

*Celebration
of Life*



Essie Mae Lee

Sunrise
May 6, 1945

Sunset
February 23, 2026

*What makes
a woman
be*



The Obituary

Essie Mae Lee, age 80, of Modena, PA, departed this life on Monday, February 23, 2026, in Raleigh, North Carolina.



kes
an
beautiful...

Essie was born in Dorchester, South Carolina, on May 6, 1945. She attended Dorchester County public schools and continued her education at Voorhees College. Following college, Essie settled in Coatesville, PA, with her cousin Polly before marrying her late husband, "Gus".

For 40 years, Essie served as a Psychiatric Nursing Assistant at the Veterans Administration. Her career was a testament to her patience and her heart for service.

Essie's faith was the foundation upon which she built her life. She was a lifelong, faithful member of the Historic Hutchinson Memorial U.A.M.E Church.

Essie enjoyed spending time with her family, reading the newspaper, and doing puzzles. She also liked watching Family Feud, Chrisley Knows Best, and listening to Mahalia Jackson. Essie was



an avid baker known for her legendary pound cakes. When she wasn't in the kitchen, she would spend hours in her yard planting flowers and tending to her vegetable garden.

Essie was a devoted parent and a guiding light to many. She leaves to cherish her memory:

- Daughters: Juanita Lee Thomas (Anthony) of Philadelphia, PA, and Serena Lee Gage (Thomas) of Raleigh, NC.
- Honorary Daughters: Susan Lee, Patricia Hinnant (Wayne), Lisa Lee Bennett (Roy), and Gilda Lee.
- Honorary Sons: Omar Hunt, Dwain Doctor, and Anthony Thomas.
- Siblings: Her sisters, Naomi Tucker of Miami, Florida, and Elaine Doctor of Ridgeville, South Carolina, and her brother, Raymond Nelson of Dorchester, South Carolina.

*A mother's prayers,
Her tender love*

*It's God, her true bea
from heaven above*

*Her family
& friends
and the closeness
thereof*

• Legacy: A host of beloved grandchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins, and lifelong friends.

Essie has been reunited in eternal rest with her husband of 42 years, Walter G. Lee; her parents, Robert and Elvira (Smith) Nelson; her brothers, Willie Nelson, Alonzo Smith, Frank Nelson and her beloved dog, Sophie.

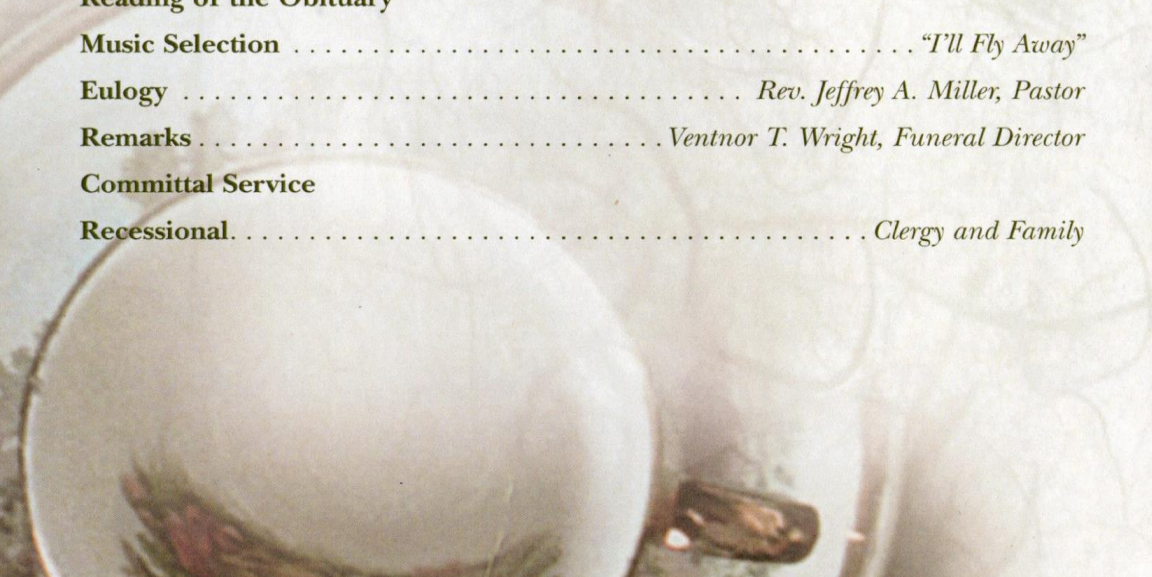
Respectfully Submitted,
The Family





Order of Service

Processional	<i>Clergy and Family</i>
Final Viewing	
Officiating Clergy	<i>Rev. Bernadette Campbell</i>
Opening Hymn	<i>"Blessed Assurance"</i>
Scripture Readings	
<i>Old Testament</i>	<i>Psalm 23</i>
<i>New Testament</i>	<i>John 14:1-3</i>
Prayer of Comfort	<i>Rev. Rachel McDougald</i>
Music Selection	<i>"What A Friend We Have in Jesus"</i>
Reading of Acknowledgements & Resolutions	
Reflections	<i>Family & Friends</i>
Words of Comfort	<i>Selected Clergy</i>
Reading of the Obituary	
Music Selection	<i>"I'll Fly Away"</i>
Eulogy	<i>Rev. Jeffrey A. Miller, Pastor</i>
Remarks	<i>Ventnor T. Wright, Funeral Director</i>
Committal Service	
Recessional	<i>Clergy and Family</i>



CELEBRATION OF LIFE SERVICES

Wednesday, March 4, 2026
9 AM VIEWING | 10 AM SERVICE

Hutchinson Memorial U.A.M.E. Church
825 East Chestnut Street
Coatesville, Pennsylvania
Rev. Jeffrey A. Miller, Pastor

PALLBEARERS

Omar Hunt
Anthony Thomas
Dwain Doctor

Johnnie Johnson
Wayne Hinnant
Thomas Gage

FLOWER BEARERS

Family & Friends

REPAST

A repast will be held in the R.L. Davis Fellowship Hall
immediately following the service.

INTERMENT

11:30 AM
Thursday, March 5, 2026
Indiantown Gap National Cemetery
Annville, Pennsylvania

NOTE OF THANKS

*Thank you with sincere gratitude for your care and concern shown during our time of bereavement. Thank you all for your support and love. May God bless you.
Sincerely, The Family*



Wright
FUNERAL & CREMATION SERVICES, INC.

725 MERCHANT STREET
COATESVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA
610-384-0341 | wrightfuneralsvs@aol.com
Ventnor T. Wright, Funeral Director, Supervisor