



Rev. Lillian A. Shearin

November 13, 1946 - October 11, 2014

On Saturday, October 11, 2014, God looked down from heaven and picked from His garden our own beloved, Reverend Lillian Avent Shearin. She was the daughter of the late Marshall and Pearl Martin Avent.

Born and reared in Pleasant Hill, North Carolina, Lillian received her formal education in the Northampton County public school system. She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in English, Education, and Library Science from North Carolina Central University, Durham, North Carolina; a Master of Education degree in Elementary Education from Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, Virginia; Master of Divinity and Master of Arts in Christian Education (M.A.C.E.) degrees from the Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology at Virginia Union University, Richmond. Additionally, she completed postgraduate studies through Virginia State University in Petersburg and the University of Virginia in Charlottesville. She was certified in Pre-Marital and Marriage Counseling from Life Innovations, Inc. Minneapolis Minnesota. After 33 years of service, she retired from the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Lillian confessed Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior at an early age in the Faithful Band Baptist Church, Pleasant Hill, North Carolina. She and her family united with the Pleasant Grove Baptist Church in 1977. As a member of Pleasant Grove, she faithfully gave of her time and talents. She was instrumental in the implementation of the Student Opportunity Scholarship

Ministry for students who were pursuing higher education. It was under her leadership as the Director of Christian Education that she introduced many services, such as the annual observance of the Hanging of the Greens Service; implemented unique observances of Easter, including Tenebrae, Stations of the Cross and the Seven Last Words Services; and introduced many other observances of the Christian Calendar to the congregation. She was licensed to the Gospel Ministry in November 2001 and was ordained in December 2004.

Lillian was affiliated with and provided leadership and service to a number of organizations. She was a Volunteer Activities Coordinator at Little Sisters of the Poor, St. Joseph's Home, Richmond, VA, where she preached and conducted communion services weekly. She was a volunteer committee member at The Resource Center, Richmond, VA, served as Co-Chair of the Annual Excellence in Ministry Banquet, and assisted in the coordination of the Annual Inclusion Choir Concert. Lillian was a Community Advisory Board Member with the Department of Social and Behavioral Health School of Medicine, Virginia Commonwealth University. She served as an Instructor at the Evans-Smith Leadership Training Program of the Samuel Dewitt Proctor School of Theology, Virginia Union University, where she taught Old and New Testament Classes. She was a member of the National Association of Parliamentarians, where she served as the First Vice President of the local Parliamentary Law Club of Richmond. Lillian was a member of the Upsilon Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated where she held many offices including president. Additionally, she served in many leadership roles at the regional level.

Lillian was united in Holy Matrimony to Melvin on July 6, 1968 and from this union became the proud parents of identical twin sons, Melvin Fitzgerald and Kelvin Abura.

She was a devoted family member and the loves of her life were her grandchildren, Taj and Trey. She was lovingly called “Li” by her siblings and Aunt “Li” by her nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her son, Reverend Kelvin A. Shearin. She leaves to celebrate her home going devoted husband, Melvin A. Shearin; son, Reverend Melvin F. Shearin, II; grandchildren, Taj DeAndre Leake, and Trey Melvin Shearin; four sisters, Marjorie D. Boone, Jean A. Greene, Margaret A. Hayman (James), and Zelia A. Carter (Norman); two brothers, Marshall D. Avent (Jacqueline) and Garland R. Avent, II (Maggie); three brothers-in-law, Dr. Morris Shearin (Bertha), Walter Shearin (Clara), Alva Shearin (Camilla); five sisters-in-law, Susie Lee (Johnny), Elven Bridges, Rosa Shearin, Pocahontas Jones (Randolph), and Linda Fitzpatrick; several nieces, nephews, a host of other relatives and friends among them devoted friends, Gabie Frazier and Gloria Green.

We thank God for her life and the inspiration she was to everyone. “Today we will collect our fond memories and hold dearly the part of her that has been given to each of us, so that in the days to come, we will join her in rejoicing, knowing that someday we will meet again. On that day, our tears will be wiped away, and we will join her in the great celebration of love, joy, peace, and eternal life with our savior.”

The family has requested that donations be made in memory of Reverend Lillian A. Shearin to the following organizations: American Cancer Society, 4240 Park Place Court, Glen Allen, Virginia 23060 to support continued research for a cure of Pancreatic Cancer or Little Sisters of the Poor, St. Joseph’s Home, 1503 Michaels Road, Henrico, Virginia 23229.

Previous Events

viewing

OCT 17. 9:00 AM - 8:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Home-Laburnum Chapel
Richmond, VA 23222

Family Hour

OCT 17. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

March Funeral Home-Laburnum Chapel
Richmond, VA 23222

Sorority Ceremony

OCT 17. 6:30 PM (ET)

March Funeral Home-Laburnum Chapel
Richmond, VA 23222

Service

OCT 18. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Paul's Baptist Church
4247 Creighton Road
Richmond, VA 23223

Tribute Wall



“ *Rev. Lillian A. Shearin*

October 13, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ *I remember when me and my sister used to fight and break each other's glasses we would have to go get new ones my Aunt Li used to say "don't fight but when you do take your glasses off ". i really miss her but i know sh will always be in my heart.*

Leah King - January 05, 2015 at 02:36 PM



“ *I had the opportunity to lead Reverend Shearin and her family on the Walk of the Enslaved during their family reunion a few years ago. I will always remember her smile and gentle way. Rev. Shearing blessed my life with her wise counsel and I am grateful for our meeting. She is my beloved soro and I will never forget her.*



MarQuita Carmichael Burton - November 26, 2014 at 12:14 PM

RF

“ To the family of Rev. Lillian Shearin:

We want to share these words of encouragement to remind you all of "The Little Things:"

*It's all the little things that count,
To make a life, complete;
Common things; Simple things-
Life's struggles to defeat:*

*A word of hope;
A note of Cheer;
A kiss to tender sorrow;
A thoughtful deed;
A smile of warmth;
A hand of help to borrow;
A Faith in God;
A love for man;
A trust for joy and sorrow--*

*It's all these little things that count--
Today, and through tomorrow.*

On behalf of the God we serve; Sister Jean Greene we feel and understand your loss and send our deepest sympathy to you and your family.

*We love you much and are with you in the Spirit;
Sincerely,
Rev. Mildred Fisher, Brother Fisher and Family*

Rev. Mildred Fisher & Family - October 17, 2014 at 10:36 AM

DL

“Pete, so sorry for your loss. God will give us the strength to handle life's tragedies. Miss your friendship. Your friend always, David Lacy (Old days of GRTC).

David Lacy - October 16, 2014 at 04:15 PM

LJ

“To the Rev. Melvin F. Shearin, II and Family,

My thoughts and my prayers are with you during the passing of your mother, Rev. Lillian Shearin. She was such a kind woman who always exhibited God's grace whenever I had the opportunity to be in her presence. May the peace of God and the love of Christ surround you and your family in the days ahead and bring you comfort.

With deepest sympathy,

Lisa R. Janes, STVU Class of 2008

Lisa R. Janes - October 16, 2014 at 08:12 AM

RH

“Rodney Murray & Roena Hamm lit a candle in memory of Rev. Lillian A. Shearin



Rodney Murray & Roena Hamm - October 15, 2014 at 10:05 PM

RM

“ Rodney M lit a candle in memory of Rev.
Lillian A. Shearin



Rodney M - October 15, 2014 at 10:03 PM

JW

“ Josefa And Bryon Wall lit a candle in memory
of Rev. Lillian A. Shearin



Josefa and Bryon Wall - October 15, 2014 at 08:17 PM

MB

“ *The Sunday School Union # 1 an affiliate of The Chickahominy Baptist Association, Hanover County, VA, expresses our deepest condolences to the husband, Melvin A. Shearin; son, Reverend Melvin F. Shearin, II; Marjorie D. Boone, Jean A. Greene, Margaret A. Hayman (James), and Zelia A. Carter (Norman), brothers, Marshall D. Avent (Jacqueline) and Garland R. Avent, II (Maggie); brothers-in-law; sisters-in-law; several nieces, nephews, a host of other relatives and friends in the Homegoing of Reverend Lillian Advent Shearin. May our God, hold and comfort you during your time of grief and mourning. We bless God for her life and thank Him for allowing her to pass this way.*

*Done on behalf of the Hanover County Sunday School Union #1
Deacon Frank Roane, Superintendent
Reverend Annie L. Mosley, Secretary*



Minister Annie Mosley, First Shiloh Bapt - October 15, 2014 at 05:42 PM

MB

“ *I was deeply saddened by the passing of your Wife, Mother, Sister, Grandmother, Aunt, loved one, and Pleasasnt Grove Baptist Church Family, in the homegoing of Reverend Lillian Advent Shearin. We'll always remember Reverend Lillian A. Shearin fondly and feel blessed that we had the pleasure of knowing and serving in ministry with and alongside her. Rev. Lillian A. Shearin will be greatly missed. I pray God's blessings, peace and comfort upon you as you go through this period of grief and bereavement.*



Annie L. Mosley

Minister Annie Mosley, First Shiloh Bapt - October 15, 2014 at 05:40 PM

AS

“ Ashley lit a candle in memory of Rev. Lillian A. Shearin



ashley - October 15, 2014 at 03:12 PM

GJ

“ George Bracey Jr. lit a candle in memory of Rev. Lillian A. Shearin



George Bracey Jr. - October 15, 2014 at 12:46 PM

JK

“ James Kee lit a candle in memory of Rev. Lillian A. Shearin



james kee - October 15, 2014 at 07:50 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 - October 13, 2014 at 02:31 PM