

SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

for

MARIE ALSTON LEE

January 4, 1938 – July 15, 2009



Monday, July 20, 2009

11:00 AM

*Mitchell Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church
1085 Mitchell Chapel Church Road
Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312*

Reverend Kenneth L. Swann, Officiating
Reverend Kenneth Brooks, Pastor and Eulogist

SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

In Loving Memory of

Marie Alston Lee

January 4, 1938 – July 15, 2009

Order of Ceremony

Processional Clergy & Family

Hymn of Assurance “What A Friend We Have In Jesus”
Mitchell Chapel & Evans Chapel Choirs

Words of Comfort

Old Testament Reverend Charles Howard

New Testament Reverend Robin Small

Prayer of Consolation Reverend Swann

Musical Tribute “It’s Your Time”
Linda Cheek

Acknowledgements & Resolutions Virginia Daniel

Obituary Read Silently

Remarks *Please Limit to Two (2) Minutes Only*

Musical Tribute “His Eye Is On The Sparrow”
Sandra Horton

Eulogy Reverend Kenneth Brooks
Pastor, Mitchell Chapel AMEZ Church

Song of Victory Mitchell Chapel & Evans Chapel Choirs

Recessional

MARIE ALSTON LEE

Marie Alston Lee was born on January 4, 1938 in Siler City, North Carolina. One of eleven children born to the late Isaac and Lavator Crutchfield Alston, Marie graduated from Chatham High School in 1957. Afterward, she began cultivating her gift for singing—this would eventually lead her to sing soprano with female gospel group *The Five Keys* (with her sisters and cousin). Together the group would tour the local area, performing at venues including Pine Hill United Church of Christ and Evans Chapel Church, both in Siler City, North Carolina.

She shared her love for singing with a passion for all things domestic—from altering clothing to sewing prom dresses to keeping her thumbs green in her vegetable and flower gardens—she certainly had a special knack for making a house a real home. Her standout gift for baking (especially cakes) brought many to her table and left them all wanting more, more, more! She turned her passion into her life's work.

Divine timing would have her cross paths with a young man in the late 1950's named George William Lee; the couple wed on December 31, 1965 and birthed two beautiful daughters: Marcia and Denise. The turn of the century brought Marie to a new chapter in her life—along with a new title she obviously loved—"DJ's Grandma".

Left to cherish her memory are: her loving and devoted husband of 43 years, George William Lee of Pittsboro, NC; two loving daughters: Marcia Lee of Durham, NC and Denise (Don) Lee-Bradford of Greensboro, NC; grandson David Justin Scarlette of Durham, NC; four sisters: Melvia Dark of Liberty, NC, Estella Headen of Siler City, NC, Alvator (James) Burnette of Carrboro, NC and Mary Elizabeth (Wade) Milliken of Pittsboro, NC; two brothers: Leon Alston Sr. and Raymond "Brady" Alston, both of Siler City, NC as well as a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, in-laws and cherished friends.



FLORAL BEARERS

Chatham High School Class of 1957, Siler City, NC
Horton High School Class of 1957, Pittsboro, NC

CASKET BEARERS

Chris Alston
Alvin Burnette
Wayne Emerson

Leon Alston, Jr.
Purvis Burnette
Naphtali "Tula" Milliken

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The family would like to thank each of you for the generous outpouring of love, support and encouragement towards Marie during her illness. We also wish to assure you of our enduring gratitude for your kindness toward us—it has not only helped us during this difficult time but also has uplifted us spiritually. May God bless you richly.

GOD'S GARDEN

*God looked around his garden
And found an empty place,
He then looked down upon the earth
And saw your tired face.
He put his arms around you
And lifted you to rest.
God's garden must be beautiful
He always takes the best.
He knew that you were suffering
He knew you were in pain.
He knew that you would never
Get well on earth again.
He saw the road was getting rough
And the hills were hard to climb.
So he closed your weary eyelids
And whispered, 'Peace be thine'.
It broke our hearts to lose you
But you didn't go alone,
For part of us went with you
The day God called you home.*

--Anonymous

Services Entrusted To:

Knotts Funeral Home
50 Masonic Street
Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312

Interment & Committal Rights:

Mitchell Chapel AMEZ Cemetery
1085 Mitchell Chapel Church Road
Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312