



## Johnnie Mae Wilson

November 5, 1939 - September 5, 2024

Johnnie Mae Wilson departed this life and transitioned to be with the Lord on Thursday, September 5, 2024. She was born on Sunday, November 5, 1939, to the late Johnnie Wright and Jessie Mae Owens Wright in Allendale, South Carolina.

Johnnie Mae graduated from Fairfax High School in Fairfax, South Carolina in 1957. She was a happy, social teenager who participated in extra-curricular activities such as girls' basketball, the Glee Club and Student Government as the Assistant Secretary of her Senior Class. That's where she honed her leadership skills that would serve her well in life.

Johnnie Mae's upbringing in the church taught her to give back to those who were less fortunate. Before residing at Viva Senior Assisted Living in Harrisburg, Johnnie Mae was a member of Victory Christian Fellowship in New Castle, Delaware. At Victory, she was a member of the Women of Wisdom Ministry. Prior to becoming a member of Victory, she was a member of St. Matthews A.M.E. Church in Philadelphia, PA. Johnnie Mae always looked for ways to help others and would gladly volunteer to take on any task. She, along with her sister Sweetie, delivered Meals on Wheels to the sick and shut in for many years.

Johnnie Mae enjoyed having visitors and always invited people to stop by to

see her. She embodied the spirit of love and giving that extended to everyone she met. She believed in giving small gifts to everyone to let them know that she was thinking about them. When asked why she felt the need to give gifts to everyone, she would simply say, "If I'm not giving, I'm not living." It was almost impossible to leave her house without her giving you a new pair of socks, gloves, or even an umbrella. It was easier to take the gift than to say, "No thank you." People loved to visit her, and she loved offering advice and a bible scripture even if they didn't ask for it. Visits were always the same - good conversation, with a side of tea, pound cake, a small gift, and laughter.

Johnnie Mae moved to Philadelphia in 1959. She was primarily a homemaker but held various part time jobs until she became a supervisor at First Pennsylvania Bank, which later became Core States Bank in Philadelphia. She worked there for approximately 25 years. While working at the bank, she managed to get several friends and family hired there, giving them the opportunity to gain useful work experience. She believed in reaching back and pulling others forward. After moving to Delaware, she eventually retired from Core States Bank, but later returned to the workforce at MBNA Bank in Delaware.

Johnnie Mae married her childhood sweetheart, Willie "Bill" Wilson on September 5, 1960. From the day they were married, they were inseparable. You rarely saw one without the other until Bill passed away in 2019. They were always referred to as Johnnie Mae & Bill not by their individual names. From this union seven children were born, five girls and two boys. As God planned it, she passed away on their 64th wedding anniversary.

What Johnnie Mae cherished most was family. If you asked her what her greatest accomplishment was, she would say being blessed with seven children, 11 grandchildren, a growing number of great grandchildren, wonderful nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends. She was loved and she

exuded love. Family was her pride and joy, and she would do anything for all of them. If a family member called her and needed help, she would come running, day or night. Sending food or money to someone in need was the norm for her. If she couldn't, she would instruct one, or all, of her children to send food or money to the person in need. She made her children promise to always look out for each other. It was understood that also meant to look out for your cousins as well.

She loved large holiday gatherings that had an abundance of people and food. She would say, "Goodness gracious look at all of this food", but secretly she loved it. Her specialty was making delicious, buttery pound cakes. If anyone asked her to make a pound cake, she made five because she liked seeing and having an abundance. If there wasn't enough food for everyone to take a plate home, she believed there wasn't enough food prepared.

Johnnie Mae was preceded in death by her parents, Johnnie and Jessie Mae Wright; her siblings, Ernest Wright, Bessie Wright, James Wright, and Johnny Jeter; her beloved husband, Willie "Bill" Wilson; two children, Elaine Wilson Johnson and Willie "Otis" Wilson.

She leaves to cherish her memory: five children, Ernestine Roach (Trent), Dwayne Wilson (Quamaine), Pamela Thomas (Derek), Jacqueline Smith (Chris), and Michelle Ross (Monte); her sister, Elizabeth "Sweetie" Ford; her sisters-in-law, Evelyn Wright and Jackie Jeter; her grandchildren, Marcel Roach, Tamara Butler, Kurtis Roach (Jenelle), Ariel Roach, Nicole Wilkerson (JaJuan), Christine Smith, Catherine Smith, Jason Thomas, Justin Ross, Lauren Ross, and Dwayne Wilson, Jr.; her great-grandchildren, Ayden Roach, Zion Butler, Bryson Roach, Chanel Roach and eagerly awaited Harper Wilkerson; her beloved nieces, nephews, cousins, family, and friends.

SERVICE OF INTERMENT WILL BE HELD AT 1 P.M., FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2024, AT GRACELAWN MEMORIAL PARK, NEW CASTLE, DELAWARE.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS ARE ENCOURAGED TO CLICK ON THE SHARE A MEMORY TAB TO POST VIDEOS, SHARE MEMORIES, CONDOLENCES, REFLECTIONS OR SIMPLY LEAVE YOUR NAME.

# Previous Events

## Flower Delivery

SEP 19. 8:30 AM (ET)

First Baptist Church of Steelton  
1850 S. 19th Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17104

## Viewing

SEP 19. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

First Baptist Church of Steelton  
1850 S. 19th Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17104

## Service

SEP 19. 11:00 AM (ET)

First Baptist Church of Steelton  
1850 S. 19th Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17104

# Tribute Wall



“ Wallace Funeral Directors created a Webcast in memory of Johnnie Mae Wilson



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**Wallace Funeral Directors** - September 19, 2024 at 09:21 AM

LD

“ Our prayers and to the family. Love your cousins in New Jersey, Dennis, Michelle and Linda

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**Linda M Deseignora** - September 28, 2024 at 06:52 PM

LD

*Our prayers and love to the family. Love your cousins in New Jersey- Dennis, Michelle and Linda*

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**Linda M Deseignora** - September 28, 2024 at 06:55 PM

MC

“ Dennis, Michelle and Linda Parents Late Bernice and Arthur Crawford

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**Michelle Crawford Curry** - September 28, 2024 at 06:29 PM

JM

“ *Jeffery Manley lit a candle in memory of  
Johnnie Mae Wilson*



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**Jeffery Manley** - September 22, 2024 at 09:34 PM

CB

“ *To Tina and family sorry for your loss may your family have comfort  
in the Lord.  
Cindy badgett from the Navy Depot.*

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**Cindy badgett** - September 18, 2024 at 08:42 PM

BW

“ *Bertie, Dunlap, Jessie Webster purchased the Full  
Of Love Bouquet for the family of Johnnie Mae  
Wilson.*



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**Bertie, Dunlap, Jessie Webster** - September 18, 2024 at 11:42 AM

CR

“ *Crystal Roach purchased the Serene Retreat for  
the family of Johnnie Mae Wilson.*



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**Crystal Roach** - September 16, 2024 at 11:43 AM

CR

“ *Crystal Roach planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Johnnie Mae Wilson.*

Crystal Roach - September 16, 2024 at 11:43 AM

PL

“ *Johnnie Mae was one of the most loving and caring people on this earth. She meant the world to me. I will love and miss her forever..*

❤️



Pat Liberto - September 13, 2024 at 04:10 PM

TS

“ *Sending prayers and my deepest condolences to the Family.  
Aunt Johnnae will always be just that my Aunt Johnnae  
Love You All  
Troy Stephens*



Troy R Stephens - September 12, 2024 at 10:49 AM

BP

“ *Betty Paschal lit a candle in memory of Johnnie Mae Wilson*



Betty Paschal - September 12, 2024 at 09:04 AM

BP

*Willie and Betty Paschal send condolences to the family in this time of bereavement. Memories to be cherished. May God comfort you all.*

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**Betty Paschal** - September 12, 2024 at 09:08 AM