



## Delquency Carpenter Capers

February 12, 1950 - January 4, 2023

A Life Well Lived, A Legacy to Remember

Delquency Carpenter Capers passed away peacefully on January 4, 2023, surrounded by the love and presence of her family members. Delquency, affectionately known as Del, was born February 12, 1950, in Greenwood, Mississippi, to the late M.C. Carpenter and Mae Frances Green Carpenter.

Del accepted Christ as her Lord and Savior at an early age and attended Jennings Temple C.M.E. Church with her family. Her faith in God grew as she journeyed through life. Her devotion to Christ was demonstrated through her active membership in church communities in Rochester, NY, Dallas, TX, and Richmond, VA; all places she lived within her life. In 1990, Del joined First Union Baptist Church in Mechanicsville, VA, and was a devoted and active member of the congregation. As an ordained Deacon, she served her church in capacities such as Chairperson of the Board of Christian Education, the Head of the Pastoral Search Committee, and in alignment with her heart for learning, she also taught Sunday School.

Del was the eldest of four children and was a smart, thoughtful, and responsible child. She loved reading and writing and was an excellent student. Growing up in the deep South during the Civil Rights Movement, Del attended

segregated schools and was reared to value education at an early age. She received her formal education in Greenwood Public Schools and was a proud graduate of the Threadgill High School Class of 1968. Del excelled socially and academically and took part in many school activities including the Choir, Drama Club, and the Glee Club. She had many childhood friends and as teenagers, they would hang out at each other's houses listening to music, talking, and laughing together. These times were cherished by Del and she remained close with her hometown high school friends throughout her life.

Del's love for education and learning is central to her legacy. After graduating from Threadgill High School, she earned her Bachelor of Science Degree in Elementary Education from Bishop College in Dallas Texas, and her Master of Science Degree in Education from Nazareth College in Rochester, New York. She devoted her professional life to education by impacting the lives of hundreds of children across the count! as a dedicated and loving elementary school teacher. Having taught in various school systems in New York, Texas, and Virginia, Del received many accolades throughout her career, notably being named Henrico County Teacher of the Year in 2008. After 39 years in the classroom, Del retired from the Henrico County Public School System in 2012. Even then, she continued to feed her passion for education by mentoring new teachers and serving as a private tutor and substitute teacher.

Del had many personal hobbies that included painting, crossword and seek-and-find puzzles, and watching investigative television. She also had a great love of music for all genres, but particularly smooth jazz and gospel. She was known to put on her headphones and get "lost" in her playlist. She had a beautiful soprano voice and sang in her church choir for many years. One of Del's favorite pastimes was baking, a skill passed down through her mother. Many of her friends and loved ones alike were head over heels for her "never from a box" cakes. Her specialty was her famous 5-flavor pound cake which

she often baked for special events and on request from her family.

Of all of Del's hobbies; travel was at the top of her list. She LOVED to be on an airplane and always wanted a window seat to look out during the ride. As a teenager, Del traveled from Mississippi to Chicago and California on the bus and train to visit her aunts and other relatives. Those trips fostered a sense of adventure in Del and throughout the years, she coupled her love for learning and travel, visiting cultural and historic sites throughout the world. A dream and goal for Del was to visit all 50 United States., That dream became a reality in 2021 when she and her daughter, Tyesha, visited North Dakota as her 50th state! Del was so excited and thrilled as she accomplished her lifelong goal. She visited n countries during her life and often marveled at how the "girl from Greenwood, Mississippi" was able to see and experience the world.

Del shared this important milestone, like many others, with whom she described as, "the greatest and proudest love of my life," her daughter, Tyesha. Tyesha was Del's "one and only" child and she loved her "Ty" with all her heart. Del was a devoted mother and ensured a strong foundation for her daughter. She was supportive, caring, and encouraging and made sure her daughter knew the Lord from an early age. She and Tyesh, were great travel partners and Del always had her suitcase packed, ready for the next mother/daughter adventure. Del and Tyesha always shared a special bond which grew even stronger during Del's latter years.

As mother and daughter, Del and Tyesha also had the blessing of being "legacy" FINER women, as members of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated. Del loved her sorority and her sorority sisters and proudly served Zeta for over 50 years! During her tenure in the sisterhood, she welcomed many new members to the sorority including her own sister, Sherry, while in college. Del

was charter member of Theta Alpha Zeta chapter in Rochester, NY, and was an active member of Alpha Phi Zeta chapter in Richmond, VA where she held various leadership roles for over 30 years in the chapter. Del was devoted to Zeta and was honored as a Zeta Dove to commemorate her long years of dedicated and continuous membership and service to her sorority.

Del was preceded in death by her parents, her brother, Melvin Carpenter, Jr., cousin, and namesake, Delquincy Green Berkhalter, mother-in-law, Beatrice Capers, and her beloved Granddog, Grace.

She is survived and will be lovingly remembered and cherished by her devoted daughter, Tyessa Marie Capers Gray of Atlanta, GA; one sister, Sherry A. Carpenter of Oakland, CA; one brother, Kevin Craig Carpenter of Indianapolis, IN; two nephews, Eric Love of Oakland, CA and Colby Carpenter of Indianapolis, IN, three dedicated aunts, Julia Green and Gladys Green of Oakland, CA, and Lucile Hall of Manvel, TX, and a host of family members, church members, sorority sisters, classmates, fellow educators, and loyal life-long friends.

There certainly are not enough words to adequately capture the life, legacy, and spirit of Delquincy Carpenter Capers. While she had a quiet demeanor, her zest for life was unmistakable and will be sorely missed. A life lived with love, gratitude, strength, and courage; it is apparent that she impacted the lives of so many. She leaves this physical life with abundant love, admiration, and respect. We will forever cherish the memories shared with Del during her lifetime, and honor her for the lasting impacts and footprints she has left on all of our hearts.

# Cemetery Details

## First Union Baptist Church Cemetery

Mechanicsville, VA 23116

# Previous Events

## Public Viewing

JAN 17. 12:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Home -Laburnum Chapel  
2110 E. Laburnum Ave.  
Richmond, VA 23222

## Family Hour

JAN 17. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Home -Laburnum Chapel  
2110 E. Laburnum Ave.  
Richmond, VA 23222

## Celebration of Life

JAN 18. 12:00 PM (ET)

First Union Baptist Church  
6231 Pole Green Road  
Mechanicsville, VA 23116

# Tribute Wall

VW

“ To the Carpenter-Capers family, you have my deepest sympathy. Soror Delquency Capers was a beautiful, bless, kindhearted & sweet lady. I met Del when I joined Alpha Phi Zeta graduate Chapter.💙☐ Del reached out to me, as she did others, but she taught me & brought me up to date on things that I needed to know about the Sorority. She had a nice smile on her face when she did that. I was very appreciative of that. I loved her spirit, zest & love for life. Soror Delquency Capers will always be missed, but her memories will be with us. RIP my Soror. 🙏🕊️💙☐ The Lord has you now. 🙏🕊️💙☐😊  
I know you are traveling in that blue heaven.  
Viesta Washington, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc



Viesta Washington - January 18, 2023 at 11:39 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Delquency Carpenter Capers.



January 17, 2023 at 10:15 PM

BB

“ I will always remember what a kind and gentle soul you were here on earth. My fondest memories of you were as a loving mother and a devoted member of your church.

Bonita Byrd - January 14, 2023 at 04:31 PM

AA

“ My Soror Del, We never got to chat since our meeting at The Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. Boule' in July 2022. Just missed messages. But I did find out that you made your goal of traveling to all 50 USA states! As Christians and Sorors, we will meet again as Triumphant servants! GOD will take care of your devoted daughter!!!

Althea Armstrong - January 14, 2023 at 12:09 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Delquency Carpenter Capers.



January 13, 2023 at 02:15 PM

T,

“ Theta Alpha Zeta Chapter, Rochester ,NY purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Delquency Carpenter Capers.



Theta Alpha Zeta Chapter, Rochester ,NY - January 12, 2023 at 08:57 PM

SB

“ To Tyesha and family, we are so sorry to hear of Del's passing. We live next door and would often get her mail when she was traveling. Our sincere condolences to you all. May her soul rest in peace.



*Martha Boone, Melvin, Sylvia and Jordan*

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**Sylvia Brown** - January 11, 2023 at 08:21 PM

TU

“ Dear Delquency,  
Although I miss you terribly, I consider myself fortunate and blessed to have shared a close friendship with you. I know you will continue to live in my heart and the heart of many people whose lives you've touched. Memories of you will continue to be a blessing!!  
I'll always love you, my dear friend and sister.  
May your soul Rest In Peace. 🙏  
Thelma Uter

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**Thelma Uter** - January 11, 2023 at 01:12 PM

TU

“ Dear Tyesha,  
May God grant you peace and comfort through the days ahead.  
With Love and Sympathy,  
Aunt Thelma and Family

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**Thelma Uter** - January 11, 2023 at 12:58 PM

TF

“ *Thelma Uter & Family purchased the Serenity Wreath for the family of Delquency Carpenter Capers.*



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**Thelma Uter & Family** - January 11, 2023 at 12:38 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** - January 10, 2023 at 10:58 AM