



## Mrs. Willie Mae Burnett

October 17, 1936 - January 15, 2024

Willie Mae (Ragland) Burnett was born on October 17, 1936 in Tuscumbia, Alabama, to the late Lorenzo and Rosie Ragland. She was reared in a loving home that prioritized a Christian lifestyle and she accepted Christ as her personal Savior.

Willie Burnett was a student in the Tuscumbia Public School system and participated on the high school track team and yearbook staff. Willie, often referred to as, "Judy" was extremely artistic, organized, and an intuitive thinker. At an early age, she was designing and sewing her own clothes and entered the work force. Willie graduated from Trehelm High School in 1953. Shortly after graduation, the Ragland family moved to Inkster, Michigan. Always industrious, Willie sought new opportunities and began working in a restaurant. While working with her sister-in-law Hazel Ragland, she met the love of her life, Franklin D. Burnett, a soldier in the U.S. Army.

Franklin fell head over heels for her; however, her elder sister, Rosie always said he fell head over heels for her (Rosie) as Willie was passing Rosie's cooking off as her own. Several years later in Michigan, Willie married Franklin in 1957. In 1959, Willie and Franklin had their first son, Franklin D. Burnett II. He was Willie's heart. The young family traveled throughout the states due to Franklins military assignment, In 1961, Willie had her second child, a daughter, Andree A. Burnett in Jackson, MS. Willie was a loving and caring

wife and an amazing mother. She was no stranger to multi-tasking as she was a competent and an efficient worker no matter the job. Willie was creative and a true visionary with a unique style and a discerning eye for fashion. She functioned as Room Mother (class), Den Mother (Scouts), Team Mother (Sports) and she participated in many auxiliaries and committees on the military bases.

Willie's world travels included Europe, Frankfurt, Germany, London, England; Paris, France;

Okinawa, Japan, and probably had been in 40 of 50 states. Her youngest son, Ivey P. Burnett was born in 1964 in Munich, Germany. After her husband retired, the family settled in Fannin, Mississippi in 1973. She never slowed down and eagerly became engaged in the community and a member of Greater New Truelight Baptist Church. She worked as the church Treasurer, over-seeing Vacation Bible School, the children's Christmas program, and Christmas Eve's Candle Light services. As she was committed to embracing new opportunities, Willie started working for Trustmark Bank as a Teller. She excelled in her role and played an instrumental role in supporting all Trustmark Bank branches/locations. She was a diligent and faithful worker, but ended her career in banking to become a caretaker for her mother. Willie was the anchor and backbone of the family. She supported her husband in his adventures of hunting, fishing, and nurturing and guiding her children along with her husband through years of art classes, sporting events, and occasional pageants. They were happily married for 44 years until his death on August 26, 2001.

Willie was the youngest of 8 children and was preceded in death by 5 brothers, (Robert, Lorenzo, Mitt, James, and Willie Jean Ragland), and 2 sisters, Bettie Tripp and Rosie L. Moon. She leaves, with the fondest of memories her children, Franklin D. Burnett II(Tracy), Andree Burnett(Valerie); her precious grandchildren, 6 boys and 1 girl, Franklin D. Burnett III, Rickey

Burnett, Ive Young (Marlena), Austin Burnett, Morgan Burnett Norman (Joshua), Emery Young (Kambria), Ive P. Burnett II, Dylan Burnett (Amanda), and 6 great grandchildren, Braiden Armstrong, Aubreielle Abraham, Roman Young, Neil Norman, Elliotte Norman, and Emeri Young.

Willie Mae Burnett passed quietly and peacefully from grace to glory, January 15, 2024 at her residence, where she resided for 51 years. She reared her children and grandchildren with loving care, support, and high expectations. She was a remarkable woman that lived a blessed life that added value to her community and all that knew her. She departed this life into the waiting arms of her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, in the sure and certain knowledge that she will reign with him in Eternity.

We celebrate her life and legacy with great joy and pride knowing; she fought a good fight, finished her course, and transitioned to heaven.

This is not goodbye, but see you later until we meet again.

# Cemetery Details

## Shady Grove CME Church Cemetery

306 Church Road  
Brandon, MS

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN **19**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Dean Memorial Funeral Home  
745 Highway 468  
Brandon, MS 39042  
(601) 825-3884  
<https://deanmemorialfuneralhome.com/>

## Service

JAN **20**. 11:00 AM (CT)

Greater New Truelight M. B. Church  
316 Church Road  
Brandon, MS 39047

# Tribute Wall



“ *Dean Memorial Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mrs. Willie Mae Burnett*



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**Dean Memorial Funeral Home** - January 19, 2024 at 07:57 AM

DS

“ *Dorothy Smith lit a candle in memory of Willie Burnett*



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**Dorothy Smith** - January 29, 2024 at 06:03 PM

SR

“ *Sheila Ripppy lit a candle in memory of Willie Burnett*



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**Sheila Ripppy** - January 21, 2024 at 09:20 PM

JN

“ *Jeanette Neal lit a candle in memory of Willie Burnett*



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**Jeanette Neal** - January 20, 2024 at 11:36 AM

AB

“ *Alexis Bilbro lit a candle in memory of Willie Burnett*



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**Alexis Bilbro** - January 20, 2024 at 10:14 AM

GS

“ *Sincere Condolences*



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**Gwendolyn & Dallas Sutton** - January 20, 2024 at 04:37 AM

MA

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



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**Mary Mosley Anderson** - January 19, 2024 at 03:33 PM

DT

“ *Delois Trigg lit a candle in memory of Willie Burnett*



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**Delois B Trigg** - January 19, 2024 at 07:18 AM

RB

“ *Robbie Buckhalter-Singleton lit a candle in memory of Willie Burnett*



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**Robbie Buckhalter-Singleton** - January 18, 2024 at 10:01 PM

PJ

“ *Patricia Jones lit a candle in memory of Willie Burnett*



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**Patricia Jones** - January 18, 2024 at 09:00 PM

RW

“ *Sweet Lady that I have always loved to be in her presence. She taught me so much.*



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**Rogert Williams** - January 18, 2024 at 07:45 PM

PM

“ Patricia Myers-Robinson lit a candle in memory of Willie Burnett



Patricia Myers-Robinson - January 18, 2024 at 11:35 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mrs. Willie Mae Burnett.



January 18, 2024 at 10:17 AM

RW

“ Rogert Minyonia Williams sent a virtual gift in memory of Willie Burnett



Rogert and Minyonia Williams - January 18, 2024 at 09:21 AM

EA

“ Eddie Ainsworth lit a candle in memory of Willie Burnett



Eddie Ainsworth - January 18, 2024 at 08:45 AM

AJ

“ *Annette Jones lit a candle in memory of Willie Burnett*



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**Annette Jones** - January 18, 2024 at 08:25 AM

MM

“ *Mary McCoy lit a candle in memory of Willie Burnett*



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**Mary McCoy** - January 17, 2024 at 11:24 PM