



# Estellena Giles Ridges

July 30, 1920 - June 10, 2022

## Her Legacy

Estellena Giles Ridges, affectionately known as Esther, was born on July 30, 1920, in Hanover County, Virginia to James Peter and Mary Elizabeth Giles. She went home to glory peacefully in the presence of her nieces, Cookie and JoJo, and her great-niece, Kristen. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, Andrew, and all eight siblings: Thomas, Frank, James, Isaac, Agnes, Verlanda, Henry, and Joseph.

Esther was raised in Hanover County, Virginia where she attended Hanover County Public Schools. She furthered her education by receiving her Nursing Certification. Esther accepted her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ at an early age and attended her family church until she moved to Delaware around 1941. She worked in Delaware for a few years before moving to Baltimore near other siblings, where she remained until her baby brother, Joe, moved her back home near him to Hanover County once she reached her nineties. Esther flourished and was rooted in activities in Baltimore where she became a member of the Fountain Baptist Church for many years. Later, she moved her membership and was a Charter Member of the Ray of Hope Baptist Church where she worked in many capacities: Trustee, Nurse, Choir Member, Counting Committee, etc. She was an intricate member of her church where she was respected by all and a blessing to many. Once she moved back to Virginia, she regularly attended Trinity Baptist Church in Richmond, VA with her brother and sister-in-law.

Esther's work career consisted of caring for children, the field of nursing, and she retired from Western Electric Company where she worked as an assembly worker for over 30 years.

Esther was married to Johnny R. Wilkerson, who was the brother of her sister's husband, Agnes, to whom she remained married until his death. Later in life, while she was working at Western Electric, she met and married Andrew Ridges to whom she remained married until his death.

She leaves to cherish her wonderfully, beautiful memory: her sister-in-law, Ruth W. Giles; her godson, Spencer Giles (Vera); many nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends. There were no children born to either union, but one that she called her own, Barbara Cooper. She also leaves to cherish her memory, her exquisite and caring caretaker, Charlotte Harris of Richmond, Virginia.

Esther loved everything about life, especially her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ and she never complained. She would always say when asked how she was, her response would be "I feel GOOD!! I sleep good, I eat good and GOD has been GOOD to me!" She lived a graceful and long life which God blessed her to see 101 years and 314 days. She was featured on NBC12 on her 100th birthday and even the news reporter could see her radiant beauty and called her BLESSED. She loved to spend time with her family and was the Matriarch of the Giles Family. She also loved to travel, sew, loved jewelry and prided herself in her beautiful fingernails. Esther was an avid dog lover in which she trained, raised and spoiled all of them, one of which "Abby girl" is still being loved and cared for. She would light up the room with her beauty and laughter. As so many of her siblings and family, she never met a stranger, she was loved by all – she was truly OUR BLESSING!!

# Cemetery Details

## Dulaney Valley Memorial Gardens

200 E. Padonia Rd.  
Timonium, MD 21093

# Previous Events

## Wake

JUN 21. 11:30 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Home - East  
1101 E. North Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21202

## Service

JUN 21. 12:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Home - East  
1101 E. North Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21202

# Tribute Wall



“ *To View the Webcast of the Funeral for Estellena Giles Ridges, Please Click the Link below.*



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**March Funeral Homes** - June 20 at 10:52 PM

BR

“ *Sincere condolences from the Gardner Family, James, Burnette, Connie and Lisa. Children of Sallie Gardner. Mother loved Ms. Ridges, they worked for the Glory of God and the Ray of Hope Baptist Church. Rest in Peace Ms. Ridges.*  
*Burnette Rahmaan*

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**Burnette Rahmaan** - June 21 at 01:29 PM

BA

“ *Barbara purchased the Basket of Memories for the family of Estellena Giles Ridges.*



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**Barbara** - June 18 at 12:20 PM

MM

“ *Our condolences to the Giles family in the passing of your Sister inlaw and aunt.*  
*Marion and Reid*

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**Marion and Reid Mickens** - June 16 at 08:38 PM



“ *We the March Family and Staff wish to extend our deepest and heartfelt sympathy in the passing of your loved one. Our prayers go out to you and your family in your time of loss. We know and understand that you have received many expressions of love and we will continue to lift you up in prayer. May the memories you cherish of brighter and happier days help to ease your sorrow and comfort you always.*

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**March Funeral Homes** - June 16 at 10:28 AM