

*In Loving Memory of*  
*Viola Burks Billings*

*Sunrise:*

*July 13, 1915*

*Sunset:*

*February 17, 2017*



*Service*

*Monday, February 27, 2017 - 11:00 am*

*Cotton Funeral Service*

*1025 Bergen Street • Newark, New Jersey*

*Rev. Michael Jordan, Officiating*

*Joshua Nelson, Organist*



## Obituary



**Viola Burks Billings**, 101, went on to be with the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on February 17, 2017.

She was born in Dooley County, Pinehurst, Georgia on July 13, 1915 to the late Arthur and Ida Burks. She was the 7th child of 10 children and the second girl born to this Union.

She was a member of the Mt. Hermon Baptist Church for over twenty years. Also, where she was a member of the Deaconess Board under the Reverend Pastor M.J. Baldwin. She was always a faithful servant helping others.

She also was a graduate of Vienna High School in Vienna, Georgia in 1937, which was one of her greatest accomplishments. Then she later moved to Atlanta, Georgia with her older brother, Chester Burks and his wife, Bea on Tatinole Street where she worked diligently. Nick, as she was often called by her family was a very strong and dedicated, loving wife, mother, sister, aunt, cousin, grandmother, great grandmother, and friend to everyone she knew.

She was devoted to her family all of her life and loved all of them dearly. She had a strong will and was a no nonsense type of person. She meant what she said and you knew not to question her. She enjoyed eating her favorite candy peppermints and doing puzzles before she lost her eyesight to glaucoma. She enjoyed company with family and friends in her home where she felt more comfortable. She is preceded in death by her parents, husband, Edward Lee Billings and oldest sister, Minnie Lee Thompson, Nan Lee, Oscar Mae Harvey, Albert Burks, Chester Burks, Arthur Burks, Freddie Lee Burks, John Wesley Burks, Willie Burks, Thomas Clyde Burks, and James Sam Johnson.

She leaves to cherish her memory, seven daughters, Jaunita Scott, Minnie Carol Billings, Pauline Gundy, Jamillah (Yasin) Muhammadi, Denise Baskerville, Vanessa Billings, and Sharon Ann Billings; and three sons, Edward (Geneva) Billings, Lawrence Billings, and Roger Billings.

Her legacy includes 16 grandchildren, 32 great grandchildren and host of nieces, nephews and friends. Her special cousin, Mattie Pearl Parramore and her only daughter-in-law, Geneva Billings and only son-in-law, Yasin Muhammadi.



## Order Service

Prelude

Processional.....Reverend Michael Jordan

Prayer of Comfort

Solo.....Joshua Nelson

Scripture Readings

Old Testament.....Psalm 23

New Testament.....John 14:1-10

Solo.....Joshua Nelson

Obituary .....Rabbia Mitchell

Poem Selection.....Tyrone Billings

Solo.....Joshua Nelson

Expressions of Love (2mins.).....Family and Friends

Remarks/Acknowledgments/Condolences

Tribute to Our Mother.....Sharyce Gundy-Lewis

Reading of Proclamation.....Edward Nkosi

Eulogy .....Reverend Michael Jordan

Recessional

### **Interment**

Glendale Cemetery  
Bloomfield, New Jersey



## *A Mother's Love*

*Viola Burks Billings, was a kind and generous woman who was the type that everyone loved and cared for deeply. She was very proud of the fact that she was a southern woman from Dooley County, Georgia. Oh the stories Momma used to tell about her Grandpa Sol who was from Africa. He was such a strong man she use to say just like her Poppa. Mom as immediate family was a close-knit family of ten children and her mom was the only child with the littlest feet for a black woman. She taught Momma how to cook and clean and there was never any idle time she kept her busy. Momma was all about family she was the only one in her family to go to Vienna High School which was one of her great accomplishments. Upon completing high school, Momma felt that she wanted better in her life and moved to Atlanta, Georgia to live with her oldest brother, Chester Burks and his wife, Bea. Later on after working as a domestic worker for a while she decided to get married to our daddy, Edward Billings. He wrote to her father and asked for her hand in marriage. As time progressed Momma and Daddy moved up north to Newark, NJ with his sister, Aunt Deila and Uncle James on Halsey Street. Momma was the babysitter for them and did most of the cooking. Momma was also the kind of woman who stood by her man and knew how to make sacrifices. She felt that it was important to not live above your means and taught us. One of her favorite quotes was "you can catch more bees with honey than you can with bitter milk." Momma taught all of her ten children to always be respectful of others and she led by example. She was a no nonsense type of person who really loved her family and was very protective of all of us. A mother love is unconditional and kind and always comforting and never dies. What is unique about a mothers love is that it is timeless and a mother accepts you no matter what. Our mothers love was and still is the wind beneath our wings to guide us as we excel in this life. Momma was the Matriarch of this family who will be remembered in all of our hearts forever and will never ever be forgotten. To our dearest Momma, Rest In Peace in Paradise you can now join your husband, once again. Momma we Salute you for a job Well Done.*

*We All Love You,*

*Always and Forever you will remain in our hearts today, tomorrow and through eternity*



*P.S. What you going to do when they come for You?*











## *The Lord's Prayer*

*Our Father, which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, As it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, The power, and the glory, For ever and ever. Amen.*

*God saw the road was getting rough,  
The hills so hard to climb.  
He gently closed those loving eyes  
And whispered, "Peace Be Thine."  
The weary hours, the days, the days of pain  
The sleepless night past,  
The ever patient worn out frame  
Has found home at last.  
Safe in the arms of God,  
Safe on His gently breast  
Sweetly, my soul shall rest.*

## *Acknowledgement*

The family wishes to express their sincere thanks and appreciation for all acts of kindness and expressions of sympathy extended during the illness and expressions of sympathy extended during the illness and subsequent passing of our loved one. Your heartfelt sympathy at this time of sorrow is greatly appreciated with many thanks. It was the love of you who made our great loss more bearable. Please continue to pray for us as we will for you.

The family

Professional Services Provided By

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1025 Bergen Street  
Newark, NJ  
973-926-6400

COTTON-PARKER FUNERAL HOME  
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