



Tessie

Debose

Sunrise
July 10, 1942

Sunset
April 17, 2020

Gravesite Service
Saturday, May 2, 2020 - 12:00 Noon

Mt. Hillard Baptist Church
Perote, Alabama

Obituary

Tessie Debose was born on July 10, 1942 in Perote, Alabama to the late Mary Bell Ligon Debose, and Richard Debose. Tessie was educated in Perote public schools and graduated from Perote High school. At an early age Tessie was baptized and became a member of the Mt. Hillard Baptist Church in Perote Alabama where she attended with her family.

In the fall 1964 along with a few cousins, Tessie migrated to New Jersey where she spent the rest of her life making friends, and building relationships that would last through out the ages.

Tessie found employment with several companies including Electro-Catheter, Griffin Electronics, Magnus Organs, Rahway hospital, and Not Just a Daycare. After retiring, Tessie became a babysitter for many families within her community and a Caretaker for several elderly individuals. Tessie worked the Election Poles for the Union County Board of Elections, and served as superintendent of her apartment building for many years.

On a cold Sunday morning in November of 1964, after hearing a spirit filled rendition played on the piano by the late Deacon N. Newkirk, Tessie obeyed the spirit of the Lord, arose from her seat, walked down the center isle and joined the The Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church. It was at Bethlehem where Tessie would spend the next 56 years of her life blissfully dedicating both spiritual and physical service on to the Lord. Wasting no time, Tessie Immediately began working on many auxiliaries including but not limiting to the Ushers ministry (joining in 1965), Nurses Ministry, Dorcus Missionaries, Senoir Missionaries (Vice-Pres), church Anniversary Committee, and the Sunday school just to name a few. Tessie took pride in serving on all ministries but had a special love for her beloved Nurses Ministry where she served as President for many years until removed. Tessie also served faithfully on both Ushers and Nurses Department of

the, New Hope Missionary Baptist Association and the General Baptist State Convention of NJ. Tessie also regularly traveled across the country attending the National Baptist Convention USA. The highlight of Tessie's convention attendees was in 2009, when she was crowned Queen of the National Baptist Convention Nurses Department.

Tessie enjoyed talking with her family and friends and had a special bond with her sisters and brother. She stayed in close contact with them and even had a subscription with the local newspaper in Union Springs, Alabama in an effort to stay current with the events of her home town.

On April 17th, 2020 Tessie finally received her orders to sit down, and rest a little while at JFK Hospital in Edison, NJ God himself withdrew the same breath he'd blew into her nostrils 77 years ago down in Perote, Al.

Tessie leaves to cherish fond memories her siblings, Betty Jean, Willie Mable, Idell Anderson, Annie Muriel, Cora Lee Thornton, and Melvin Debose.

Tessie leaves to mourn Many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends, special friends Dorothy Capers, Jacqueline Bevilaque and many more, special daughter Cynthia Dunlap, her God Son whom cared for her until the very end, Gabriel Glover.

Interment

Mt. Hillard Baptist Church Cemetery
Perote, Alabama

Services Entrusted To:

G.G. Woody Funeral Home, LLC

206 East Eighth Avenue • Roselle, NJ 07203

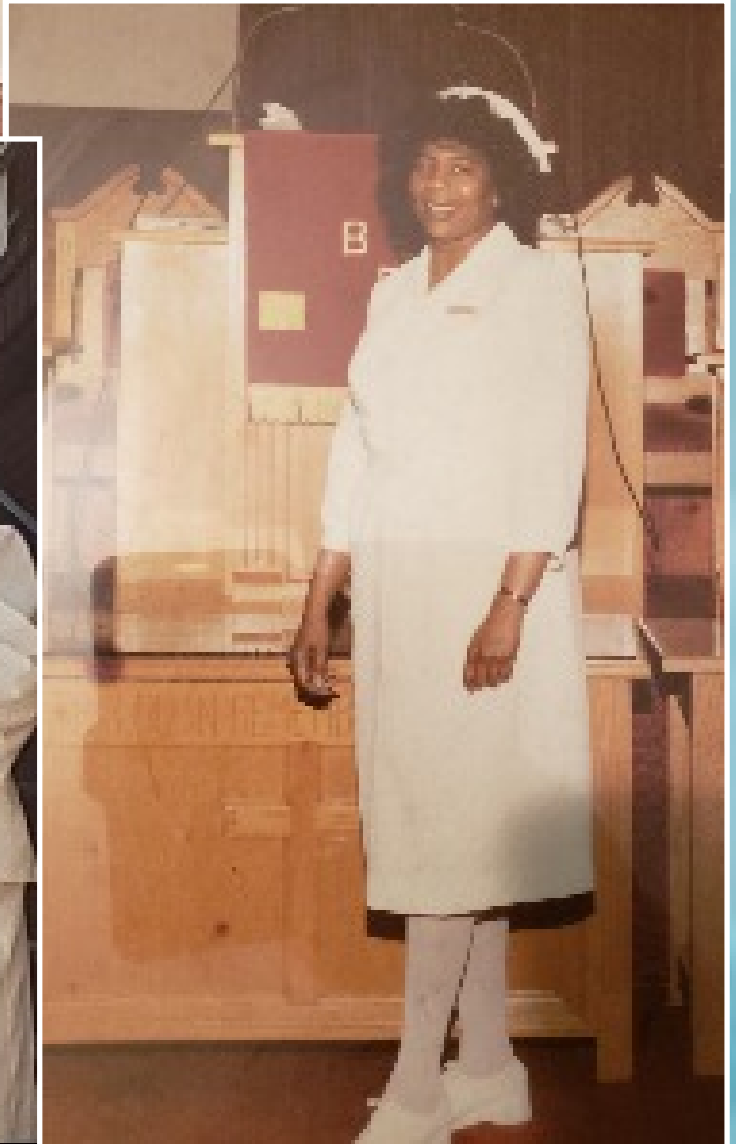
www.ggwoodyfuneralhome.com

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Miss. Tessie, I clearly remember how it all started. I was a teenager walking down 9th Ave on my way to Sunday morning service. One or two other parishioners saw me and preceded to keep driving. Although you and I had never spoken to each other prior to that morning , once you recognized that I was on my way to Bethlehem you kindly pulled your car over and offered me a ride (making me sit in the back seat LOL). I can't imagine what made you pull over, but I'm so very glad you did. Little did we know, this small act of kindness was the birth of a marvelous mother and son relationship. I shall always cherish the laughs, the cries, the services, the travels, eating out, the many phone calls (making sure I wasn't hanging out in the street lol). Everyone who came into my life knew all about Miss. Tessie. My Grandmother and you where my biggest supporters. You encouraged me to go to school and wouldn't lighten up until I received a degree. although you never given physical birth, I became your son.

Thank you for pulling over.

Till we meet again

your God Son, Gabriel Glover



Acknowledgement

The family wishes to thank everyone for their thoughtful acts of kindness expressed to them during this difficult time. Special thanks to Janet Hollins for her loving acts of kindness and Tessie's Landlord, Arthur D'Alessandro.

