

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF A
BEAUTIFUL SOUL



SUNDAY, AUGUST 09, 2026

**Two O'clock in the Afternoon
Zion Hill Baptist Church
10922 SC-39
Cross Hill, SC 29332**

**PASTOR:
REVEREND EMANUEL GILCHRIST**

**OFFICIATE:
MINISTER LACHELLE RICE**



“PEGGY”

Mrs. Melrose D. Brown
AUGUST 23, 1947 **AUGUST 04, 2026**

Peggy

Peggy, you knew me inside and out.
I know it wasn't easy to put up with
someone of my type yet love me anyway.

I am so grateful God chose you for me. Now I see why
you would be, that great person God chose for me.

Peggy, I will always carry you in my heart, even though
it left a void. I find comfort in knowing that you are
now with God. I know someday he will heal this void.

I Love You, Peggy
Your husband. James



Mama

Mama, I called your name yesterday and you did not answer. I called your name today and still you did not answer. I've been fumbling through the dark with a flashlight looking for you Mama. I cannot find you Babygirl. Then I realized, I cannot find you because you are no longer here with me. As bad as I am hurting at the loss of you, I understand why you had to leave. You were sick and your health was declining. I asked God to heal you and make you whole again. I love you dearly and would have given anything to keep you here. God blessed me with a wonderful mother named Melrose aka Peggy to whom I love so dear. So, when I called your name today and I did not get an answer. God whispered in my ear and said, "Audrey I called your mama's name on August 4th and she answered".

Rest on Mama until we meet again.

I love you. Babygirl. Audrey



Celebrating HER LIFE & LEGACY

A HEART BIGGER THAN THE OCEAN

"She served God by serving others, and cooking was her ministry."

**"Her children rise up and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her."
— Proverbs 31:28**

Melrose D. Brown, affectionately known to family and friends as "Peggy," peacefully departed this life on August 4, 2026, at her home surrounded by the comfort of her loving family. She was born on August 23, 1947, to the late Otis Dial and Geneva Evans.

Peggy received her education at Sanders High School in Laurens County, South Carolina. She was blessed with twelve siblings and, as the oldest among them, naturally became the family's protector, leader, and guiding force. She was the beloved matriarch whose strength, wisdom, and unwavering love held her family together. Peggy was deeply loved and respected by all who knew her. Her smile was infectious, and she never turned anybody away.

On January 29, 1966, Peggy married James Brown. In 1972, they relocated to Baltimore, Maryland, where Peggy lived, worked, and faithfully raised her family for more than fifty years.

From their union, two children were born: Kenneth Brown and Audrey Brown. Peggy treasured being a mother and devoted herself wholeheartedly to her family. She was preceded in death by her beloved son, Kenneth "Kenny" Brown.

Peggy was a dedicated and hardworking woman. She worked for General Motors in Baltimore, Maryland, from 1977 until 1983. She later began a career with Barre National Pharmaceuticals, where she faithfully served as a technician for twenty years before retiring. She took great pride in her work and earned the respect of everyone who knew her.

Peggy was a saved woman who loved the Lord and knew Him for herself. Her faith was the foundation of her life and the source of her strength. She believed in the power of prayer, trusted God through every season of life, and demonstrated His love through her kindness, generosity, and compassion toward others. In 2000, Peggy united with Empowerment Temple AME Church in Baltimore, Maryland, under the spiritual leadership of Dr. Jamal Harrison Bryant. She remained steadfast in her faith until the Lord called her home.

To know Peggy was to experience unconditional love. She truly had a heart bigger than the ocean and never hesitated to open her home to anyone in need. Whether family, friend, or stranger, if you needed a warm meal, a listening ear, or simply a place to belong, Peggy welcomed you with open arms.

Peggy's faith was not confined to the four walls of the church—it was lived out every day. One of the greatest ways she shared God's love was through cooking. Cooking was her ministry. God blessed her with an extraordinary talent in the kitchen, and she expressed her love through every meal she prepared. Many would say she was one of the world's greatest cooks. She didn't simply cook—she created memories around the table that will be cherished forever.

Her sweet potato pies became legendary among family and friends. Whenever Peggy announced she

Her Legacy (CONT'D)

was coming home to South Carolina, family members immediately began placing their requests for one of her famous sweet potato pies. They weren't just desserts—they were symbols of her love, generosity, and the joy she found in serving others. As those who knew her would often say with a smile, her pies were "so good they'd make you want to slap somebody." Every meal she prepared was seasoned with love, and every seat at her table reminded others they were welcome.

God blessed Peggy with many gifts. He gave her the hands of a gifted cook, the heart of a servant, and the grace to be an exceptional wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, cousin, and friend. Her kindness, wisdom, generosity, and unwavering devotion to her family touched countless lives. She leaves behind a legacy of faith, compassion, and unconditional love that will continue to inspire everyone blessed enough to know her.

SHE LEAVES TO CHERISH HER PRECIOUS MEMORY

Her husband of sixty years, James Brown; her loving daughter, Audrey Brown; her granddaughter, Keeonna (Brittanie) Brown; her great-granddaughter, K'maya Scott; her grandson, Keith D. Lawson Jr.; her great-grandson, Cy'mere Lawson; her beloved sisters, Wynetta (Frankie) Jones, Carol (Johnnie) Grant, Cynthia (Kenneth) Grant, Osie (George) Thompson and Tracy (Deon) Harvey her beloved brothers, Delmar (Brenda) Dial, Willie George (Betty) Dial, Billy (Diane) Evans, Donald (Loretta) Ellis, and Michael (April) Dial; her longtime best friend, Ms. Beatrice Carter; and a host of loving nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives, and dear friends who will forever treasure her memory.

PRECEDED IN DEATH BY

Her parents, Otis Dial and Geneva Evans; her beloved son, Kenneth "Kenny" Brown; and her brothers, James Dial and Otis Dial Jr.

Though our hearts are heavy with sorrow, we rejoice in knowing that Peggy's work on earth is complete. She leaves behind a legacy that time can never erase—a legacy of unwavering faith, unconditional love, selfless service, and fierce devotion to her family.

Although Peggy's kitchen is now quiet, the love she poured into every meal and every life she touched will continue to nourish the hearts of her family for generations to come. Her table was always a place of welcome, her home a place of comfort, and her heart was a place where everyone belonged. While we will deeply miss her smile, her laughter, her wisdom, and especially the meals prepared with her loving hands, we find peace in knowing she is now resting in the presence of the Lord she faithfully served.

Peggy fought the good fight, finished her course, and kept the faith. Her memory will forever be a blessing, and her legacy will continue through the family she cherished and the countless lives she touched.

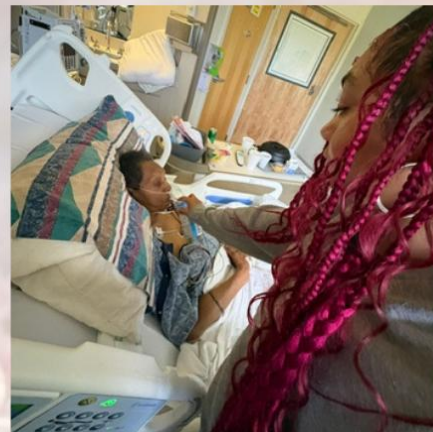
"Well done, good and faithful servant... Enter into the joy of your Lord."

— Matthew 25:23

Grandma

Grandma, your life was so full of loving deeds- forever thoughtful of our special needs. Today and tomorrow, our whole life through, we will always love and cherish you.

Keeonna, K'maya, Keith, and Cy'mere



ORDER OF *Service*

Emanuel Gilchrist, *Presiding*

Musical Prelude

Processional

Clergy and Family

Final Viewing

Family and Friends

Selection

Zion Hill Baptist Church Choir

Scripture

Old Testament *Psalm 23*

Bishop Adrevious Campbell

New Testament *Ecc. 3:1-8*

Bishop Adrevious Campbell

Prayer of Comfort

Reverend Tony Cunningham

Selection

Mr. H. Maxie Burton

Remarks

Two Minutes Please

Reverend Tony Cunningham

Mr. Delmar Dial, *Brother*

Special Tribute to Mom

Slideshow

Acknowledgement

Mack Rice Funeral Home Staff

Solo

Ms. Diane Smith

Words of Comfort

Minister LaChelle Rice

Closing Selection

Bishop Adrevious Campbell

Closing Prayer

Minister

Recessional

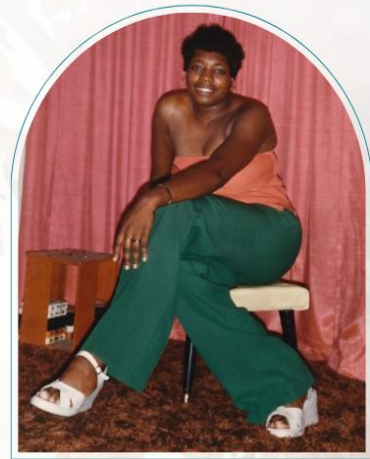
Committal Service

Prayer, Committal, and Benediction

Graveside

Interment

Private



Acknowledgements

For all the kindness you have shown, we would like to express our sincere thanks to all who have helped by offering their love, support, and prayers. We are gratefully humbled by the friends and family who sustained us through our bereavement.

May God bless you all as you have blessed us.

~ The Family ~




Mack Rice
FUNERAL AND CREMATIONS


Honoring Lives • Embracing Families

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Designed by Dianna Rice/ inspiredfirst@yahoo.com