




PALL BEARERS
Grandsons and Nephews

FLOWER ATTENDANTS
Granddaughters and Nieces

The Family “say” Thank you
For every minute spent,
For every condolence given,
For every Kindness shown,
For every deed performed,
For every prayer prayed,
For every service rendered...
The family humbly says,
“Thank you and God Bless You”



The Chapel of Smithson Brothers Mortuary
“OUR FAMILY SERVING YOURS SINCE 1982”
Donte’ C. Smithson, Manager
Licensed Funeral Director and Embalmer
31397 Highway 49 North · P.O. Box 415
Chase City, VA 23924
www.smithsonbrothersmortuary.com | (434)372-2575

THE HOMEGOING SERVICE OF



ETHEL LEE
Holmes

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2025 · 11:00 A.M.
The Chapel of Smithson Brothers Mortuary
31397 Highway 49 North
Chase City, VA 23924
REV. CHARLES L. HOLMES, JR., EULOGIST

OBITUARY

Ethel Lee Holmes, daughter of the late Willie Edward Reed and Elizabeth Lizzie Reed, passed away peacefully at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center on October 5th, 2025. She was the matriarch of the family and was inspirational in ensuring that family traditions were carried through. Ethel deeply loved her family, friends and shared a special bond with her grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, and nephews. She was immensely proud of her children and loved them dearly.

Ethel was born on January 9th, 1938, in Chase City, Virginia where she built a lifetime of memories and family values. She always put God first and was grateful for the small things in life.

Ethel was educated in Mecklenburg County Public school system and later moved to Newark, New Jersey. She worked at Greystone Mental Hospital for ten years and then became a home health aide for the next twenty years, treating her patients like family.

In her leisure time, Ethel enjoyed playing bingo, visiting the casinos, and spending quality time with loved ones. To know her was to love her; she had a warm and loving personality and will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

Ethel married the late Ulysses Holmes Sr. in 1956. From their union, five children were born: Charles L. Holmes of South Boston, Virginia,

Clarence E. Holmes of Albany, New York Barbara A. Holmes (deceased), Ulysses Holmes, Jr. (deceased) and Roger Holmes of Newport News, Virginia. She is also survived by her sister, Shirley Reed of Irvington, New Jersey; four grandchildren: Ashley B. Holmes of Clayton, Delaware, Charles Holmes, Jr. of Durham, North Carolina, Loleta Parrish of Atlanta, Georgia and Kaseem Holmes of Newark, New Jersey; five great-great grandchildren, Kamilah Joy Holmes and Justice Gabriel Holmes, both of Durham, North Carolina, Yeoshua Parrish, Yasmin Parrish and Yasir Parrish. Ethel is also survived by six nieces, and one nephew, including her devoted nieces Patricia and Pamela Reed. She also leaves behind close friends: Angela Grant and Pauline Moses; and a host of relatives and friends. Ethel Holmes is also survived by her brother-in-law, Mr. Joel Holmes of Richmond Virginia.

She was preceded in death by her father Willie Edward Reed, her mother Elizabeth Lizzie Reed, and a brother James E. Reed Sr.



ORDER OF SERVICE

ProceSSIONALClergy and Family
"Trust in God"

PrayerMr. William Cheek

Selection “Every Praise”

Old Testament..... Evangelist Jackie Ruffin

New Testament..... Evangelist Jackie Ruffin

Prayer of Comfort..... Evangelist Jackie Ruffin

Solo..... Clarence Holmes
"Thank You Lord"

Acknowledgements Ms. Nia Reed

Poem.....Dondre Reed

Solo Joel Holmes
"Goodbye World"

EulogyRev. Charles L. Holmes, Jr.
Summit Church, Durham, NC

Closing Selection Mr. Dexter Tucker

Recessional **Soft Music**

Interment

Thyne Institute Memorial