

Heaven's GROCERY STORE

I was walking down life's highway a long, long time ago.
One day I saw a sign that read, "HEAVEN'S GROCERY STORE."

As I got a little closer, the door opened wide,
and I found myself standing inside. I saw a host of ANGELS.
They were standing every where. One handed me a basket
and said, "My Child, shop with care.

"Everything a human needed was in that grocery store.

And if you couldn't carry it all,
you could come back the next day for more.

First, I got some PATIENCE.

LOVE was in the same row.

Further down was UNDERSTANDING,
you need that everywhere you go.

I got a box or two of WISDOM, a bag or two of FAITH.

I just couldn't miss the HOLY GHOST,
for it was all over the place.

I stopped to get some STRENGTH
and COURAGE TO HELP ME RUN THIS RACE.

By then my basket was getting full,
but I remembered I needed some GRACE.

I didn't forget SALVATION, for SALVATION was free.

So I tried to get enough of that to save both you and me.

Then I started up to the counter to pay my grocery bill.

For I thought I had every thing to do the MASTER'S will.

As I went up the aisle, I saw PRAYER; and I just had to put that in,
for I knew when I stepped outside, I would run into sin.

PEACE and JOY were plentiful; they were last on the shelf.

SONG and PRAISE were hanging near, so I just helped myself.

Then I said to the angel, "Now, how much do I owe?"

He smiled again and said,

"MY CHILD, JESUS PAID YOUR BILL A LONG, LONG TIME AGO."



In Appreciation

To thank you for your thoughtful kindness
at a time when it was greatly appreciated.

THE FAMILY OF THE LATE

forever in our hearts
Virginia
WILSON

Sunrise: January 12, 1939

Sunset: November 14, 2024

Earthly Place of Rest
St. Mark Cemetery
Plains, Georgia 31780

Pallbearers
Friends of the Family
Flower Attendants
Friends of the Family



FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS ENTRUSTED TO:
Barnum Funeral Home, Inc.
217 Ashby Street, Americus, Georgia 31709
Telephone: (229) 924-2958 | Fax: (229) 924-2957
Information Line: (229) 928-2955
www.barnumfuneralhome.com
Email: barnumfuneralhome@gmail.com

Escort Courtesy:
Americus Police Department Sumter County Sheriff's Office

CELEBRATION of LIFE

Sunrise: January 12, 1939

Sunset: November 14, 2024



I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me (Philippians 4:13).

Home Going Services

Thursday, November 21, 2024
11:00 a.m.

St. Mark A. M. E. Church
1667 Bishop Johnson Road
Plains, Georgia 31780

EULOGIST
Rev. Shirley Strawter



THE OBITUARY

Ms. Virginia Wilson

Ms. Virginia Wilson, a devoted advocate for individuals with special needs, community leader, and trailblazing professional, passed away on November 14, 2024, in Americus, Georgia. She was 85.

Born January 12, 1939, in Webster County, Georgia, Virginia grew up on the Carter Boyhood Farm, where she worked alongside her mother, siblings, and extended family. Her early years on the farm instilled in her a strong work ethic, deep faith, and profound sense of community that would define her life's work.

Virginia excelled academically, becoming the first in her family to graduate from college and earn an advanced degree, setting the bar for future generations. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from City College of New York and a Master of Arts degree from Columbia University. Her achievements were a source of inspiration for her family and community, exemplifying the transformative power of education and faith.

Her love for God guided every aspect of her life, including her professional journey. As a healthcare professional, she served at New York Presbyterian Hospital and later, as a Facility Director for the New York State Department of Mental Health and Hygiene. In these roles, she treated every individual with compassion and dignity, believing her work was an extension of her faith.

A tireless advocate for individuals with special needs, Virginia was driven by her unwavering belief in the divine worth of every person. She championed their rights, ensuring they had access to essential resources and opportunities. Her dedication extended to her church and community, where she founded the food pantry at Bright Temple A.M.E. Church. She saw this as a direct expression of her faith and her calling to serve others.

Virginia's spiritual convictions also shaped her personal passions. She was widely recognized for her contributions to genealogical research, particularly her extensive documentation of the Kitchens' family history. Her work was grounded in her belief that understanding one's roots honors God's providence and connects generations.

She approached all her relationships with the love and kindness that her faith inspired, touching countless lives along the way.

Virginia was preceded in death by her mother, Ola B. Wilson; father, Lawrence Wilson; brothers: Nathaniel Wilson, Albert Wilson, and Willie James Wilson; grandson, Lavar Wilson Woods; nephews, Rev. Ferrell Wilson and Jerome Wilson; nieces, Christene Murphy and Tracey Laney; great-niece, Shasha Murphy.

Virginia's legacy of faith, service, and advocacy extends beyond her professional accomplishments. She was a beloved matriarch and family pillar.

She leaves to carry on her legacy, her six children: Willie B. Dunton and companion, Hunter Manderson, Leroy Wilson, Harold Martin (Evelyn) Wilson, Beatrice E. Goldsmith, Ellen B. (James) Wilson Leary, and Lawrence Wilson; nine siblings: Mae Frances Merritt, Gene Wilson, Wade Wilson, Ann Wilson, John Henry (Juanita) Wilson, Lena Mae Laney, Laura Gaines, Ola Mae Wilson and Marvin (Annie B.) Wilson; 15 grandchildren: Nathaniel Dunton III, Christopher (Charlene) Middleton, Tina Fernandez, Athena Gintena Mahogany Wilson, Shantyra (Richard) Dunn, Chervon (Daniel) Smith, LaShora Goodwin, Deidra(Charles Moody) Goodwin, Harold Martin Wilson, Jr., Philip (Deserai) Goldsmith, Alisa Goodwin, Furtasia Goodwin, Iziah James Harrell, and Matthew Wilson; 21 great-grandchildren, eight great-great-grandchildren; a host of cherished nieces, and beloved nephews, along with an enormous group of other loving relatives and friends.



Processional
led by Rev. Shirley Strawter

Last Glance and Final Sealing

Selection

Sis. Rusha Gardner

Prayer

Bro. Gerald Holley

Scripture

Rev. Shirley Strawter

Obituary Reading

Mr. Darren Wilson

Reflections ~ limit 2 minutes

Open to Family and Friends

Selection

Sis. Shirley Waymon

Eulogy

Rev. Shirley Strawter

St. Mark A.M.E. Church

Acknowledgements

and Presentation
of the Family Bible

Barnum Staff

RECESSIONAL

*Please turn all cell phones and electronic devices
off or to silent mode during the services.*

Thank you.

REPAST

Life Center of St. Mark A.M.E. Church

THE ORDER OF SERVICE
Ms. Virginia Wilson