

Pallbearers

Kareem Franklin
Malik Lockett
Kainan George-Townes

Marquis George-Townes
Izaak Moody
Edison Moody

Honorary Pallbearers

Kareem Franklin, Jr.
Basil Townes, Jr.
Bert Moody, Jr.

Vince Moody
John Burrell, Jr.
Kevin Brown

Francis Senyah
Deacon Rodda
Tayronce Denton

I'm Free

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm free,
I'm following the path God laid for me.
I took His hand when I heard Him call,
I turned my back and left it all.
I could not stay another day, to laugh,
To love, to work or play.

Tasks undone must stay that way
I've found that peace at the close of the day.
If parting has left a void, Then fill it with remembered joy.

A friendship shared, a laugh, a kiss,
Ah, yes, these things I too will miss.
Be not burdened with times of sorrow
I wish for you the sunshine of tomorrow.

My life's been full, I savoured much
Good friends, good times, a loved one's touch.
Perhaps my time seemed all too brief,
Don't lengthen it now with undue grief.
Lift up your hearts and share with me,
God wants me now,
He set me free.

Acknowledgement

THE FAMILY OF ELIZABETH (BETTY) TOWNES WOULD LIKE TO THANK
YOU FOR ALL THE EXPRESSIONS OF LOVE DURING
OUR TIME OF LOSS. YOU HAVE HELPED TO COMFORT OUR HEARTS AS
WE SAY FAREWELL TO OUR BELOVED MATRIARCH.

HENDERSONS
FUNERAL & CREMATION CARE

In Loving Memory of

Elizabeth "Betty"
Townes

JUNE 28, 1939 – JUNE 9, 2026



SATURDAY, JUNE 27, 2026, AT 12:00 P.M.

TRUE BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH

4101 AMHERST STREET

DES MOINES, IOWA 50313

Obituary

Elizabeth "Betty" Townes, aged 86, peacefully passed away on Tuesday, June 9, 2026. Born on June 28, 1939, in Des Moines, Iowa, to John and Marzetta (Griffin) Burrell. Betty's life was one marked by love, dedication, and unwavering commitment to her family and community.

Growing up in Des Moines, she was known for her sewing, cooking, and baking skills. All friends and family received a basket of goodies at Christmas time. She lovingly raised five children in Des Moines, who are living throughout the U.S. She was married to Basil Townes for 46 years, with whom she co-owned a business for many years.

Betty's faith was a cornerstone of her life. She was a devoted member of True Bible Baptist Church in Des Moines until 2018, when she relocated to Henderson, Nevada. There, she continued her spiritual journey as a member of Remnant Ministries. Her love extended beyond her church; Betty cherished reading, sewing, and most of all, nurturing and caring for her beloved family.

Those left to cherish her loving memory are her husband, Basil Townes, Sr., siblings, John (Else) Burrell Jr., Marzetta Burrell; children Pamela Clark, Veronica (Kevin) Brown, Marie Heaton, Bert (Sara) Moody, Jr., and Ramona Lockett, step-children LaChelle (Robert) Williams and Basil Townes, Jr. She is also survived by 35 grandchildren, great-grandchildren and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and special friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Bert, her dear grandson Malcolm Avery Lockett, her dear great-grandson Leo Edoni Reynolds, and her siblings Valaida Carter, Carolyn Washington, Edison Burrell, and Marlene Barnes.

A visitation will be held on Saturday, June 27, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. at True Bible Baptist Church, followed by a funeral service at 12:00 p.m., officiated by Pastor Wes. Betty will be laid to rest at Chapel Hill Cemetery in Urbandale.

Betty Townes' life was a testament to love, devotion, and kindness. She will be deeply missed and forever remembered by all who were blessed to know her.

Order of Service

Welcome Pastor Wes Foster, True Bible Baptist Church

Old & New Scripture Readings Elder Charles Burrell

Prayer Rev. Tom Hunt

Song "He Reigns", Voices of Praise, True Bible

Reading Keshawn Coney

Dance Joy Elizabeth Senyah, "Goodness of God", by CeCe Winans

Family & Friends Tributes

Letter from lifelong friend Betty Warren – Tammy Morney

Anita Fristo, Friend

Michael Burrell, Cousin

Marie Heaton, Daughter

Izaak Moody, Grandson

Acknowledgements & Obituary Pearl Dawson

Video Tribute "A Life Well Lived"

Ministerial Tribute Pastor Vince Moody

Song "I Can Only Imagine", Dwana Bradley

Eulogy Pastor Emeritus Rod Bradley, True Bible Baptist Church

Final Words & Benediction Pastor Wes Foster

Interment & Committal