

## Her Journey's Just Begun

Don't think of her as gone away  
Her journey has just begun  
Life holds many facets  
The Earth is only one  
Just think of her as resting  
From the sorrows and the tears  
In a place of warmth and comfort  
Where there are no days and years  
Think how she must be wishing  
That we could know today  
How nothing but our sadness  
can really pass away  
And think of her as living  
In the hearts of Those she touched  
For nothing loved is ever lost-  
And she was loved so much.

### Pallbearers

Major Washington | Stanley Whitmore  
Diontae Ford | Deacon Carlin Wilson

### Honorary Pallbearers

Jimmy Ford | Anthony C. Jones  
Jafari Baker | Rodney White

### Flower Bearers

Friends of the Family

### Interment

Forest Lawn Cemetery  
3210 South Washington Avenue  
Saginaw, Michigan 48601

### Acknowledgement

The family of Mrs. Lillie Mae Ford wishes to thank everyone for their love and support during our time of bereavement. We would like to give special thanks to Noelle Bunker, Tyrisha Martinez, RN, Jennifer Roberts from Valley Hospice, Liz and Nicole from the Commission on Aging, Pastor Arthur and Lady Lera Aikin, Ivan E. Phillips and the Staff at Paradise Funeral Chapel. Knowing that one day, everyone will cross the same threshold, it is comforting to know that in our time of need, there are special people like you.

# A Reflection on a Life Well Lived

Sunrise  
Oct.  
10  
1945

Sunset  
Jul.  
31  
2025



## Mother Lillie Mae Ford



### Paradise Funeral Chapel

3100 South Washington Avenue  
Saginaw, Michigan 48601  
Phone (989) 754-4826 / Fax (989) 754-3740  
pfc@saginaw@paradisefuneralchapel.com  
Sharise Steele-Phillips, Manager  
Ivan E. Phillips, President & Owner



Celebration of Life | Monday, August 11, 2025 | 11:00 AM  
Paradise Funeral Chapel | 3100 South Washington Avenue | Saginaw, Michigan 48601

# Order of Service

Elder DJ Price, Presiding

Prelude  
Musician

Processional  
Family

Scripture Reading  
Old & New Testament  
Elder DJ Price

Prayer  
Raymond Bady, Sr.

Selection  
"You Are My Strength"  
Missionary Caroline Young

Acknowledgements & Obituary  
Erica Turner

Expressions  
(Please Limit to 2 Minutes)  
Family & Friends  
Noelle Bunker, Diedre Tyler, Tiffany Prather

Selection  
"Something About That Name"  
Missionary Caroline Young

Eulogy  
Pastor Arthur L. Aiken, Sr.  
Greater Williams Temple Church of God in Christ

Committal, Benediction, Recessional



"Peace I  
leave with  
you, my  
peace I give  
unto you"  
John 14:27

"Let not  
your heart be  
troubled"  
John 14:1



# In Loving Memory

Lillie Mae Jones was born on October 10, 1945, in Newellton, Louisiana, to Leroy and Lucille Jones. She passed away on Thursday, July 31, 2025, at her residence in Saginaw, Michigan. Age 79 years.

Lillie excelled in school and loved performing in theatrical plays. She met the love of her life, Henry Ford, Jr., in their hometown of Tallulah, Louisiana. There, they were married and later moved to Saginaw, Michigan, in 1967. To this union was born one daughter, Elizabeth "Ruta" (Arthur) Aikin, and one bonus daughter, Diedre (Gus) Tyler.

Lillie later went on to work for Child Haven, formerly the Saginaw County Child Receiving Home, and retired after many faithful years of service.

Lillie was a Jane of all trades: an amazingly talented seamstress and hairdresser. Her specialty was the old-fashioned press and curl. She also enjoyed spending time with family and friends, baking, shopping, making people laugh, and listening to the "Blues" and watching Western films with her husband, Henry.

Lillie's greatest accomplishment and joy was being a doting and loving grandmother to Jessica Lynn and Arthur "Brandon" Aikin. They were loved beyond measure.

Lillie also leaves to cherish her memory; cousin, Mildred Pratt, Saginaw, Michigan; 4 nephews, Craig Jones Houston, Texas, Jimmy Ford, Goldsboro, North Carolina, Jafari (Patricia) Baker, and Eric Baker, both of Richmond, California, and Rodney "Pete" White, Houston, Texas; 2 nieces, Jackie White, Houston, Texas, and Delores (Stanley) Whitmore, Columbus, Ohio; also a sister-in-love, Addie Ford, Saginaw, Michigan, and a host of other family members and friends.

Lillie was preceded in death by many loved ones-far too many to name them all. These include her parents, Leroy and Lucille Jones; siblings, Erma Lee, Earnestine, Percy, Ruby Lee, and Herbert; also preceded in death were her brothers-in-love, Joseph "Pug" Ford, James White, and Johnnie Baker; sister-in-love, Veter Baker; nephew, Anthony Jones, and nieces, Elaine White and Detrica Williams.

Lillie never met a stranger and over the years, she embraced and loved on so many wonderful people. Those that stuck with her to the very end include Karen Cope, John and Lucille Trice, Susan Walker, Glenda Alston, and Debra Parks.

The family of Mother Lillie Ford would also like to give a special thank you to Noelle Bunker and Tyrisha Martinez who provided exceptional care and support to her.

Thank you also to Jennifer Roberts, RN from Valley Hospice; and Liz and Nicole from the Commission on Aging.

Special thanks to Pastor Arthur and Lady Lera Aikin (Grandpa & Grandma Aikin), for your spiritual guidance, love, and support. We are truly grateful.

To all of you, thank you for being our village when we needed you the most. Lillie was loved and cherished by so many and will forever be in our hearts.

Love You, Momma Lillie