



Lillian Townsend

May 10, 2023

Services will be held Saturday, noon at M.U. Baptist Church.

Lillian Townsend was a devout Christian, dedicated educator, and community service champion.

The Macon, Mississippi native was a graduate of Ministerial Institute (M&I) High School and

Alcorn State University where she earned a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration. She also

received a Master's Degree in Education from Mississippi State University. Business

administration and business education were near and dear to her heart and evident through

nearly three decades of employment with the Columbus Public School System.

An extremely bright and inquisitive daughter of Percy and Callie Brooks, Lillian accepted Christ

at an early age at Sylvian Ridge Missionary Baptist Church in Macon. Religion being at the core

of the Brooks family values, Lillian was an active member in the church and these activities were

at the center of the family's social life. Her commitment to serving the Lord continued

throughout her youth into adulthood.

In 1965, Lillian married Rev. Arthur R. Townsend. To this union, two children were born,

Richard Warren and Debra. She enjoyed being First Lady and was a committed supporter of his

ministry. Her husband and son preceded her in death, and her legacy lives on through her

daughter, Debra, and god-daughter, Dr. Vallee Adams Rolle.

Lillian's commitment to public service was evident through her membership in Delta Sigma

Theta Sorority, Inc. She joined the sorority through the Golden Triangle Alumnae Chapter, a

special and unique bond that she also shared with her daughter and god-daughter.

In the years since her retirement, Lillian continued to serve others through her church, the

Columbus-Lowndes County Chapter of the Links, Inc., the Alcorn State University Alumni

Association, the Mississippi State University Alumni Association, and National Baptist

Convention and the Northeast Mississippi Baptist State Convention. Her spare time consisted of

connecting with family and friends, traveling, and spending time with Debra.

Survivors include Daughter, Debra of Atlanta, GA and god-daughter, Vallee Adams Rolle (Bill)

of Harrisburg, PA. Siblings: She was preceded in death by Hayden Williams, Harlan Brooks,

Delois Brooks, and Percy Brooks, Jr. She leaves Drew Brooks (Sylvester) of St. Louis, MO,

Howard German (Bessie-deceased) of Tuscaloosa, AL, Hazel Johnson (Dennis) of Macon, MS, Wil

Brooks (Linda) of Charlotte, NC, George Brooks (Ethel) of Jackson, MS, and Bernard Brooks (Annie) of Macon, MS. Lillian was also very close to her sisters-in-law, Delorice Williams of Macon, MS, Stella Brooks of Kansas City, MO, Gloria Brooks of Clinton, MS, Mattie Fountain (Herman) of Starkville, MS, Mary Harrell (Jimmie-deceased) of Starkville, MS, and Amanda Sykes, (Walter-deceased) of West Point, MS. Her memory will also live on in the hearts of a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

Tribute Wall



“ *Lillian Townsend*

October 09, 2023 at 04:28 AM



“ *Our condolences to the family and friends may God give you comfort during this difficult time*



Linda Adamsbrooks - May 24, 2023 at 11:04 AM



“ *My condolences and prayers for her family.*



Lillie Harrison Tate - May 19, 2023 at 11:10 PM



“ *Lillian sure will be missed, she was such a valued member of the Townsend family, she always had a smile on her face and she always visiting the sick and shut in.*

Michelle - May 19, 2023 at 09:48 PM



“ *My sympathy & prayers are with you guy's during this difficult times.*
Gerri Gavin Bays

Gerri Bays - May 19, 2023 at 08:33 PM

DL

“ She was one of my 12 grade teachers at Hunt High School. Mrs. Townsend always remembered you and cared a lot about you. To the family, I loved her and will continue to pray for the family.

Dorothy McClung Lewis - May 19, 2023 at 02:09 PM

DL

“ Dorothy McClung Lewis lit a candle in memory of Lillian Townsend



Dorothy McClung Lewis - May 19, 2023 at 02:01 PM



“ 62 files added to the album Life Tributes



Lee-Sykes Funeral Home - May 19, 2023 at 10:21 AM

ID

To God Be The Glory

Irma Dickerson - May 20, 2023 at 01:04 PM

SW

Love to Lillian and family are prayers 🍷🍷 are with you all. God will give you strength and show you the way.

Sandra A Westbrook - May 25, 2023 at 06:55 PM

DT

“ Saturday,

In lieu of flowers, please encourage friends and family to make gifts in honor of Mrs. Lillian Townsend to the Class of 1965 Endowed Scholarship Fund at Alcorn State University by mailing to:

*ASU Foundation, Inc.
c/o Class of 1965 ESF
1000 ASU Drive #810
Lorman, MS 39096*

Or through the following link:

<https://secure.qgiv.com/for/asufevents/restriction/Class+of+1965+Endowed+Scholarship+Fund>

Debra Townsend - May 19, 2023 at 09:05 AM

DK

“ My thoughts and prayers are with you all during your time of grief. What a beautiful life Mrs. Townsend lived, and she will be missed greatly. Praying for God's peace to strengthen you all in the coming days.

*-DeBerne Nave Kelly
Louisville, MS*



DeBerne Kelly - May 18, 2023 at 08:20 PM

CR

“ Cynthia Robinson lit a candle in memory of Lillian Townsend



Cynthia Robinson - May 18, 2023 at 01:47 PM

TB

“ I recall Mrs. Townsend being the First Lady of Friendship M.B. Church, the pose and beauty that was presented through her both inside and out left a lasting impression on me. Her smile was so contiguous. I was young when I met her, she always greeted me with a warm smile as Debra and I would sit in the pews laughing at things that would happen during services. She will be missed. R.I.P Mrs. Townsend. Praying for the family.

Trina Bailey - May 18, 2023 at 11:55 AM