

Pall Bearers

Sons, Son-In-Laws, Grandsons

Honorary Pall Bearers

James Williams
Dewitt Williams

Bobby Williams
Joseph Banks, Jr.

Flower Bearers

Granddaughters

Interment

Mt. Carmel Cemetery
Brookhaven, Mississippi

Final Arrangements Entrusted to

SWANSON FUNERAL HOME

806 East Grand Boulevard

Detroit, MI 48207

(313) 923-1122

and

WILLIAMS MORTUARY

Brookhaven, Mississippi

Grams,

We love you more than words can explain, and we knew one day we would be apart. Although we never imagined it would feel like this. We can't be selfish. We know we had to let you go because God has something he needs you to do. Our world will never be the same, but you will forever live in our hearts.

Love, Laron, Nesha, Kay & Matt

Grams,

I don't know why you had to go. 92 years seems just too short. I knew you wouldn't be here forever. I'm sad, but I know you're in Heaven; and only time will heal my broken heart. You loved me from the very start. I know I have to let you go. You're okay now chilling with our folks. I will see you again, I know this!

Love your grand, Kayla

Lula Mae Tate (that's what I called Grams),

Thanks so much for all of your hilarious stories, your words of wisdom and life lessons you taught me over the years. My world is shattered but in the midst of my sadness, I am comforted in knowing you are free from pain, rejoicing and cheering us all on. (go ahead and do a little two-step!) You were a pillar of strength, the epitome of a woman and a true Queen. I know that goodbyes like this aren't forever. It's more like a see you later. So, I love you, and I'll see you later girl! Give my daddy a kiss for me.

Love always, Ree

Celebrating the **LIFESTORY**

Queen Ester Banks



December 21, 1919 - March 26, 2012

Officiant

Pastor Stacey R. Foster

Service held March 31, 2012

Life Changers International Ministries

14615 Wyoming

Detroit, MI 48238

THE STORY OF A QUEEN

Queen Ester Banks began her story on December 21, 1919. She was the oldest of nine children born to William and Ludora Pierce in Union Church, Mississippi. She was educated at Alexandria School in Brookhaven. Three of her siblings, Shirley, Sherrod and Delton preceded her in death.

When Queen was 18 years of age, she married Lee James Williams and to their union was born six children, Joe Marie, Ulysses, (Sonny), James, Dewitt, Bobby and Robert. (Lee James, Joe Marie, Sonny, and Robert preceded her in death).

In 1952, Queen married Joseph Banks and moved to Detroit, Michigan. To their union four children were born, Carol, Cheryl, Kathy and Joseph Jr. Joseph Sr. had two adult sons when he and Queen were married, Willie, (now deceased), and James Hubert. Joseph and Queen's family was a large, happy one living in a two-family flat at 2944 St. Jean.

Queen enjoyed gardening immensely. She grew everything from roses to tomatoes and it gave her great pleasure to be able to share what she grew with neighbors as well as to prepare meals for her family. Many of the children in the neighborhood affectionately called her "Grams" and even came to visit when her own grandchildren were not there. In addition to Queen's being a master gardener, she was also an accomplished seamstress. Not only did she sew clothing for herself, her children and her grandchildren, but she worked for many years at American Linen Supply Company where she earned the respect of her employers and made many lifelong friends.

Queen had a deep devotion to her family. She never missed a family reunion no matter where it was being hosted and could be relied upon to go to family members who were in need of assistance no matter the distance.

Queen's love of story-telling and her laughter were wonderful gifts that she shared with all who knew her. One of the funniest things that she did would be to give a grandchild money for a birthday and then tell them not to tell the others. It was a while before they all began to realize that she was doing the same thing with all of them.

Queen's generous spirit and kindness knew no bounds. Whenever there was a need and she could meet it, she did. She could also be heard saying, "You better be careful how you treat people because you may need them to give you a glass of water one day." She lived what she believed.

Although Queen has left us physically, we will all be forever grateful for who she was and how she loved and touched us all.

Those left to remember and carry on her legacy are:

HER CHILDREN:

James (Floretta)
Dewitt (Gloria)
Bobby (Carolyn)
Carol (Hurd)
Cheryl
Kathy (Lawrence)
Joseph (Shally)
James Hubert

37 grandchildren, 48 great-grandchildren, 6 great-great grandchildren, 4 sisters, 1 brother, many nieces and nephews, cousins, countless "honorary" grandchildren and many others who counted themselves blessed to have known her!

Order of Service

Worship.....Pastor Nehru Shumake

Scripture Reading.....Pastor Stacey Foster

Prayer.....Pastor Stacey Foster

Song.....Nia, Micah, Caleb & Zoe Shumake
(Great-grandchildren)

Reading of the Obituary

Acknowledgment of CondolencesLaura Shumake

ResolutionLife Changers International Ministries

Remarks by Grandchildren and Great-Grandchildren

The Little Ones

The Youngins

The Kids

The Big Kids

Open Remarks
(two minutes each please)

Song - "Stand"Emmitt Davis, Jr.

EulogyPastor Norflette Shumake

Recessional

Repast

Solid Rock Church
14270 East Seven Mile Rd.
Detroit, MI 48205