

A Celebration of The Life  
Of  
Lillie Victoria Higginbotham Bates

Sunrise  
April 8, 1896

Sunset  
July 13, 2001



Saturday, July 21, 2001  
11:00 AM

Shiloh Baptist Church  
1401 Duke Street  
Alexandria, Virginia

Rev. Lee A. Earl, Pastor  
Officiating

## OBITUARY

Lillie Victoria Higginbotham Bates, seventh child of thirteen, born to Charlie and Carrie McNeil Higginbotham in Greensburg (Tinus), Louisiana. St. Helena Parish, April 8, 1896.

Lillie was educated in private boarding schools in Mississippi. After completing her education she taught elementary school in her home area.

Lillie married Charlie Bates of Peoria, Mississippi at her parent's home in Louisiana in 1918. They made their home in Peoria where they were blessed with nine children. Lillie joined Tickfaw Baptist Church in the community and was an active member until she moved to Virginia in 1959.

Lillie was relocated to Virginia by her daughter Carrie and son-in-law George James following the death of her husband, Charlie. Soon after moving to Alexandria, Lillie joined Shiloh Baptist Church of Alexandria on April 29, 1979, under the Pastorage of the late Rev. Moses M. Beasley. Lillie was active with the Senior Citizens Group at Groveton Elementary Senior Center.

Lillie departed this life on July 13, 2001 at home in Virginia. She leaves to cherish her memory, four daughters: Carrie James (George) of Alexandria, VA.; Velma Lewis (Napeoleon) of Glendale, AZ.; Wilma Abrams (Charles) of Matteson IL. and Vivian of Harvey, IL. Daughter-in-law, Evelyn Bates, wife of the late Ivory of Capital Heights, MD. She also leaves three sons; Flozell (Helena) of Centralia IL.; Elder Allen Bernard (Irene) of Chicago and Clifton of Harvey, IL. Two children Hazel and Ivory preceded her in death.

Lillie is also survived by one sister-in-law, Essie Bates of Magnolia, MS., twenty grandchildren, forty-seven great grandchildren, eleven great-great grandchildren and a host of loving nieces, nephews, other relatives, neighbors, friends, and her Shiloh and Tickfaw Baptist Church families.

## ORDER OF SERVICE

Prelude		Organist Sis. Jackie Darden
Procession		
Invocation		
Congregational Hymn		To be announced
Scripture Lessons	Psalms 23 Old Testament	Dea. Joseph Smith
	John 14:1-6 New Testament	Dea. Anderson Grimsley
Prayer of Comfort		Rev. Luther Bailey
Hymn #25	"How Great Thou Art"	Min. Xavier Jackson
Reflections		Family and Friends VELMA - CLAUDIA, GRANDDAUGHTER
Church Letter		Elaine Augustus Church Clerk
Obituary Reading		Read Silently
Hymn #204	"His Eye Is On The Sparrow"	Dea. Oliver Norton
Eulogy		Rev. Lee A. Earl
Recessional	"Amazing Grace"	Organist
Interment		Mt. Comfort Cemetery Alexandria, VA.

## Pallbearers

Dea. Joseph Smith  
Dea. Anderson Grimsley  
Dea. Robert Nelson  
Dea. Dan Ross  
Clifton Bates, Jr. Grandson

Noah Williams, Great Grandson  
Gabriel Williams, Great Grandson  
Russell Bates, Grandson  
Kermit Bates, Grandson  
Larry Bates, Grandson

## Acknowledgement of Thanks

The family of the late Lillie V. Bates would like to express their heartfelt appreciation for all the prayers, words of comfort, expressions of sympathy and all acts of kindness during the years of her living in Virginia and at our time of bereavement. Special thanks to Rev. Earl and the Shiloh Baptist Church family. May the Lord's face continue to shine upon you.

## Repast Shiloh Baptist Church

Arrangements by:  
Greene Funeral Home, Inc.  
814 Franklin Street  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314  
(703)549-0089

Lillie Bates remembered this poem and recited it on the eve of her 105<sup>th</sup> birthday. This is a poem her sister, Cora H. Webber taught her in 1<sup>st</sup> grade – Lillie was 5 years old. This was in 1901. Cora was her teacher and had her perform what they called “a piece” at one of Cora’s concerts.

### **Why I Talked So Much**

**They called me little Chatter Box**

**But my name is Little May**

**The reason why I talk so much**

**I have so much to say**

**And oh! I have so many friends**

**So many, I can’t but love them all,**

**Because everyone loves me.**

**I love my Papa and Mama**

**And I love my sisters too-**

**And if you are very good, I guess I love you too.**

**But I love God the best of all**

**He keeps me thru the night**

**And when morning comes again**

**He wakes me with the light.**

**Oh I think it’s so nice to live,**

**And yet,**

**If I should die,**

**The Lord will send his Angels down**

**And take me to the sky.**