

Celebrating the Life of
Millie Alston

April 17, 1946 ~ July 22, 2023



TUESDAY, AUGUST 1, 2023 - 11:00 AM
St. Paul's Calvary United Church of God
2780 Vauxhall Road • Union, New Jersey

Obituary

Millie Alston was a caring wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, and friend. She left this world after a short battle with cancer on July 22, 2023 at the age of 77 at home surrounded by family.

Millie was born to Christine and Ernest "Pete" Gaskins on April 17, 1946 in Florence, South Carolina. She was the oldest of five children born to her parents. She attended Wilson High School in Florence, South Carolina.

After school, she chased her dreams to the North, where she married her husband James "Bo" Edward Holmes on August 24th, 1972 and settled in New Jersey. They remained married until his sudden death in 1981. She later remarried to Gregory A. Alston in May 1983.

She worked for Faraday Pharmaceuticals and later Organon Pharmaceuticals in West Orange, N.J. until their closing.

She loved to spend time with her only daughter, Patricia Gilyard, and grandchildren creating delicious southern meals and watching her favorite television shows, such as Family Feud and Jeopardy. She also enjoyed sitting and talking to her long time friends at her residence in Ehrhart Gardens. Those who knew Millie also knew that she had a great sense of humor as she always would crack a joke when you would least expect it. She loved to dress with her elegant dress suits, Church hats, and heels and loved to dance.

She was an avid reader and enjoyed a good novel. She was an active member of St. Paul's Calvary United Church of God where she served on the Usher board for many years.

She is survived by her Daughter, Patricia Gilyard of Whitehall, P.A.; Step-son, Anthony Holmes of Decatur, Georgia; God-children, Alexander Eaddy of Newark, NJ, and Alexandria (Ramone) Burroughs of Irvington, NJ; Grandchildren, Sakeena Gaskins of Plainfield, NJ; Reginald Gilyard of Whitehall, P.A.; Raymond Gilyard of Bethlehem, P.A.; Great-grandchildren, Jordan, Devin, Twins Aaron and Austin, Mila, Noah, Ziva, and Mariah, sisters, Lillie (Johnny) Ross McCray of Florence, South Carolina; Tillie (Nathaniel) Williams-Smith of Moncks Corner, South Carolina; Carol White of Knoxville, Tennessee; and a host of nieces, nephews, and cousins.

She is preceded in death by her husband, Gregory A. Alston, parents, Ernest and Christine Gaskins, and brother, Superintendent Billy Gaskins.

Millie will be remembered for her fiery spirit, beautiful smile, and her amazing sense of style!

Brand New Wings

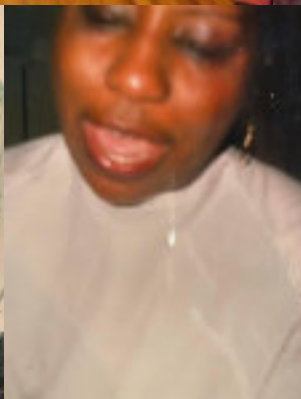
In times like this, there is often the urge
To question God
Why her? Why now?
Why, when you know
My heart mirrors the beat of hers
Why, when taking her is like
Taking the ones who love her the most, too?
I guess we needed more eyes above us.
Sometimes we can't see so far ahead of us
But like the eagle can see far and wide
When she soars
So can our angels as they sit on the clouds
Keeping watch over us.
They can see what's coming miles away
And can intervene and intercede on our behalf
So Ma...
As hurt as we are in this moment
We rejoice in knowing you've gotten your wings
And based on the way you lived here on this earth
We know they are absolutely beautiful on you.

Order of Service

Processional.....Clergy and Family
Selection.....Minister Shari Cooper
Scripture Reading
Old Testament.....Overseer Kenneth Wakefield
New Testament.....Elder Jonathan Campbell
Prayer of Comfort.....Pastor Joshua Younger
Selection.....Lisa Pringle
Poem Reading (Brand New Wings)..... Renee Burnett
Remarks and Reflections (2 Minutes Please)
Obituary Reading.....Breneé Johnson
Eulogy.....Bishop Claude L. Campbell
Benediction.....Bishop Claude L. Campbell

Interment
Graceland Memorial Park
Kenilworth, New Jersey







To My Loving Mother:

You were strong in spirit and soul,

Your love is what kept me whole.

I will remember your love and care,

Whenever I needed you, you were always there.

I will always remember you, I am sure you know,

To Heaven and Jesus, I know you must go.

You will always be my Angel above

Sent from God, Full of love.

Pall Bearers

Chris Ross

Raymond Gilyard

Ray Williams

Johnny Ross

Reginald Gilyard

Shawn McCants

Acknowledgement

The family acknowledges with deep appreciation all acts of kindness extended to them during this bereavement hour. May God bless you for all your thoughtfulness and concern.

Professional Services Provided By

COTTON FUNERAL SERVICE

130 Main Street
Orange, NJ
973-675-6400

1025 Bergen Street
Newark, NJ
973-926-6400

COTTON-PARKER FUNERAL HOME

37 Clinton Avenue
Jersey City, NJ
201-433-1000

