



*In Loving
Memory
of*

*Sunrise
June 24, 1923*

*Sunset
March 10, 2017*

Mary Eddins Baker

*Service
Friday, March 17, 2017 - 10:00 a.m.*

Mount Calvary Missionary Baptist Church
231-251 Seymour Avenue
Newark, New Jersey

Obituary

Mary Eddins Baker, departed this life at her home in Newark, New Jersey on Friday, March 10, 2017 at the age of 93.

Mary was born on June 24, 1923 in Pearl City, Tennessee to the late Matthew Eddins and Maggie Lou Palmer. She attended elementary and junior high school in Fayetteville, Tennessee and graduated from high school in Shelbyville, Tennessee. After high school, Mary moved to Nashville, Tennessee where she met and married the late Henry M. Baker, Jr. (2000).

In the late 1940's, Henry and Mary relocated to Newark, New Jersey. They became self-made entrepreneurs and co-owned several successful businesses in the Newark community including residential and commercial real estate properties, grocery stores and liquor stores. Mary also worked at RCA in Harrison, New Jersey for several years.

Mary was a devoted mother to her daughter, the late Brenda E. Rivers (1999) and to her step-daughter, Barbara Baker. She was a dedicated grandmother to Ramon, Corinne and Erin Rivers and she cherished her relationship with her son-in-law, Matthew Rivers, Jr.

Mary was a very sweet, caring and private person. She did not talk a lot but she would do anything to help anyone. She had a passion for cooking and kept her house immaculate. She enjoyed bowling with her league and watching sports. Mary loved her family and found joy in caring for her granddaughters when they were babies. She joined St. James AME Church in Newark, NJ and was a faithful member until her health began to decline.

In or about 2000, Mary was diagnosed with Alzheimer's and asked her son-in-law Matthew to care for her. She fought the disease for seventeen years with the help of her family, Matthew's family and with the help of her close friend and caregiver, Melva Stoney. She leaves to cherish her memory: grandchildren, Ramon Rivers (Atlanta, GA), Corinne and Erin Rivers (Newark, NJ); stepdaughter, Barbara Baker (Nashville, TN); son-in-law, Matthew Rivers (Portia) (Newark, NJ); Matthew "Poppy" Rivers, Sr. (Newark, NJ); great-granddaughter, Raylyn Rivers (Atlanta, GA); sister, Letha Hazel Council (Nashville, TN); brother, William Holman Eddins (Nashville, TN); sisters-in-law, Roberta Champion and Bessie Baker (Nashville, TN); friend and caregiver, Melva Stoney (Brooklyn, NY), and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Order of Service

Processional.....Clergy & Family

Opening Selection.....Choir

Scripture Reading
Old Testament.....Minister
New Testament.....Minister

Prayer of Comfort.....Minister

Selection.....Choir

Obituary & Acknowledgments

Selection.....Choir

Eulogy.....Pastor

Recessional



Interment
Glendale Cemetery
Bloomfield, New Jersey

A Long Goodbye

She left us, little by little.
We wished she wouldn't go.
We were there as long as she needed us.
We hope we let her know.
We held on to the memories.
We also liked to share.
But she got further away, further away.
And yet, she was always there.

There were times she almost seemed like herself.
Sometimes it was just a phase.
A part of the person we once knew,
and sometimes just a trace.
It was a long goodbye between now and then.
God carried her away.
So we say goodbye for now until we see her again one day.

- Author Unknown

Acknowledgement

The family wishes to express their sincere thanks and appreciation for all acts of kindness and expressions of sympathy that was shown to them during this time of bereavement.

Professional Services by:
Whigham Funeral Home

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Newark, New Jersey 07102
973-622-6872

Carolyn Whigham, Director

