grimes - December 19, 2020 at 01:43 PM

RG

“*I miss my dear Classmate, Friend, Sister in Christ very much. We will see her again at the throne of God, singing and praising Him and our Savior.
Be encouraged Family.
Roenia Grimes and Family*

Roenia Grimes - December 19, 2020 at 01:39 PM



“ Sweet Remembrance Spray was purchased for the family of IDA MERCIEL WILLIAMS.



December 18, 2020 at 05:47 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of IDA MERCIEL WILLIAMS.



December 17, 2020 at 08:39 PM



“ I only met Mrs. Williams a few times when she visited my church, but I remember that each time I knew I was in the presence of a woman whose soul is anchored in the Lord. She was warm, inviting, and completely at ease with the other members. To the Williams and Russell families, you have my sincerest condolences. I pray the God of All Comfort will grant you the comfort and peace only He can. To Nathaniel, I know no one can ever replace your beloved Grandmother, but I pray that you will always cherish the days she cared for you and never forget the example she left you. May the Holy Spirit of the Most High God continue to strengthen you and keep her in your memory forever.

Deborah Dessaso - December 17, 2020 at 08:15 PM

JB

“ To the family, In this difficult time, may God hold you close to His heart, where He can feel your deepest loss, and fill you with His deepest love. May your memories bring you comfort.



James "Billy", Wilburt, & Hattie Bonner - December 14, 2020 at 06:02 PM

CG

“ Cornelia Owens Goode & Edward Goode lit a candle in memory of IDA MERCIEL WILLIAMS



Cornelia Owens Goode & Edward Goode - December 09, 2020 at 09:03 PM

CG

To the Williams Family,
Sweet precious Ida will remain a Loving missing link in our family.
May our love embrace you during this difficult time.
With Deepest Sympathy,
Sis, Cornelia & Eddie

Cornelia Owens Goode & Edward Goode - December 09, 2020 at 09:11 PM

VS

Thank you God for allowing Ida and me to be friends--a friendship that lasted through the years. We had a special connection and there will always be lasting memories. To Deacon Williams and family continue to trust and have faith in God; thank God for the years that we shared with and loved Ida. God will not leave you alone at this time but will strengthen and comfort you. I love you all. Vivian/Aunt Vivian

Vivian L. Smith - December 11, 2020 at 12:23 PM

MF

*To the Williams Family.
Thanks be to God for placing Deaconess Ida Williams and her family in our lives. We shared many special years together as Sunday School Teachers in the Nursery/Beginners and Primary Departments. We also shared the last 14 years as Deaconess. My family loved Deaconess Williams, some of them even calling her Mom Ida. Deacon Frazier named her Holy Ghost Ida. Her love for everyone was contagious and she will surely be missed.
May God continue to bless and strengthen you during this difficult time.
Love you all,
Deacon Robert and Deacon Mae Frances Frazier & Family*

Mae Frances Frazier - December 11, 2020 at 09:14 PM

MF

To Deacon James Williams and Family

Mrs. Williams was one of my favorite Sunday School Teacher and I thank her so much for teaching me all the things about God. I love her so much.

Kailey Robinson

Mrs. Williams was so nice. She was one of my Sunday School Teacher too, and she always told me to be good and read my Bible every day. I am going to miss her.

Love Maegan Robinson

Mae Frances Frazier - December 11, 2020 at 09:21 PM

CS

To the Williams Family; Deaconess Williams always had a hug for me and our special Petersburg connection as I am from Petersburg and a Peabodian. Her love, smile and those special Prayers will forever be missed. God continue to Bless you and give you strength knowing that she was well loved.

Christine Stewart

Christine Stewart - December 12, 2020 at 12:33 AM



*To the Williams Family,
Our deepest condolences. Your family has been a blessing to my family for so many years. I smile when I think of Deaconess Williams because I always looked forward to her birthday & thinking of you cards as they contained wonderful stickers that brightened my day. Her love of God, family, church & all people truly demonstrates the standard of Christian living. -Steve Kendall*

Steve Kendall - December 12, 2020 at 01:32 AM



It is two years now, and I am really just coming to terms with the transitioning of my Dear Sweet Friend who was also like a Mother to me. She just took me under her wing in being new to DC....got me engaged in several activities in serving the church and the community....allowed me to share such special moments with Deacon Williams, the kids, and the grands. She fed my Soul as well as my stomach. If everyone had an Ida Williams in their life, they would know that they were truly Blessed from above! I miss the chats and guidance, the Spiritual insights, and sharing our love of plants and propagating. We shared such a natural, easy relationship, and I am comforted in knowing that Love ❤️ Never Dies.

Casandra Levine

Casandra Levine - December 06, 2022 at 12:59 PM