



Elvin Gertrude Anna Myers

July 20, 1937 - January 25, 2023

ELVIN GERTRUDE ANNA GAINES MYERS, widow of the late Charles Julian Myers, was born in the Town of Rice in Prince Edward County, Virginia in her grandmother Georgiana Brown Hicks' home on July 20, 1937, to the late Thomas

S. Gaines and Venona Elvin Hicks. Elvin was lovingly and spiritually raised on the family's farm and cared for and protected by a large family of uncles, aunts,

and cousins. Following her father's death, her mother, Venona, was united in marriage to the late Samuel Adam Howze, Sr. Elvin was dotingly loved by her Daddy, Samuel, and deeply revered and looked up to by her younger siblings, Joan

Constance, Samuel Adam, Jr., Harriott Clinton (deceased) and Warren Julius. Elvin, known as Tuts, grew up in the Monroe Baptist Church in Prince Edward County and was baptized at an early age in the Sandy River. Tuts attended the

Hubbard Elementary School in Rice and Robert Russa Moton High School in Farmville, Virginia from which she graduated in May 1953. In April 1951, Tuts was a 10th grader and part of the student body that walked out of school and went on a lengthy strike to protest decrepit conditions at their high school. The protest in 1951 at Robert Moton led to a lawsuit against Prince Edward County

that ultimately was decided by the United States Supreme Court in its 1954

Brown

v. Board of Education decision. The Supreme Court ruled that racially segregated

schools were unequal and unconstitutional. In May 1959 in response to this decision, Prince Edward County closed its public schools for five years, denying

educational opportunities to many of Tuts' cousins who were forced to leave Prince

Edward County to continue their education in Baltimore, Detroit, Philadelphia, Patterson New Jersey, and elsewhere, leading Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy

to state in Louisville, Kentucky, on March 19, 1963: "The only places on earth not

to provide free public education are communist China, North Vietnam, Sarawak,

Singapore, British Honduras – and Prince Edward County, Virginia."

Prior to her passing, Tuts learned that a statue of Barbara Johns (pictured), the

student leader of the Robert Moton high school protest, will soon replace the statue

of Confederate General Robert E. Lee in the National Statuary Hall of 100 statues

contributed by the 50 states. Tuts was overjoyed by this, saying "we came a long way baby".

Tuts and her mother often referred to Prince Edward County as "the toughest county in America". These early experiences with injustice shaped Tuts' outlook on

life. She was an active participant in activities to force change and improve the lives

of Black people. She participated in voter registration and get out the vote

activities

leading to the election of Parren J. Mitchell as Maryland's first Black Congressman.

She was an active participant in the initial Baltimore movement to establish the

United Health Care Workers Union, 1199E.

Life Reflections of Elvin "Tuts" Meyers

Tuts' life work was about service to others. She attended the Community College of

Baltimore where she was certified as a Geriatric Nursing Assistant. She also received

training in Therapeutic Crisis Intervention and Institutional Abuse Prevention.

This training served her well during her time of employment with House in the Pine Nursing Center, the Parkhill Convalescent Home, and Gallagher Services

- Catholic Charities - where she worked to support adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Family and family life was the center of Tuts' joy. As youngsters, she and her siblings

enjoyed all things music, attending shows at the Royal Theater, Carrs Beach, Club

Astoria with Sonny Til and the Orioles, and Jazz at Club Casino, and Arch Social

Club. Tuts, Joan, and Mother Venona often reminisced about going backstage at

the Apollo Theater in New York City. Attending fourth Sunday in August church

homecomings in Prince Edward County, and family reunions were sources of much

delight. Baltimore Ravens football was her passion. Purple was her color. She

watched the Young and the Restless and the Bold and the Beautiful from their inception.

Tuts believed in being well informed and was known to read several newspapers

daily - the Baltimore Sun, the New York Post, the New York Times, and USA Today. Consequently, she had no problems voicing her opinions, often prefacing

her remarks, "In my opinion". She even received a Recognition Award from the

Household 3 Staff at Levindale Hebrew Geriatric Hospital who cared lovingly for

her, from August 2019, until her transition on Wednesday, January 25, 2023.

The

award was "Presented to Elvin Myers for Being Voted the Most Outspoken".

In March 1975 Tuts married her long-time friend, Charles Julian Myers.

Together

they enjoyed life at home together. They loved traveling in the mobile home van,

and hosting and attending holiday gatherings with family and friends. She and Charles, an active member of the Left Bank Jazz Society, were music enthusiasts,

and spent countless Sundays listening to the music of some of the world's greatest

musicians. One of Tuts' favorite songs was "Only the Strong Survive" by Jerry Butler. Other favorites were "It is Well with My Soul", and "Strange Fruit" and "God Bless the Child" by her favorite artist, Billie Holiday. In tribute to Billie Holiday, on occasion she wore a white flower in her hair.

One of the greatest joys of Tuts' life was her bonus family, gained by her marriage

on March 19, 1975, to her beloved Charles Julian Myers. She adored her bonus

daughter, Patricia Myers Fisher, her granddaughter, Trina Culbreath, and in her

own words, “the love of my life”, her great-grandson, TJ, Tyrone Culbreath. In addition to her bonus daughter and grandchildren, Tuts is survived by her sister,

Joan Smith; and her brothers, Samuel Howze Jr. and Warren Howze; her aunt,

Mrs. Blanche Howze; her many nieces, nephews, and cousins, the porch people,

and other relatives and friends - all who loved her dearly and know how special they were loved by Tuts.

In thanksgiving for the life of our beloved Elvin Gaines Myers, “Into your hands dear Lord we commit her spirit”. To God be the glory for a life well lived and a soul

well loved by all.

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 2. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Home - West
4300 Wabash Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21215

Wake

FEB 3. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Home - West
4300 Wabash Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21215

Funeral Service

FEB 3. 12:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Home - West
4300 Wabash Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21215

Tribute Wall



“ To view the service of Mrs. Myers please click the link that says View Webcast.



March Funeral Homes - January 28, 2023 at 10:16 AM

GM

“ Our family is full of amazing women and Tuts was one of them. Praying for strength and peace for the family during this difficult time. Sending our condolences and love.

Gwen Myles-Chisholm - February 03, 2023 at 03:58 PM

BH

“ To My Dear Cousin "Tuts" I will Surly Miss YOU, you where more then a cousin you was a Mother and a Mentor a powerful voice that spoke the Truth and gave Love, and to my Family my Deepest Condolences from My Heart to Yours. I give. Love Bemeche`



BEMEICHE T Hicks - February 03, 2023 at 11:08 AM



“ 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.

March Funeral Homes - January 28, 2023 at 10:16 AM